



From the Heart: My Uncle and Me

Page 3



Appeal to Heaven

Page 6



Wake Up Church!

Page 7



Navigating a Hostile World

Page 12



Words Matter

Page 17

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The Blessing of Community

By Laurie Malchow

November 2025 is a season of God's Blessings overflowing. A time of Harvesting the Shoeboxes for Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child. A time of rejoicing as these Gospel Opportunities a ministry tool to glorify Jesus Christ our Lord, Savior and King. They are collected one by one from the Faithful Followers of Jesus.

This is not competition of numbers or a time of envy or strife. Working together as a Community of Project Leaders and Volunteers for Samaritans Purse we collaborate in harmony. In numbers we are stronger and in a time of unity we can develop and conquer more tasks than alone. The goal is the message of Jesus Christ getting into the hands of children globally through a simple gift-filled shoebox of Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child. The location is southeastern Wisconsin, a haven of corn fields and cow paths.

God uses all of us who have trusted in Him to go forward with the plans He has set in place. It is truly a surrendering walk by Faith and in the travels, He shines bright like the sun. We see His love and kindness in all that we do, and we are forever changed. It is not an easy task and not for the light at heart but for the Faithful Followers who have seen that bright light in the past and know this is the way to walk in it. (Ephesians 5:8, Psalm 119:105)

God's loving grace is in all of the hard work from obedient servants everywhere coming together with their

gifts and talents to make a change. They find purpose and connection with relationships as they walk forward, putting time and effort into the Great commission.

It may be the blessing of many sewers paving through yards of material to make pencil pouches and backpack totes. It can be the crocheter making small purses and hats for children. It can be those who have a heart for making goody bags, sewing and hygiene kits. To those seeking out the sales and bargains on Amazon, Walmart, or other clearances that are being advertised. It is the individual who connects with rummage sales and the recycling of new beanie babies and stuffed animals. It is the businesses supporting with truck-



Val Sonderman and Laurie Malchow

ing and transportation. The farmers who empty sheds and building being a haven for storage. The local nursing home facilities with elderly helping create. Businesses that tell me "Just let us know we can help in anyway" and they do every time!!!! It is the person who has a heart to make and create with wood products for little toy cars, trucks, and or games for the children.

For the company that donates a CNC machine and a shop area to gather, create and make this Journey in Jesus fun and exciting. It's

Continued on page 4



Trinity Lomira Packing Event

A TRANSFORMATIONAL OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SEASON

By Bob Conklin, Jr.

Shown here is Bobsie Wendl of the Village of Waukesha, WI holding her favorite picture of her late husband Dan who died this June after their nine month battle with cancer. Sent out to collect her 400 boxes, Bobsie told Dick Peterson and me that she had seen the Lord's hand so gracious in providing for her needs after Dan's passing that she started filling Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes with gifts. She didn't stop



packing until she had filled her living room full of boxes. Moving the boxes into and filling our big trailer, the three of us prayed a transformational prayer together for every child and every hand along the way that would touch these boxes as they were sent to their final destination. Bobsie said it was her pleasure to send these "Gospel Opportunity" boxes in honor of Dan who so wonderfully shared the gospel message of Jesus Christ with many people during his lifetime.

More on page 2



Commentary

A Transformational Operation Christmas Child Season

By Bob Conklin, Jr.



Bobsie and her OCC boxes

A couple of fun facts: Dan and Bobsie spent 1987 and 1988 as missionaries sent out by Elmbrook Church to Kenya backfilling a spot that had been served by Tim and Jan Ryder. The house pictured in the background is where Dan and Bobsie raised their two children. This house was formerly owned by Chris and Bonnie Thomas when Chris was on staff under Stuart Briscoe, a former understudy of Chris' dad Major Ian Thomas.



A busy Saturday during National Collection Week, Cheryl McCrary with husband Mike sang Christmas carols as some of our volunteers received GO Box gifts put together by some of the longtime staff of ECCEC Elmbrook Church Child Enrichment Center now independent, but keeping the tradition alive are Heather with daughters Violet and Lilly. Thank you to all of the participants and volunteers that make NCW such an amazing success!

What a year it's been serving the Lord Jesus together with you! Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas from all of us at ProBuColls, Christian Courier Newspaper and the Clark Boarding House!



Rise MKE Packing Party



Spring Creek Church exceeded expectations again this year! Joyce Stearn led the charge shown here with husband Jeff directing the transfer of over 2,500 boxes in cartons at the Central Drop-Off filling 2nd trailer plus overflow to 3rd plus boxes on-line plus donations toward even more! Wow!



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News & More

From the Heart: My Uncle and Me

By Dan Kachikas

I would say that my Uncle Jack (John Duckhorn) was a part of my story from the beginning. He and I were born on the same date, so I was his 14th birthday present.

One of my earliest memories of him was this guy who showed up at our house at the Wilson Park Housing Project. He would ride up on a three-wheel ice cream motor bike and my mom would yell, "Danny, Uncle Jack's here!" He would go up and down the street and sell ice cream bars to the kids and I'd be standing between his legs and the handlebars. I knew he was a special person.

I remember my dad dramatically telling people how, "Jack fell on his knees and gave his life to Jesus." I wish my dad had done that. It's wild to think I was young and remember that.

My Uncle started taking me to church at Ebenezer on 42nd and Oklahoma. The first day he walked me into a back hallway somewhere by the alley and then down a flight of steps to a Sunday school room. A bunch of kids were sitting on the floor, and a lady, Jewel Paradise, was playing the piano. I think I was about four. She stopped the class as they were singing and said, "Danny, what's your favorite song?" I didn't know any church songs, so I said, "Popeye the sailor man." She didn't know that one. That began my time at Ebenezer, going through the ranks of Sunday school and sitting with my uncle in the services, counting the ceiling tiles and drawing pictures on the bulletins with his New Tribes buddies.

Bob and Jewel sponsored me so that I could go to Camp Willow Bay at Lake Geneva when I was eight. My uncle was the primary mover and shaker in terms of getting me to camp and church. I'm sure he had talks with me, none of which I can remember, but I knew I really loved him.

It was one of those years, when I was 10, that I gave my life to Christ. It was a long and faraway memory that came back to mind when I was 20. The Lord made it memorable by what happened. I remember walking with my counselor up to our cabin Navajo one or two, and then up in the window I saw this kid Dale Deeds peeking out. Of course, I didn't want to talk to my counselor with Dale in the room. We went in and there was no Dale, so I crawled under a bunkbed and pulled back the suitcases and there he was. And out he went.

When my Uncle went to South America as a missionary, my attendance at church stopped but my parents still made sure that I got to camp. I know my uncle was praying for me, but those were wild years.

I got out of the Air Force in 1974. Vietnam was winding down and they needed people to step out to make room for the guys who were coming back from Thailand. I was willing to do that, so they gave me an honorable discharge, and I went back to Milwaukee.



Dan Kachikas and Uncle John Duckhorn

In Milwaukee, I got back with my lost friends and realized that I was lost.

It just so happened that my uncle was on furlough that year, and I remember one time we were up at Lake Emily, walking along the road. He was having a heart-to-heart with me and I was frustrating him by telling him all the things I had "learned" using drugs. Yet, as I was saying things, everything coming out of my mouth sounded so stupid. Finally, my Uncle said, "Danny, a person will try anything before they try Jesus." When he said that, I said, "You're right, a person will try anything before they try Jesus."

As we were walking, I asked, "Why in the world did God make life. It's terrible?" Just as I said that a car went by and I realized he didn't hear me. It was okay. I vocalized something that was really bothering me. As I left to go back to Milwaukee he said, "You know, maybe you should try to read the Bible." I answered that I tried, and I died in the third book. He told me to start with Matthew. I thought that was a good idea. As I was driving back that night, I pulled onto a side road, got on the hood of my Gremlin, leaned back against the windshield and prayed again, "God if you're there, I really want to know."

The first thing I had to do when I got back to Milwaukee was to find a Bible. My mom kicked me out of the house, but growing up in Milwaukee, I had advanced breaking and entering skills. I took the old family Bible I used to take to Ebenezer. I would take my dog out to the Root River Parkway, sit on a hill, and read Matthew. It was like it was on fire. What really got me was Jesus on the cross saying, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." That was me and it hit me hard.

I can't exactly tell you how things changed, but there came another meeting with my uncle. I had moved back home and after a while my mom called my Uncle and told him there was something wrong with me. I was being polite and helping with the rent, etc...probably a major brain injury!

I remember sitting with him and he would ask me questions I couldn't answer. Finally, he asked what I thought about Jesus. That was easy. I believed He died for me and I wanted to follow Him.

That launched us into discipleship. He was living in Waukesha and I went out there many evenings. He would feed me Coke and chips and take his little notepad out and draw me all sorts of pictures and show me all sorts of stuff in the Bible. It was an important time.

I never thought I'd be in full-time work, but what a joy it's been to have him always 14 years ahead of me to give me good advice when I've needed it. The Lord has done amazing things in my Uncle's life, and he's definitely been the greatest "birthday" gift that the Lord has given to me.



Awesome volunteers at the Milw Central Drop Off - Picture by Area Coordinator Sue Maleski

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News & More



THE BLESSING OF COMMUNITY FROM PAGE 1

individuals who can network and connect with businesses and other individuals in communities around us even hours away. It is local companies that give us phenomenal deals (soccer balls with pumps for \$4.98). This is the hearts of the Servants of the Lord for Operation Christmas Child. There is a village of Unsung Heroes to make all of this come together for the Glory and Honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is truly the Goodness of God all around us and it can only make you smile.



Hartford Shoebox Project Packing Party

I have been a part of this for 16 years as an active volunteer with Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas

Child. As one of the original founders of the Hartford Shoebox Project we started out 16 years ago by collecting 600 shoeboxes and to-



Cedarburg HS FCA Packing Party

day 8511. It has brought about unity in a small community of under 16K. Connecting with a mirage of churches and denominations. To those who don't even walk with the Lord but see the example of His love pouring out in a simple shoebox and they want to be a part. Churches that assemble and grow stronger as they build relationships and connect for a cause of filling a shoebox and giving Joy in a child's life. This is the Body of Believers making a difference and this is what brings our Lord and Savior a great deal of Joy. Loving our Neighbor as ourselves and giving them Hope in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

We have a heart of Gratitude to the masses who share the same Spirit of Love in their hearts as we do as it is ALL for JESUS.

We go beyond the borders of boundaries, connecting near and far as God allows. Praying for one another as many of us begin the aging levels. We pursue the next generation with vengeance, so they see the vision and reach alongside us to see the Greatness of our God. Setting up the young at heart for them to be Bold and courageous for HIM. To "Ask" to Trust and Believe. You see the Christian Walk is an active Journey filled with many unknowns and challenges. The Lord will guide your paths to righteousness for His name's sake, and we can only stand in AWE of HIM and be forever changed.



Terri Williams with Margo Fieseler
Ann Kuntz Hansen

Keep filling those shoeboxes and working together for God's Greatness. The storehouses will open and for this humble servant of our Lord and Savior the Joy of the Lord is and always will be truly my Strength. (Nehemiah 8:10)

May the Season of Harvest shine the Love and Light of Jesus upon all of you as we walk Obediently in Faith for HIM.

Goal is: 12.6 million shoeboxes that will reach over 100 countries globally. Thank you, Jesus, for calling me for this Purpose for Your Glory,

Blessings,

Laurie Malchow
"Ambassador for Christ"

Student/Community Relations
Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child
Washington/Ozaukee UMW Team
Herains777@gmail.com

Please contact me if you have product we can use for our shoeboxes as we share the Goodness of God all around us!!!



The Sunday crew from Spring Creek: Led by 26' U-Haul driver Pastor Chris, Joyce and Jeff, Jennifer, Scott and Emma plus lots of muscle from Elijah, Andrew and Baker. Thanks for Dave's Hot Chicken y'all!



Oconomowoc Love in a Shoebox Packing Party



News & More



2025 Kids Day cast



Golden Ops mentoring ministry banquet at the River Club



Clark House



Baptisms in Sheboygan



Scott Krueger has his hands full blowing leaves at the Clark House

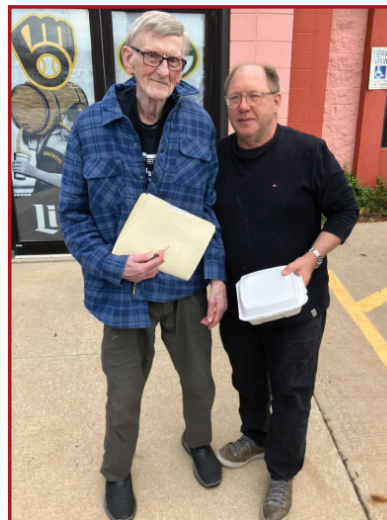


ECFA banquet at Spring Creek

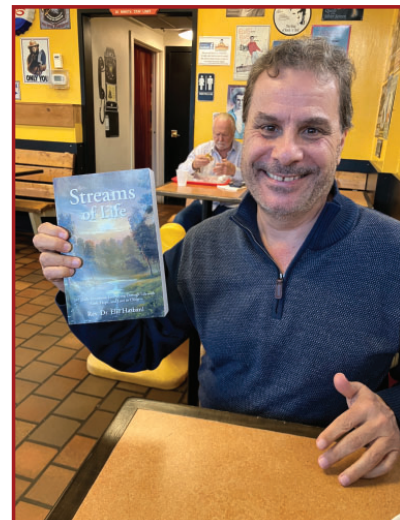


The three girls pictured are in the Swallow Good News Club and want to be missionaries when they grow up, but then they realized they don't have to wait; they can be missionaries right now and share the Good News of Jesus with their friends! Hallelujah!!

Mei Niess
CEF
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262-373-1780



Jail Minister Emil Heins 95 with his nephew Duane at Pallas Men's Bible Meeting



Author Pastor Elie Hasbani holding a copy of his just released daily devotional book available at ProBuColls



News & More



Appeal to Heaven: Members of Congress Join to Pray for Nation

By Suzanne Bowdey

Thirty days into an increasingly painful government shutdown — and political divides as deep as they've ever been — a group of House conservatives is making it clear that while Washington may not have the solution to America's problems, God does. As frustrations boil over in Congress and the country struggles to cope with the fallout, the House Freedom Caucus — together with Family Research Council — decided to host a special "Congress Prays for America" call Thursday evening to ask, not just for an end to the leaders' impasse, but also for spiritual healing in our broken land.



"When Members of Congress bow their heads together," Dr. Andy Harris (R-Md.) and FRC President Tony Perkins insisted in a joint column announcing the event, "they acknowledge that the power to restore this nation doesn't lie in the levers of politics, but in the hands of Providence. God can bring revival to the very place where division has taken root: the United States Capitol."

Pausing to recognize the significance of the moment, Harris told people at the beginning of the call, "It's not often in Washington that we pause long to admit that no matter how strong our convictions or how fierce the debates around us, we are ultimately dependent on someone far greater than ourselves. Prayer isn't a sign of weakness," he wanted those assembled to know. "It's a declaration of humility that our wisdom is limited, our strength is finite, and our hope rests in the hands of a faithful God. In times like these," he insisted, "when our nation feels divided, when political violence and fear threaten to harden our hearts, prayer is exactly what we need."

At the end of the day, Harris emphasized, "We can draft laws and cast votes, but only God can change hearts. Scripture reminds us, if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray. And that's what we're doing tonight. So as we begin this call, I ask each of you to open your hearts. May He hear us tonight."

For close to an hour, congressmen from Pennsylvania to Arizona asked God's mercy, wisdom, and guidance on the nation and its leaders. They prayed specifically for President Donald Trump, for peace in Israel, for an end to the violent rhetoric, for protection from our enemies, and provision in times of lack. As Perkins underscored from the outset, "We gather with the recognition that we need God's help."

Rep. Mark Harris (R-N.C.), like so many, expressed his gratitude for the rare opportunity to humbly link arms with other elected officials "at this very hour to seek your face, to call out your name, to know that our dependence is ultimately upon you. [We are here] seeking your grace and your mercy as you move mightily across this nation."

His colleague, Illinois Congresswoman Mary Miller (R), expressed her dismay at the confusion gripping our nation. "I just pray for wisdom," she declared. "Lord, you said that death and life are in the power of the tongue. I pray you'd help us speak words that restore and words that can reconcile people back to Yourself and Your word and exalt You. And Lord, we are reminded that [Your] ways are perfect and every word of God is true."

Dr. Frank Turek, who was at Charlie Kirk's side when he drew his last breath, specifically prayed for civility to return to our nation. "Help us

to be peacemakers," he implored. "Help us to stand on the truth without being caustic, without being unkind. But help us to stand and reach out to those [who] oppose us. We're to pray for our enemies," he said, "so that's what we're doing here today. We have seen so much violence. There's an aura of rage about the country. Much of it makes absolutely no sense. It can only be demonic in nature. So we pray it away."

"Hear, Lord, hear our cry for mercy," Turek continued. "Sovereign Lord, my strong deliverer, You shield us in the day of battle. Do not grant the wicked their desires. Lord, do not let their plans succeed. May Your plan succeed that they become Christians. [Help] the Christians become more like You. We're here to know You and to make you known. Help us to do that better."

Closing the time of prayer was former Trump official, Dr. Ben Carson, who insisted that the need to unite in prayer was never more timely. "Lord, we come before you today to pray for our nation," he began. "You have blessed the United States with freedom and opportunity and a rich legacy of faith. You've taken us from a ragtag bunch of militiamen to the pinnacle of the world in record time. But we know that all goodness comes from you, Lord, and without You, we can do nothing. We ask for your healing upon the divisions in our nation," he reiterated. "Our nation is so strong that it can't be taken down militarily, but it can be taken down from inside — and there are many agents trying to facilitate that."

"We need you," Carson insisted, "Your wisdom and Your guidance for our leaders. Please restore the righteousness in our homes, integrity in our institutions, unity among our people."

Reflecting on the seriousness of the hour, Harris and Perkins agreed: "This isn't just a national prayer call from Congress. It's a step toward something our country desperately needs — a spiritual revival and awakening." In these challenges, they wanted people to know, "America's hope doesn't rest in Washington, but it can start there."

BIBLE SALES SURGE 36% AFTER ASSASSINATION OF CHRISTIAN ACTIVIST CHARLIE KIRK - WORTHY CHRISTIAN NEWS

by Emmitt Barry

In the weeks following the assassination of Christian political activist Charlie Kirk, Americans have turned to Scripture in record numbers — a striking indicator of renewed spiritual hunger across the nation.

According to newly released data from Circana BookScan, Bible sales surged 36% in September compared to the same month last year, reaching 2.4 million copies sold — up from 1.5 million in August. Until that point, monthly sales in 2025 had remained

relatively stable between 1.2 million and 1.6 million copies.

"People started to think about what they believe and why," said Mark Schoenwald, president and CEO of HarperCollins Christian Publishing, the country's largest publisher of Bibles and Christian literature. "It awakened a lot of them."

HarperCollins reported that young adults aged 18 to 34 accounted for a significant portion of the spike, suggesting a generational shift toward renewed interest in Scripture and faith-based resources.

Analysts note that this surge reflects a recurring national pattern: in moments of grief,

uncertainty, or moral upheaval, Americans often rediscover faith.

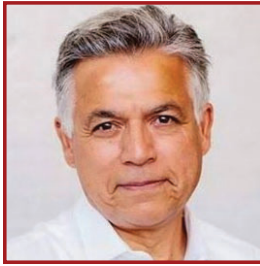
Bible sales have been trending upward for the past two years. Between January and September 2025, sales rose 11% over the same period last year. In 2024, sales were up 22% compared to 2023 — signaling a steady, multi-year revival of interest in the Word of God that appears to have now reached new heights in the wake of Kirk's death.



News & More

WAKE UP, CHURCH! The Hour is Late!

By Bob Roman



It is time to bend the bronze bow and put on the armor of light, because we have found ourselves in the Last Generation before the Pre-Tribulational Rapture!

"He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms." Psalm 18:34 "... let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." Romans 13:12 "Verily I

say unto you, This generation (The Generation that begins to see the Preparations for the Beast System of Revelation 13) shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." Matthew 24:34

Are you like the Men of Issachar who had an Understanding of the Times?

"And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment." - 1 Chronicles 12:32 (KJV)

THE ALARM IS SOUNDING! WAKE UP CHURCH!

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." Romans 13:11-12

The church is asleep while the world burns. Jesus warned us in Luke 21:34-36: "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

The signs are everywhere. The time is now.

As world events spiral toward their prophetic climax, Dr. John Barnett at <https://dtbm.org/> has identified seven critical actions every believer must take immediately: My notes are from his Youtube Video Titled: Preview of the 4 Horsemen July 2025 update.

SEVEN BATTLE ORDERS FOR THE LAST DAYS

1. **GET CONSISTENT SPIRITUALLY** Stop playing games with God. Daily prayer, Bible reading, and worship are not suggestions they are survival requirements. "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." Psalm 1:2
2. **STUDY THE WHOLE BIBLE** Make a plan. Read through Scripture systematically. In an age of deception, only those grounded in God's complete Word will stand. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15
3. **GRASP BIBLICAL DOCTRINE** Know what you believe and why. False teachers are multiplying. Solid doctrine is your shield

against lies. "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears." 2 Timothy 4:3

4. **UNDERSTAND GOD'S ATTRIBUTES** Know who God really is. His sovereignty, holiness, love, and justice anchor your faith when everything else shakes. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28
5. **BELIEVE BIBLICAL PROPHECY** Take God's prophetic Word literally. We are living in the final countdown. Prophecy is not optional it is essential. "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place." 2 Peter 1:19
6. **PREPARE FOR DECEPTION** Jesus warned that deception would increase dramatically before His return. Sharpen your discernment now. "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you." Matthew 24:4
7. **MEMORIZE VERSES AND SHARE THE GOSPEL** Hide God's Word in your heart. Be ready to give an answer. Time is running out for the lost. "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you." 1 Peter 3:15



WHILE WE SLEEP:

1. Evil advances unchecked. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." 2 Timothy 3:1
2. False doctrine is spreading like a cancer. 2 Peter 2:1-2. "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them... And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of." (KJV)
3. Our children are being indoctrinated with lies. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6
4. The lost are perishing without hope. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Hebrews 9:27
5. Satan's end-time system consolidates power. "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads." Revelation 13:16. Digital I.D.'s are coming, how will you respond?
6. A.I. technology accelerates toward total surveillance and control while the church buries its head in the sand about these prophetic developments. "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." Revelation 13:15. Only A.I. can do what Revelation 13 is saying! Wake up!
7. Don't look back! Stop longing for the "good old days." Don't be paralyzed by nostalgia when God is calling you forward into His purposes for these last days. "Remember Lot's wife." Luke 17:32

Continued on page 10

Books & More

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Join Margo for an in-depth study of 1st & 2nd Peter

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Wednesday
Evening
6:30-8:00 PM

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Morning
9:00-10:30 AM



For more details and to register,
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Teaching women to know Jesus personally, passionately, powerfully and pre-eminently!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES



MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

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Bob Conklin - 414-342-1550

TBA New Testament Church - Breakfast of Champs
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Jerry Wilson - 414-416-3631

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Thursdays - Meyers Restaurant, 4260 S. 76th St., Milwaukee
Art Cernohous - 414-702-7885

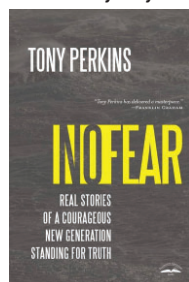
CBMC Bible Study
Hamilton House, W76.N629 N. Wauwatosa Rd., Cedarburg
Howard Honett - 262-844-6464

7:30 AM Saturday Men's Bible Study
Brookside Baptist Church, 4470 Pilgrim Rd., Brookfield, WI
Pastor Wade Kuhlwind - 262-783-6180

8 am Faithwalkers
Saturdays - CrossWay NorthShore Church
2500 W. Brown Deer Rd., Milwaukee
Greg Bennett - 262-844-6464

Christian Book Reviews

No Fear by Tony Perkins

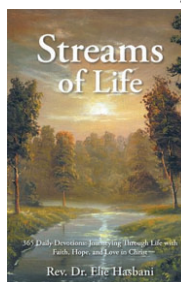


No Fear draws you inside the stories of young, ordinary believers who, despite incredible opposition, courageously stand up for God's truth. Tony Perkins pairs each story with a biblical example and gives practical ideas for building a "no fear" perspective every day.

You have been chosen to live in this important hour, and reading these stories will inspire you to the same kind of courage.

"Tony Perkins has delivered a masterpiece." Franklin Graham. **WaterBrook Press \$17.99**

Streams of Life by Rev. Dr. Elie Hasbani



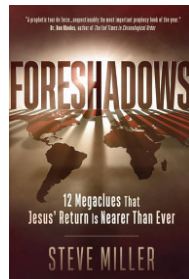
Hope, and the Greatest of These is Love - 365 Devotions for Life's Journey is a year-long guide in spiritual renewal, written to inspire, strengthen, and encourage every believer in their daily walk with Christ. Rooted in the timeless truth of 1 Corinthians 13:13—"And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love"—this devotional invites readers into a deeper experience of God's presence, promises, and purpose.

This devotional covers themes such as faith in trials, hope in suffering love in action, forgiveness, healing, joy, spiritual growth, and more—all while pointing to Jesus as the source and sustainer of our lives.

Rev Dr. Elie Hasbani, an American-Lebanese pastor, theologian and author of The Good Soldier—which shares his powerful testimony—and Cross Over the Cross, holds a doctorate and brings over four decades of

Spirit led ministry. He advances the global Church through preaching, discipleship, and leadership formation. His devotional, Streams of Life, embodies faith, hope, and love. **WestBow Press \$41.99.**

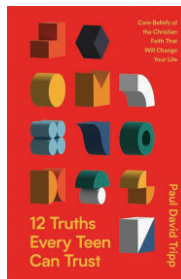
Foreshadows; 12 Megacles That Jesus' Return is Nearer than Ever by Steve Miller



"This book helps us to interpret current events in the light of biblical prophecy, reminding us that whether the return of Christ is near or far, the stage is being set for His arrival. Are we ready?" -Erwin W. Lutzer

Foreshadows will equip you to recognize the signs that point toward Jesus' ever-nearing return and illuminate how God's faithfulness, wisdom, and sovereignty are on display all around us. **Harvest Prophecy \$17.99.**

12 Truths Every Teen Can Trust by Paul David Tripp



In this accessible guide for teens, Paul David Tripp defines twelve core doctrines of Christianity—including God's sovereignty, justification, and glorification—and explains their relevance to the Christian Life. Each chapter explores a specific doctrine through seven brief readings that will help young people fall deeper in love with their Creator and Savior each day.

"Paul Tripp is a trusted, fatherly guide to shepherd us through the core doctrines of Christianity. I hope churches, parents, and teachers everywhere will immediately put this book into use!" -Gaven Ortlund. **Crossway \$19.99**

Books reviewed here are available
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News & More



FROM WAKE UP CHURCH, PAGE 7

THE COST OF SPIRITUAL LAZINESS

Church, we cannot afford lukewarm Christianity any longer. The Laodicean spirit of comfort and compromise will cost us dearly.”So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.” Revelation 3:16

THE CALL TO BATTLE

This is not a drill. This is not a theological exercise. This is a call to spiritual war.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12

Put on the armor of God daily. Stand in the gap. Be watchmen on the wall. Sound the alarm. Wake up your fellow believers.

The King is coming. The night is far spent. The day is at hand.

TIME TO ACT

Every day you delay implementing these seven priorities is a day lost in preparation. Every moment spent in spiritual slumber is a moment the enemy gains ground.

Church, the alarm clock is ringing. Will you hit the snooze button, or will you rise and answer the call?

The choice is yours. The time is now.

“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” Luke 21:36

Bob Roman is an Online Biblical Prophecy Teacher and a Last Days Watchman on the Wall! He attends Union Grove Baptist Church, in Union Grove Wisconsin, where Dr. Richard Schmidt is Pastor. Bob Roman can be reached at Bob@acts4ai.com or by phone 414-380-9821.

SOLID FOOD FOR A STARVING CHURCH BY ALEX MCFARLAND (www.alexmcfarland.com)

“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.” — Hebrews 5:12 (NKJV)

There’s a hunger in the church today—a deep, aching hunger. But it’s not for entertainment, programs, or even community. It’s for truth. For depth. For solid spiritual food.

Hebrews 5 reminds us that spiritual maturity isn’t optional—it’s expected. Yet many churches are still serving milk when the body of Christ is crying out for meat. God wants to do so much more through His church. Let’s rise together to the task of creating mature disciples of Christ.

In times past, the church was the intellectual center of the community. Consider John Wesley, who believed the local congregation



deserved the highest scholarship the church could offer. Or Thomas Aquinas, who taught farmers before dawn in Italy, preaching through the Apostles’ Creed in preparation for Easter. These weren’t ivory tower lectures—they were accessible, but rich. Scholarly, but pastoral.

We need that again.

I believe the church must lead by example and by challenge, spurring believers on to great learning. Christianity is a uniquely ce-

rebral faith. Romans 12:2 calls us to the renewing of our minds—not just our emotions or habits. The renewed mind is one that reflects the mind of God.

But Romans 1:28 warns us of the opposite: the reprobate mind. That word means “inconvenient”—a mind that no longer functions as it was designed to. A mind that can no longer apprehend truth or experience the Lord. That’s not just tragic—it’s terrifying.

We must be stewards of our minds. The church must teach believers to think biblically, reason theologically, and live wisely. This isn’t elitism—it’s discipleship.

So pastors, teachers, leaders: preach the Word. Teach doctrine. Challenge your people to grow. Let’s raise up a generation that doesn’t just feel their faith—but understands it, defends it, and lives it out with conviction.

Because the world is starving. And the church must serve solid food.

NRB PRESIDENT & CEO TROY A. MILLER HEADS TO ISRAEL AMID KEY MOMENT IN U.S.–ISRAEL RELATIONS

Troy A. Miller, president & CEO of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), is currently in Israel for the 2025 Christian Media Summit, hosted by the Israel Government Press Office (GPO) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



The annual summit convenes hundreds of Christian journalists and media professionals from around the world to strengthen partnerships with Israel and highlight stories of resilience, innovation, and faith in the midst of ongoing conflict.

“Visiting Israel in this moment brings clarity you can’t get from a distance,” said Miller. “Seeing the people, the land, and the resilience firsthand fuels our commitment as Christian communicators to tell Israel’s story

with truth and compassion. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our Jewish brothers and sisters, praying for peace and bearing witness to hope amid hardship.”

Miller’s trip comes during a defining moment in U.S.–Israel relations, following recent high-level visits from Vice President J.D. Vance and Secretary of State Antony Blinken. Vice President Vance’s meetings in Jerusalem reaffirmed that the United States stands beside Israel as an equal ally, emphasizing continued coordination and support for Israel’s security and regional peace.

While in Israel, Miller will visit key regions including Samaria, northern border communities, and towns near the Gaza Strip. He will also participate in a featured panel titled “The Importance of the Christian World’s Support of Israel,” alongside Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, former Chief Rabbi of Israel.

Miller has led multiple solidarity trips to Israel for Christian leaders, equipping communicators to speak with biblical and historical clarity about the land and its people. Under his leadership, NRB has deepened partnerships with faith organizations and reaffirmed its support for Israel’s sovereignty and right to its ancestral homeland.

About NRB

NRB is a nonpartisan, international association of Christian communicators whose member organizations represent millions of listeners, viewers, and readers. NRB’s mission is two-fold: To protect the free speech rights of our members to speak Biblical truth by advocating those rights in governmental, corporate, and media sectors; and to foster excellence, integrity, and accountability in our membership by providing networking, educational, ministry, and relational opportunities. Learn more at www.nrb.org.



News & More



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DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST BIBLE VERSE YOU EVER READ?



Maybe it was John 3:16 (NIV): "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Every word of the Bible is God-breathed into existence for His glory and our good. Through Scripture, His heart speaks to our souls and comes alive in people everywhere. There, we encounter

the living God, who knows us intimately and wants to transform us through His Spirit. And, by far, it's best shared when it's in a language and format people clearly understand.

John Chesnut, President of Wycliffe Bible Translators, said, I think of what a friend of mine, Mark Pugyao, shared about what it means for him to have the Bible in his language, Isang. With tears in his eyes, Mark said, "My heart is just melting. It's like butter melting when I read it in my own heart language. I understand every single word that the Lord says in His Word." This is the power of the Bible! It transforms lives and hearts when people understand it in a way that speaks directly to their hearts.

I encourage you to read Wycliffe's September blog post, "How the Bible Is Changing Lives Around the World,".

It's encouraging to read stories from communities that have recently received their Scripture!

Wycliffe



In the Kitchen With Diane

Diane Fechter, Author



PUMPKIN BREAD

3 1/2 c. flour

2 tsp. baking soda

1 1/2 tsp. salt

1 tsp. Chinese Five spices (Chinese Five spices can be found in the oriental section of your grocery store.)

1 tsp. nutmeg

3 c. sugar

4 eggs

1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin

1 c. oil

2/3 c. water

1 c. chopped walnuts

Topping:

1/4 c. melted butter

1/4 c. sugar

1 tsp. Chinese Five spices

Preheat oven to 350°. Combine dry ingredients together; mix well; set aside. Combine sugar, eggs, pumpkin, oil and water; mix well. Add walnuts. Add to dry ingredients and stir only until incorporated. Bake in 2 greased bread pans (9x5) or 4 (8x4) pans for 45-60 minutes, or until tests done with toothpick. Leave in pan 10 minutes; remove. For topping, brush tops of bread with butter. Combine sugar and Chinese Five and sprinkle over butter. Continue cooling on wire racks. Can be wrapped well and frozen. Great for Christmas gifts!

For more recipes and tips see www.recipesforafulfilledlife.blogspot.com

THE SON OF GOD, WHO IS IN THE BOSOM OF THE FATHER, COMES FORTH AND BECOMES A CHILD, AND THERE IS NO ROOM FOR HIM IN THE INN. THIS OUGHT TO HAVE SHAKEN THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, TO HAVE EXTINGUISHED THE SUN, AND TO HAVE CAUSED THE ANGELS TO WEEP. BUT EVERYTHING REMAINS AS USUAL. THE BIRTH TAKES PLACE SO QUIETLY AND SO SECRETLY THAT IT APPEARS TO BE NOTHING. THIS IS THE GREAT MIRACLE. ~ MARTIN LUTHER



News & More



Navigating a Hostile World: 5 Ways Christians Can Stand Firm with Grace and Truth

by Sarah Holliday (washingtonstand.com)

How should Christians respond to a world increasingly hostile toward Christians and the values they proclaim?

This pressing question was explored during a panel discussion at Family Research Council's 2025 Pray Vote Stand Summit over the weekend, where thousands of believers gathered for two days of worship, learning, and equipping to stand resolute in their faith. The panelists offered a multifaceted approach to engaging a hostile culture with compassion, conviction, and biblical grounding. Here are five key insights from their discussion.

1. Winning Hearts or Winning Debates?

Engaging a hostile world begins with rejecting its combative tone. "[W]e're to speak the truth in love," said FRC President Tony Perkins. And yet, "oftentimes when we get into these discussions, we want to win a debate as opposed to winning a heart" — a perspective that usually only deepens the divide. That's when Mike Winger, founder of BibleThinker, chimed in, stating that "biblically speaking, you actually care about the other person."

Speaking with someone we're at odds with can be challenging, but as Winger further explained, "[W]e can be passionate ... about where the country is or where our churches are at. But am I passionate about that individual and them changing their mind or getting at least a seed planted?" Anyone can change their mind later "down the road," but "the agenda is transformation on the other side, not just a victory."

How do you view the person you're talking to? This, as Perkins noted, is a fundamental question to ask yourself when navigating these kinds of conversations. If you see them as a sinner in need of saving and blinded by darkness, chances are, you may find yourself far more compassionate and loving toward them than you thought possible.

2. The "Theology of Losing Friends"

Founder and President of Them Before Us Katy Faust put it bluntly. If Christians are to share truth in an age that cancels truth tellers, then we must "develop a theology of losing friends." She encouraged believers to prioritize relationships and initiate connections with those who disagree, but to set biblical boundaries. "[Y]ou need to think ahead of time," she said, "and you need to think biblically." What are you not willing to do simply to keep the relationship? Are you willing to lose a friend if it means not compromising?

Scripture is clear that the world will hate Christians because it first hates and rejects Christ (John 15:18). As such, for believers willing to stand firm, losing friendships is an inevitable reality. But as Faust emphasized, when you lose that friendship, you should be able to say, "[I've] lost the relationship. Not because I was a jerk ... unprepared ... uninformed, or I was doing too much truth telling and not enough grace giving. [I] lost the relationship because the only way for me to keep it was to compromise on what I believe." This, Faust urged, is not only "an acceptable reason to lose a friend," but it's also "what honoring your Lord looks like in ... a hostile culture."

3. Care about What the Bible Cares about

Christians must engage with all issues the Bible addresses, even those deemed "secondary." Winger explained how Jesus Himself spoke on taxes and divorce, even if what He said was not accepted. Of course, sharing the gospel is crucial for Christians, but it's a "narrow view of the gospel" to think that Christians can not or should not address other conversations within culture.

Winger went further: "[W]e've underestimated how much these secondary issues are actually our neighbor's primary issues." For many, issues concerning life, gender, identity, and more sit at the "center of their worldview. ... And when you leave that alone, you're leav-



ing the stronghold center of their worldview alone" — the very aspect "that's making them resistant to the gospel of Christ." There are plenty of people who struggle with homosexuality, unchallenged by the truth of Scripture, who may agree to go to church. Yet, Winger noted, "when [their sin] finally gets confronted, they just bail."

Christians can't "abandon central issues our people are dealing with," Winger stressed, because then "we leave them alone without any guidance from the light of the world on these issues that are destroying their souls."

4. Be Engaged by Finding Your Identity in Christ, Not in Politics

Political engagement can spark spiritual revival, as Faust observed: "[P]olitical conservatism has led to a spiritual revival" when Christians speak with "sanity and evidence." Natasha Crain, author of "When Culture Hates You," chimed in, remarking, "There's always the risk that we can conflate our identity. ... We need to identify the risks" to avoid "conflating our Christian identity with any kind of political identity."

However, Crain argued, "My concern is sometimes, when we're talking about those risks, we never get past the risk." Christians often spend a lot of time warning other Christians of the negative consequences of getting wrapped up in politics that they forget to address what it should look like — how Christians can faithfully engage in a way that sparks positive change. From Crain's observation, "A lot of that pressure [Christian's face] to hide because of ... hostility comes from within the church."

There are many "leaders within the church," she emphasized, "a lot of pastors who are doing so much of the warning ... that it makes us shrink back and go, 'Oh, I guess I shouldn't want to impose my values on others,' or, 'I guess I shouldn't be seeking the power to do things right.' We hear all of these kind of mantras in the church." Yet, "When you pull them back, you realize that they're really not logically consistent. They're not biblically consistent. We are called to be salt and light" and "follow Jesus's commands ... to love God [and] others. ... [P]art of loving others ... is caring about their lives in the context of the societies in which they live."

Ultimately, it's an identity found in Christ alone that allows Christians to engage in politics without making an identity out of it. And when you are criticized for voicing God's truth, Winger encouraged believers to "ignore them and keep moving forward." And if you're scared to speak up at all and are concerned you aren't equipped, Winger added, "I would rather stumble forward and kind of mess up a little along the way and try to change the world than to just sit back. ... I'm not worried about my identity. My identity is in Christ." But "do I have the guts and the courage and the fortitude to stand

Continued on page 13



News & More

CONTINUED FROM NAVIGATING ON PAGE 12

up and continue to defend the truth against even this in-crowd that we're talking about? That's the test."

5. God's Word: The Anchor in the Cultural Storm

Above all, Perkins asserted, "We've got to be in the word of God, and we need to be in churches that are preaching the word of God" — especially "if we're going to have the confidence to stand in this increasingly hostile culture."

Furthermore, by being grounded in the word, Christians can better understand how the biblical worldview is not invalid. As Winger put it, "[W]e need to relearn how to be utterly unashamed of our Christian grounding ... worldview ... purposes, and reasons, and then explore the borders." And if you're accused of "trying to force your values on people," he added, you can say, "Yes, I am. ... Every-

one's trying to force values. I'm trying to force good values that are grounded in truth and God. ... [Y]ou're trying to force values that you see as valuable, you see as good, but they're not grounded in truth, in God."

"We're in a moment," Perkins observed. "How do we make the most of this?"

The panelists called Christians to action: mobilize, as Winger urged, by actively engaging culture; immerse yourself in Scripture, as Crain advocated, to ground your worldview; and embrace justice, as Faust emphasized, to protect the vulnerable. In a constitutional republic, Christians have the freedom to share their values boldly, and by anchoring themselves in God's word, speaking truth with love, and standing firm without compromising, Christians can navigate a hostile world with grace, courage, and transformative impact.

IN THESE TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY

By PJ Glavey



In these times of uncertainty, it's an excellent opportunity to take stock of what we have.

We know that JESUS Christ is the Son of GOD. That HE's GOD in the flesh. That GOD HIMself became flesh so we could know HIM. That HE died on the cross at Calvary to take away our sins. That our sins are removed as far as the East is from the West. That we put all our sins on HIM when we believed and that sin has nothing more to do with us anymore — for we are clothed in

HIS righteousness, because of the redemption that's in CHRIST JESUS, our LORD. For HE alone rose from the dead - ascended on our behalf - and put HIS perfect blood on the altar of sacrifice.

And now, having conquered sin on our behalf, GOD has sent forth HIS SPIRIT into our hearts. GOD has regenerated all those who put their trust in CHRIST JESUS, our LORD. Having believed this record, we have secured the grace in which we stand and rejoice in the hope of our glory yet to come. And this hope will not disappoint, because the love of GOD is sent forth into our hearts by the HIS HOLY SPIRIT. So that we can be confident and rejoice in HIS coming and not shrink back in shame. For while we were yet

sinners, CHRIST died for us — the ungodly — that we may live eternally in HIS presence — as Kings and Priests - forevermore.

And GOD is now for us, as members of the Body of CHRIST. And if GOD be for us, then who could be against us? Clothed in HIS righteousness, HIS power, and HIS strength. Let us rejoice in all things, knowing that the light of our FATHER shines upon us in all circumstances. Today, as in all days, let us be thankful — for GOD is good all the time — and all the time, GOD is good — and we are complete in HIM. And we can rest, knowing that God has finished all the work and there's nothing left for us to do. The LORD bless you in this, and keep you in HIS perfect peace. Amen.

Uncovering the Counterfeit (the rest of Jack Roper's testimony from the last edition)

By Jack Roper



When I came home from Chicago, I got married to Gail who I met at Moody. We were very poor. I continued working as a RN and later Joined Christian Apologetics: Research & Information Service. Somehow a police detective in Boise, Idaho contacted me & put my name on a national police registry as a resource on cults. Speaking opportunities multiplied as such the Oprah show and Geraldo program in New York city. Over the 15 years as a subCULTure researcher more doors with Law Enforcement opened up. Some examples were the military, the Justice Department, the FBI in Quantico, Virginia, a profiler, obtained my photography, local police units, Calibre Press, an international Law Enforcement and training unit contacted me for their DVD titled SURVIVING EDGED WEAPONS. They had me set up an altar on Satanism and Witchcraft for police training. It is now on YouTube First Edition. When I was in South Africa doing some photography, a police sergeant told me that the EDGED WEAPONS video was in their police academy. for training. Other media titles are The Encyclopedia / Dictionary on Cults, Sects & World Religions. Also the DVD movie Cults: Saying No Under Pressure. The narrator was actor Charlton Heston. In the past I would go to cult sites to collect data and photographic insights. Example would be the Hare Krishna Movement. When their Founder died, a coup occurred which led to drugs, murder and weapons. They were famous in the past selling their books at airports. Their belief

was that god would pull them to heaven using their hair pony tail. The police caught them when they were scanning our office thinking that we were deprogramming one of their followers. We were not involved. Other opportunities was when a Special agent with the DEA in Miami called me. I went down to Miami to look at the growth of the Hispanic magick groups and went to botanica-magick stores. Over my years I was able to produce 2 DVDs The Paganization of America (only for Law Enforcement) and the second one Nature's Window This has 12 separate segments and is seen on You Tube.

Later I took a permanent recess from the world of counterfeit groups and normalized my life and marriage. We had two children, one a computer engineer in St Louis and my sweet daughter is a P T assistant. Life was exciting to see how the Lord Jesus worked in this field of research. The Lord knew and protected me. Jesus is to be honored. His attributes are far beyond my understanding. One thing I know is that He was & is with me every day To serve HIM would be an honor. To know Him is beyond my thoughts. To be blessed by Him, that I cling to. Gratitude will be my attitude when I see Him for it is now I thank Jesus..

Jack Roper

RN / Freelance photographer

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If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: 'GOD WITH US.'

~ Tim Keller (Pastor and Theologian)



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Now all who believed were together.
Acts 2:27

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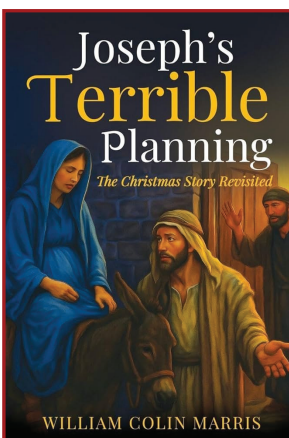
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JOSEPH'S TERRIBLE PLANNING

BY WILLIAM COLIN MARRIS

The traditional Christmas story is a narrative that is vividly recognizable to countless millions, both Christians and non-believers alike. In reality, however, many of our traditional Christmas images and beliefs (including Joseph's "terrible" planning) may actually convey a flawed rendition of Jesus' birth. Rather than an accurate portrayal of Christ's nativity, what has transpired instead might be called a traditional "greeting card" Christmas

story. This book will examine the Christmas story based on our understanding of first-century Jewish history, culture, and, most importantly, a reliance on the truth of the Gospels. It is believed that what will emerge is a story that is no less beautiful but one that is more biblically accurate...one that even demonstrates Joseph's WONDERFUL Planning!

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News & More



Evangelicals in Office? 'We're Asking the Living God to Move into the Public Square of America'

By David Brody (www.cbn.com)

When President Trump returned to the White House, his message resonated with many Americans when he talked about a "revolution of common sense." Now, some conservatives want another revolution: a movement of pastors and parishioners running for political office.

"What we're doing is spiritual, the byproduct is political," says David Lane, the head of the American Renewal Project. His organization has been focusing specifically on the swing state of North Carolina with the goal of convincing 500 North Carolina pastors, spiritual leaders or churchgoers to run for various positions from school board to city council to even Congress.

At a recent event in Raleigh, North Carolina, President Trump videotaped a message to pastors and their wives who assembled at the gathering. "Across the state you have inspired dozens of faith leaders to run for office and win elections and they've been winning them in droves," President Trump told the group. "I will be cheering you on as you recruit 500 church members to run for office in 2026 and 2028."

Four years ago, the American Renewal Project successfully recruited 50 pastors and spiritual leaders for statewide offices – 25 won their primaries and 10 won the general election. "If we stay home, the other side's put their candidates in, who then draft and pass legislation and codify into law their values," David Lane told the gathering

in Raleigh. "We're asking the living God to move into the public square of America."



Overall, the 2026 Mid-terms are already looking to be a dogfight as a handful of states across the country are changing their redistricting rules. Just this week, Missouri's Republican governor signed into law a new map that could net the GOP an additional congressional seat. Texas drew first with a map to benefit the GOP in the midterms. Red states like Indiana and Florida are also planning to do the same. Meanwhile, Democrats are trying to redistrict in the blue states of California, Maryland, and New York.

As these political maneuvers play out, North Carolina Congressman Pat Harrigan says the battle ahead is focused on something much bigger. "I've always spoken the truth, and I will always continue to speak the truth," Harrigan explained to pastors in Raleigh. "We are not winning. We are making progress, but we are not winning. There is still a mountain of work to do, and it will take all of our lifetimes to undo what has been done in this country to sow sin instead of righteousness."

While it might take a lifetime, members of this movement believe the result will be worth the work and that now is the time to start.

Who among us will celebrate Christmas correctly? Whoever finally lays down all power, all honor, all reputation, all vanity, all arrogance, all individualism beside the manger; whoever remains lowly and lets God alone be high; whoever looks at the child in the manger and sees the glory of God precisely in his lowliness. ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Theologian and Pastor)

LIFE SURGE IN ALBUQUERQUE DRAWS THOUSANDS SEEKING FAITH AND INSPIRATION

Hundreds say "Yes" to Jesus as Life Surge unites powerful voices of faith, leadership and purpose for one unforgettable day in New Mexico

Life Surge, a rapidly growing one-day event designed to inspire and equip people to live out their faith in every area of life, brought powerful worship, world-class teaching and transformational stories to Albuquerque this past weekend. Thousands attended the high-energy event, with 467 decisions for Christ recorded by the end of the day.

The event celebrated a lineup of nationally recognized speakers including motivational speaker Nick Vujicic, two-time national football champion Tim Tebow, author and model Demi Tebow, bestselling author, speaker, coach and leader Dr. John Maxwell, Hall of Fame line-backer and defensive icon Brian Urlacher, founder of Life Church Craig Groeschel, comedic thought leader Michael Jr., and Paul & Hannah McClure of Bethel Music. Each speaker shared practical biblical wisdom

on leadership, finances, purpose and living boldly for Christ in today's world.

From powerful worship moments led by the McClures to motivational messages on faith and calling, Life Surge Albuquerque offered a one-of-a-kind experience uniting believers from across the region. The day challenged attendees to impact the marketplace and their communities with courage, generosity and purpose.

"Life Surge exists to help people surge forward in every area of life—spiritually, personally and financially," said Shawn Mar-

and follow @lifesurgeevent on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, or @lifesurge-event on LinkedIn.

About Life Surge:

Life Surge is a national faith-based movement designed to inspire, train, and equip individuals to grow their faith, finances, and future through practical, Bible-based teaching. Known for its dynamic one-day events focused on Worship, Wisdom, Work, and Wealth, Life Surge events have impacted hundreds of thousands of attendees across the country since their inception. With an



cell, President, Life Surge. "What we saw in Albuquerque was incredible — a city coming alive with faith and vision for the future."

Life Surge's 2025 tour continues with upcoming stops in cities nationwide. For more information and tickets, visit LifeSurge.com

and attendee satisfaction rate of 94%, Life Surge reviews consistently highlight life-changing experiences, from renewed purpose to breakthrough strategies in business and personal growth. For those ready to go deeper, SurgeU—the advanced coaching and education track—offers transformational courses, mentorship, and other actionable tools to help individuals walk out their calling with clarity and confidence. From first-time attendees to participants enrolled in SurgeU, people across America are discovering why Life Surge is more than an event—it's a launchpad for Kingdom-minded living and legacy.



News & More



Words Matter

By Scott Christie

Today I want to talk about how words matter. Words can be powerful. They can lift you up and encourage you. They can convey love and they can also communicate hate. The words you say to your spouse; to your kids; to your neighbors; to your coworkers – they all matter. The words you choose to listen to matter. They will affect you, whether you realize it or not. Jesus understood that words matter. During his time on earth he spoke many comforting words. In John 14:27 he said [Jhn 14:27 KJV] 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

A well written speech by a great orator can inspire and unify people. Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address emphasized the ideal of a nation "conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal," and the enduring principle of "government of the people, by the people, for the people".

John F Kennedy's inaugural speech encouraged a generation to public service when he stated "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country,"

Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech galvanized the nation to finally address racial inequity in a land where "all men are created equal".

These were inspiring, Biblically-based words. Calls to action to affect positive outcomes.

But you know, the same can be done with evil words. A dictator, through the use of words, can brainwash a nation to propagate war and genocide. As morbid as it may seem, the study of Nazi propaganda in the 1930's has always fascinated me. How could an entire nation turn on the Jewish living amongst them? How could an entire nation fall under the hypnotizing control of a murderous thug like Adolph Hitler? Propaganda was the key – the insidious drip of strategic words, using all forms of media, declaring one group of people was to blame for everything; that they were sub-human and should be eliminated from society. Looking at today's news outlets and the words they use, it seems nothing has changed.

When it comes to propaganda, words are carefully chosen for the desired effect on the audience. We live in a world where words are intentionally twisted, to soften the blow of sin, or coerce someone into a false sense of self-righteousness. We routinely hear that

- It's a fetus or a clump of cells, instead of a precious unborn child.



Jamie and son Scott Christie

- It's "reproductive health care", instead of abortion, the definition of which is the murder of an unborn child.
- It's "gender affirming care", instead of the deliberate lying to a young person as you pump them with life-altering drugs; committing atrocious, irreversible surgery
- It's a lifestyle choice, claiming "love is love", when we know it to be sinful behavior, condemned by God

Over the past 10 years, words in the main stream media have been carefully chosen. People like us in this room have been labelled as "Christian nationalists", Christian extremists; racists; fascists; even Nazis. They tell their audience over and over again that WE are the existential threat to American society; we should be shamed and removed from society. What's behind this? Who do we know that is a master of lies; who twists truth and pollutes righteousness?

I mention all of this because it's been a really tough week. The horrific assassination of Charlie Kirk has changed me in ways I can't yet articulate. Something has shifted within me, and from what I'm seeing on the internet, it has also affected millions across this country. This was a turning point. A line has been crossed and people, not just Christians, are waking up to the reality of the wickedness in our world.

I was a big fan and follower of Charlie Kirk. I watched him every day. Within minutes of hearing that Charlie had been shot, I was on social media looking to see if it was true. I desperately wanted it NOT to be true. All too quickly I found numerous posts of the shooting – one second he was speaking, the next his neck exploded and a shocking amount of blood was pouring out of him as he slumped to the ground. People screamed and ran in all directions to escape. At first I thought it was AI generated – something fake that some twisted, evil ghouls created to fool all of us. There was so much blood it looked like something out of a movie, not real life. But then I saw the same footage, except from different angles, from people near him in the audience. To say I was stunned

would be a gross understatement. I ran to my wife and showed her. She was horrified. We burst into tears, unable to process brutality and violence of what we were seeing. His 3 year old daughter tried to run to him, scared by the sound of the gunshot and the screaming of the crowd. She wanted to find safety in her Daddy's arms.

Later that day, before we learned he was officially dead, there were some on social media asking for these videos to be taken down, stating it was cruel to keep them up in case Charlie's wife or children were to see them. I disagreed – I was now angry enough at what had happened that I wanted everyone to see the horrific reality. If you haven't seen it, I respectfully encourage you to find it and watch it once. If your kids are age appropriate show it to them. You may disagree with me but we can't avert our eyes anymore from the wicked evil that roams this earth.

I miss the America I grew up in. We were never this divided. Evil was not this out in the open. This week people were celebrating his assassination and posting their celebration on social media for all to see. There is no shame anymore, no remorse. No civil discourse. No respect of life, of innocence. No sympathy for a widow and her two young children. As I read these awful posts, the words of Ephesians 6:12 came crashing in as a stark reminder - [Eph 6:12 KJV] 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places].

Growing up, I would read the stories in the New Testament of demon possessed people, thinking to myself "I'm glad we don't have that these days". I was so naïve. I believe now we have more demon possessed people walking amongst us than ever before. Satan has grown more bold, and has better tools and resources to reach people on a global scale. His goal has never changed – to twist the truth of God's words into lies; to blind the eyes of people; to convince them that happiness and contentment can be found elsewhere other than in God. I hate what he's doing to our world; to our country; to our children.

Friday night Darla and I watched Erika Kirk's speech and were brought to tears again. Her strength; her broken heart; her resolution to carry on the work Charlie had started – it was so incredibly inspiring. Only someone with Christ as their rock, anchor, and strong tower could have had the courage to do that. Pray for her. Pray for her children. Pray for the Turning Point movement that must not be silenced.

I mentioned earlier something inside of me has changed. I can no longer see the world

Continued on page 18



News & More



WORDS MATTER FROM PAGE 17

through a political lens. Politics are just a vehicle to accomplish an ultimate goal. No, my lens is now 100% spiritual. You see, just like the book *Done* describes two world religions – one focused on the false hope of DOING enough to warrant a place in heaven, and the other accepting what has already been DONE for you to be with your Savior for eternity – there are only two groups of people in this world – those who have Christ, and those who don't. Other labels placed on groups of people based on race, gender, political affiliation, denomination are absolutely meaningless if you hold to a spiritual lens. For those who have Christ, we lost a global ambassador for Christ in Charlie Kirk.

Charlie Kirk is a modern-day Christian martyr. I knew Christians were being martyred across the world, but you rarely if ever see it and so you become desensitized to what's happening. Witnessing Charlie's assassination almost in real time woke me from my apathetic slumber. He was an unashamed Christian who shared the gospel every chance he had. He used words to try to open the eyes of those who had been lied to for so long through evil propaganda in the news media; on social media; and in our public schools and universities. I never met this man, yet why does his death hurt so much? Someone pointed out because the body of Christ is mourning his loss. Paul wrote in I Corinthians [1Co 12:26 KJV] 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it.

Those without Christ painted him as a racist, Nazi, homophobe, fascist; they said he was the great divider and his so-called "hate speech" had to be stopped. If you've ever seen his videos on campuses across the country, debating anyone with the courage

to step up to the mic, you would see the exact opposite. He was polite; he was thoughtful; he was welcoming; and he was compassionate. Within hours of the confirmation of his assassination, those without Christ were back on the air lying about him; blaming HIM and his words for being murdered. I want to hate these people but I know that's not what Jesus wants.

In spite of this terrible week I have good news. Those without Christ think he's been silenced, but the exact opposite has happened. His martyrdom has ignited people like never before. I watched on social media as numerous people declared their love for Christ; I watched as people woke up to the reality that they need Christ; many re-dedicated themselves to Christ; to going to church again; to opening their Bible. I saw people who didn't know Christ show interest in reading the Bible, to find out why Charlie was always talking about his Savior. I saw a post that said "You can't kill a Christian, you can only change his address."

Charlie's death will not be in vain. Millions of us, shaken to a heightened awareness by this loss, will see to that. His message, and his mission, will carry on. I want to be a part of that. He only spoke the truth, and people wanted him dead because of it.

Therefore, I will no longer allow people to blaspheme my God. I will no longer allow them to mock and ridicule my Savior. I will stand up and speak out [Rom 1:16 KJV] 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

You can call me a racist, a fascist, a Nazi, a Christian nationalist – those words have no power over me. Christ will be my example. They killed him for his words. Even

on the cross he begged the Father to forgive his murderers, for they knew not what they were doing. He was never hateful. He never wanted violence. Yet that's all I ever see from those without Christ.

I will speak the truth in love to those who hurl those words at me. You need Jesus my friend. He will open your eyes. He will change your heart. He is light, and truth, and our loving Shepherd. He died in your place, so you won't have to pay your sin debt. He rose from the grave and promises to return for his people. Who wouldn't want that?

I will pray for the lost. I will pray for our country. I will pray that a revival of global proportions will sweep across our world in the coming months. Because this assassination is in the news and on everyone's minds, we must use this opportunity to share the gospel with all we encounter.

In the name of Jesus Christ I rebuke you Satan. Get thee behind me. For too long we've been complacent. For too long we've let you take over our country, poisoning our youth, destroying our homes, destroying our country from within. I'm on the winning side. You may have won this week's battle by taking out a threat to your kingdom, but the WAR is already won. You've lost.

Christians, daily we must put on the armor of God; arm yourself with the sword of the Lord because HIS words definitely matter. Face the evil darkness and extinguish it with the light of His word. Teach your kids His truth, His words. Don't let the words of others influence them. Strengthen your marriage in Christ. Be ambassadors for Christ wherever you go. Show and tell the world the difference Jesus can make in your life. Our complacency has to end.

Make His words matter.

WHAT KIDS NEED: Ps.78:1-11

By Pastor Paul Cady



Pastor Paul Cady

Since the assassination of Charlie Kirk, dramatic change has been underway...a seismic shift!

---For several years now, rumblings of revival have been drifting out of America's colleges and universities.

---It was evident God's Spirit was beginning to move.

---The shock of Covid...and the govt. oppression that followed...woke many to the seriousness of what was happening to us.

---Freedom really could be lost!

---It was a jolting realization.

---Too many conspiracy theories turned into conspiracy facts.

2. Amid the swirling currents of growing apprehension, people like Charlie Kirk began to gain a following.

---That following grew rapidly.

---Hundreds became thousands, thousands became hundreds of thousands, and finally...millions.

Where did this movement come from?

---All across the nation, the starving hearts of America's sons and daughters began to respond to the message Kirk and others were preaching.

---Over a 5 yr period, they brought the light of God's Truth to America's college campuses.

---Crowds of young people became like fields of sunflowers, turning their blooms to catch the light and warmth of which they have been so long deprived.....many of them, for their entire lives!

For the last 65 years, we've been starving the souls of America's youth...literally to death!

---Those 65 years have witnessed the collapse of the younger generation.

---We thought we could rear our youth on a steady diet of LIES... Marxism, atheist humanism, materialism, and hedonism.



News & More



---But lies have an expiration date...and it appears ours have been reached.

---We can blame it on schools which became indoctrination centers...teaching our kids that insanity is the road to equality.

---But our churches must also share the blame...becoming worthlessly liberal, or insufferably shallow.

---And parents, too...allowing their homes to become spiritual wastelands.

The result has been three generations of youths...

---starved of the very things they most desperately needed!

---And the signs of that starvation have been everywhere.

---A million deaths from fentanyl alone in the last 10 years.

---Drugs, crime, depression, suicide, sexual promiscuity, rejection of marriage, failed marriages, fear of commitment, collapsing birth rates, gay and trans kids, school shootings....

---all right out of a playbook written by The Devil.

---All this useless drivel we hear now about "the mental health crisis"!

---Mental health crises rarely happens to kids with a healthy sense of SELF.

---Kids weren't like this when I was growing up...when most of you were growing up.

---Why isn't anybody asking why?!

We have miserably failed our kids!!

---But it just may be that...at this late hour... God is graciously giving us another opportunity to get them back.

---However, we're going to have to wake up to what we're doing to them! ...To ourselves! Charlie Kirk took an eclectic approach...a whole culture approach....to today's youth crisis.

---He incorporated the multiple facets that make up people's lives.

---Too many Christians have the misguided notion if you preach the Gospel, people will get saved, and culture will be revived.

---That is hopelessly naive!

---Christ is the Foundation (1 Cor.3) but you can't stop with a foundation...you have to BUILD on it!

We need to be BUILDING.....strong marriages and strong homes on godly principles.

---We need to be building strong kids!!

---Those principles go far beyond the Gospel.

---The Gospel is the launch pad...it's not the GOAL!

---The Bible tells us to rear up our kids in the way they should go...not simply give them the Gospel!

---Charlie Kirk recognized this.

---We ALL need to recognize this!

---It is the FAILURE to recognize this that got us where we are!

Revival isn't just about getting people saved!

---It's about reviving a dying culture!

---You don't revive a dying culture without doing right by your kids!

---25% of all American teenagers admit to contemplating suicide!!

---That's 1 in 4!!!

---Fox News just reported a recent poll asking young adults in Calif.

whether they felt they have mental health problems.—98% yes!

---What gives young people mental health problems?

---What makes young people consider suicide?

---What makes them turn to the occult, witchcraft, and Satanism?

---What motivates them to use drugs?

---Do happy people do these things? (NO!!)

---Happy people have a reasonably solid view of THEMSELVES!

---Who I am...What I am...Where I came from...Why I'm here.

---I have that, and so have many of YOU!

---Please understand!!

---OUR KIDS TODAY DO NOT HAVE THAT!!

---Why not?

---BECAUSE WE'RE NOT GIVING IT TO THEM!

America's kids are in crisis!

---More & more of them, in a quest for meaning, are turning to EVIL.

---And until we address the problem we're having with EVIL & why that problem exists, we're not going to solve the problem!

GENTLEMEN, THIS IS NOT THAT HARD!!

---This is NOT ROCKET SCIENCE!!

---It's really just COMMON SENSE!!

---Let me ask you,.....

---if you were doing something one way for a very long time, and it

worked just fine,....

---then you decided to do it a different way, and things started to fall apart, what would be the SMART thing to do??

---YES!!Go back to what you were doing before!

---Which brings us to the text of the morning!

Ps.78:1-11

---" A Contemplation of Asaph. Give ear, O my people, to my law; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old,

3 Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us.

4 We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children;

6 That the generation to come might know them—the children who would be born—that they may arise and declare them to their children,

7 That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments;

8 And may not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not set its heart aright, and whose spirit was not faithful to God.

9 The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows, Turned back in the day of battle.

10 They did not keep the covenant of God; They refused to walk in His law,

11 And forgot His works And His wonders that He had shown them."

What is the heart—the essence—of what God is telling Israel

here? – Is It not that...

---"All the problems you're suffering as a nation can be traced back to one thing....

---You've forgotten God!!

---And in forgetting God, you've forgotten who you are!

---You've stopped teaching your children who they are!

---You've forgotten the special connection you and your children have to GOD!

---Stop! Turn around! Go back to where you were!

---THAT is the great "VOID" in the West today, and in America in particular!

---THAT is the great "VOID" in today's public education!

---And THAT VOID is at the heart of the avalanche of evil under which we're finding ourselves buried!

Continued in a future issue!

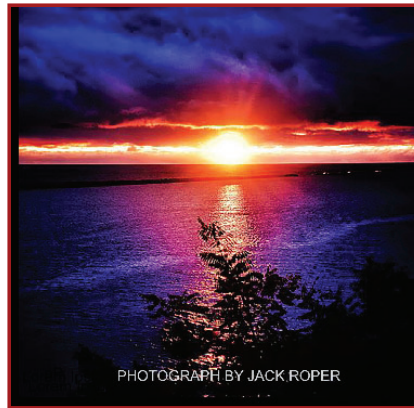


A Glimpse of Eternity

By Jack Roper

Curiosity has been in the hearts of many people. Curiosity about the future has triggered individuals in the areas of astrology, fortune telling, mediumship, spiritualism, psychics and various people who seek to have their ears tickled. To know the unknown has been unknown for many years. The human heart for some wants to know when they are to pass on into eternity. Pre-cognition or the ability of pre-knowing of events falls into the area of pseudoscience. Knowing the future is restricted only to a small class of people such as the prophets of the Bible, Charlatans have been around for many years seeking to have people believe in them as a true source of what is going to happen in the future. This is one reason why people go to seances. There is a principle in logic called causality which is “an effect cannot occur before its cause”.

Having personal experience with this realm of psychics, some of my former friends were into psychic studies. We formed the Wisconsin Society of Psychical Research. I was so committed to the psychic group that I bought the signs for the door for our organization. The psychic group were so convinced of what we had. I even went to Switzerland to study the esoteric sciences. We had meetings often to collaborate on our so-called abilities. It was, I would say now, wishful thinking. Wishes do not always come true. Do they ?



Knowing the future is restricted. Examples in the Bible were the prophet of old (Elisha in 1 Kings 19:15&16) and Apostle John (Rev. chapter 1). They had limited prophetic knowledge but their prophecies were ordained by God. Today some preachers are given the title as an apostle. These “apostles” do not know the future & do not fit in as true apostles mentioned in the Scripture. Scripture today is given as faithful writings (2Tim3:16) for those that are believers.

ETERNITY: HEAVEN

The Bible is the only true source of what the future holds for you and I Eternity is a never ending reality for us to understand for

it is far beyond our limited cognitive abilities because we humans are dealing with the unknown for the unknown never ends. God created eternity and what He created has unlimited boundaries. God is so vast for we are small. God is so great for He is holy. God is so wonderful for we just wonder about His wonderfulness. God is so powerful for He created the Universe and we need Him for Him to show us what He created. God is an immortal Being where we humans are mere mortals. God created the stars for to us they are too far. God is all knowing where we are ignorant of what He knows. God will always be God for on earth we were just little gods. God is God and He will never change. God's Son died on the Cross so that we would finally change.

JOSEPH'S TERRIBLE PLANNING: THE CHRISTMAS STORY REVISITED

By William Colin Marris



Imagine a man who takes his pregnant wife, who is ready to give birth at any moment, to a strange, crowded town on a cold winter's night, who is vainly knocking on doors seeking lodging without a reservation...

The traditional Christmas story is a narrative that is vividly recognizable to countless millions, both Christians and non-believers alike.

In reality, however, many of our traditional Christmas images and beliefs (including Joseph's “terrible” planning) may actually convey a flawed rendition of Jesus' birth.

Rather than an accurate portrayal of Christ's nativity, what has transpired instead might be called a traditional “greeting card” Christmas story...

Deck the Hall[mark]s!

This book will examine the Christmas story based on our understanding of first-century



Jewish history, culture, and, most importantly, a reliance on the truth of the Gospels. It is believed that what will emerge is a story that is no less beautiful but one that is more biblically accurate...one that even demonstrates Joseph's WONDERFUL Planning!

GOD IN HIS WISDOM AND CREATIVITY

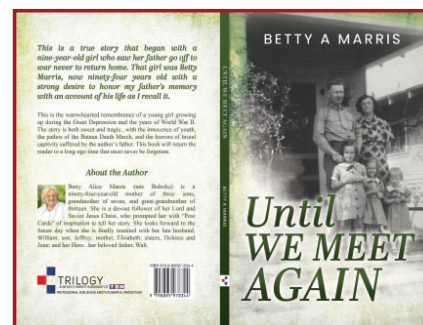


God in His wisdom and creativity, when He gave life, He gave the small world such as insects, bugs, germs and tiny sea creatures also life. He gave stink to stink bugs that repels predators. The following bullet list illustrates how a creature protects itself defensively and offensively. The Toadfish has a poisonous skin laced with tetrodotoxin and attacks the nerve cells and can cause paralysis

1. Stinging cells: Some coral, Anemones, Hydroids, Jellyfish.
2. Blood sucking: Leeches, Cat fleas, Mosquitoes, Ticks, Kiss bugs.
3. Electric Shock: Sharks, Stingrays, Stargazer, Certain EELs.
4. Skin Poisons: Toadfish Pufferfish, Some Octopuses, Yellow worm.
5. Venom Bites: Rattlesnake Australian Box Jellyfish, Cone Snail.
6. Stung Poison: Stonefish, Lionfish, Assassin Bug, Flower Urchin.
7. Spinning Web. This sticky web catches a wide variety of insects.

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

By Betty A. Marris



This is the warm-hearted remembrance of a nine-year old girl who saw her father go off to war, never to return. Now at ninety-four years of age, the author tells a story that is both sweet and tragic; of growing up in Milwaukee during the Great Depression, and the years of World War II. Her father suffered the horrors of the Bataan Death March, years of brutal imprisonment, and finally death while being transported in a Japanese “Hell Ship.” It is a time that must never be forgotten!