

Dear Friends:

My Personal Message

On the mission field, in the Local Church, and for our United States of America prayers to The One True Lord is absolutely vital to success. In our families and around the world, precious souls are on the line. Already this year we have seen the Holy Spirit moving in hearts and lives. From the altar, I pray will come lasting fruit to the Glory of our Saviour. HE is worthy.

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST!

Venezuela is in crisis. The economy is a wreck. It is dangerous and difficult for God's people. Pastor Estelvio was injured at the new church construction and was admitted to the Hospital with an infection. Pray for him and his family. Thank you to all who have given financially to help in Venezuela.

JUNGLE BIBLES

Also you have made it possible to move forward printing Bibles for the jungle. Even in time of persecution, God's Word and work is advancing.

STUDY BOOK PRINTING

Funds have also been given to proceed with the reprint of the verse-by-verse study, *The Book of Revelation*. As with all printing projects, every detail is critical. Pray that all goes smoothly and on schedule.

FINALLY we always need your prayers for our family as we travel and serve. For Christ and souls,

 Ronnie L. Williamson

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The Voice IN THE Wilderness

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The Voice in the Wilderness is a nonprofit, independent incorporation, founded by Rev. Dr. J. Royce Thomason D.P.D. Ph.D., evangelist and medical missionary. The organization is dedicated to the spreading of the whole gospel to the world, especially in foreign lands. The program consists of building mission stations, supporting American missionaries and native pastors by partnering with the local church in various areas of ministry and preaching Christ to the lost. We are supported by the gifts of those who care. Contributions to The Voice in the Wilderness for projects or to support the ministry of a missionary will be used as indicated by the donor following approved policies and procedures. Gifts are tax deductible and should be made out to The Voice in the Wilderness.

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8 Bibles for the Jungle Nuggets of Gold



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THE TRANSFORMED MIND

Those little foxes will spoil the vine Lest you have a transformed mind With all thy getting, this is a must To place in Him your completed trust By God's Word perfecting in you With all thy heart, acknowledge it's true Your understanding you cannot lean But handfuls of purpose daily glean Hide His riches in your heart And day by day a prayerful start Live your life a transformed mind Defeat those foxes, grow in the vine Present your body, holy is Thine To you, O Lord, a renewing mind.

Romans 12:1,2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

DUTY AND DOCTRINE—BELIEF AND BEHAVIOR

The apostle Paul is beseeching the brethren for a total transformation. Are there unfathomable mysteries—are there unattainable promises God has given only to frustrate mortal man? It is only through and by the transformed mind that we can even understand all that God has prepared for His children. How can this be? It begins with presenting our bodies a living sacrifice unto God. After all, we are not our own or do we even understand that fact? The apostle beseeches me/you to present my/your body a living sacrifice. This is to be holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. Using the word sacrifice is certainly the Holy Spirit's intention. This brings us to the Old Testament system and even back to the Tabernacle, where the priest entered the Holiest of Holies, to bring the annual sacrifice. So, what exactly is the apostle, under Holy Spirit inspiration, telling the New Testament saint? Hold on to that thought and question for just a moment.

From the time of salvation we are new creatures in Christ. Thus begins the walk of faith. The transformation Paul speaks of may appear to be mystical and even unattainable by some. Others will label this legalistic. But Scripture says this is good, and acceptable, and perfect. As a matter of fact, this is the will of God.

This transformation is, simply put, to be like Jesus. Are you a Christian? What exactly does that mean? Are we to be Christ-like as the meaning of Christian says? Does that carry with it the true meaning of transformation by the renewing of your mind.?

Ultimately, the one mind that matters is the mind of Christ. So, "In the beginning God..." and "In the beginning was the word..." reassures us of the fact that it all begins with Him. This miraculous transformation by the renewing of our mind is by the mercies of God. He must do the transforming. He transforms our minds by His Word. Consider the following:

- The born again child of God desires to be more like Jesus, not more like the world—yes?
- The Word of God is absolute authority in the child of God's life, not feelings, fads, and the fashions of this world—yes?
- Men and women with a solid Biblicist model are our examples not modernist, purpose-driven, emergent, charismatic pseudos—yes?

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- We should ask the Lord's counsel for discernment of the good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God not the world's counsel-yes?
- Purpose in your heart to stand strong and know the rewards of high standards and Biblical separation-yes?
- The transformed mind loves, as 1 Corinthians 13 describes, knowing that not every saved person will embrace Romans 12: 1,2.
- Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever, and as the world and worldlings move and change, the transformed mind is steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

A MULTITUDE OF MINDS

The setting was the streets of Delhi, India. It is always uncomfortable to have a panhandler confront me with what is usually a pack of lies about why they want my hard earned money. In this case, I'm 9,000 miles from home and the last thing I need is to be accosted by a street person, a beggar. The dear Indian brother traveling with me had no patience for his fellow countryman trying to shake down the American gringo. In a sudden outburst he almost shouted at the beggar, "Why don't you get a job?" Without hesitation and to our shock, the beggar immediately blurted, "I've got a job—it's hard work begging out here in the hot sun."

Talk about different mindsets and ways of thinking. First, there's an American in a foreign country. That's me, with all my background and culture. Then two Indians going toe-to-toe with obviously different opinions about the definition of legitimate employment.

The next day we were scheduled to drive from Delhi to Agra. After grabbing a bite to eat, my Indian brother left his trash and paper cup lying on the street curb. Now India typically has its share of litter and garbage.

IS GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

"One of the most important documents a man ever signs is his Will. I can tell better what a man had in his heart by reading his Will than I can by reading his obituary. His obituary tells the world what his friends thought of him; his Will reveals what he had in his heart." - A. M. Vollmer

For as (a man) thinketh in his heart, so is he-Proverbs 23:7. Out of (the heart) are the issues of life - Proverbs 4:23. A bequest in your Will to The Voice in the Wilderness, Inc. can assure that the outreach of this ministry at home and abroad will continue after you have gone to your eternal reward. Prayerfully consider us in your Estate Planning.

Thank you!

I mildly rebuked my friend for tossing his trash inappropriately. Again, for me the response was unexpected. "There are people that are paid to collect trash. If I don't leave some, they will not have a job."

These are true and humorous accounts. It illustrates how vastly different people are and different thinking can be. By the way, I love the people of India. It has been my joy to visit India nine times and minister with our precious brethren. With dozens of languages, many religions and such diversity of culture, India is a prime example of diversity in thinking.

So whether India, the United States or any other point on the planet what makes one's thinking right, wrong, good or bad? Thus our study—*The Transformed Mind.*

HOW DO YOU SEE IT?

A professor wrote the following words on the chalkboard and asked each student to punctuate them: A woman without her man is nothing

All male students punctuated the words this way: A woman, without her man, is nothing.

All female students punctuated the words this way: A woman: without her, man is nothing.

Without the discussion of right or wrong, it is not very difficult to find a variety of opinions and thinking when it comes to the various issues of life. The apostle Paul makes it clear in the realm of the spiritual that the transformed mind must be renewed by the Word of God.

Far too frequently I make a gesture or say something seemingly involuntarily that is identical to my parents. Often it is a characteristic I did not especially appreciate in my mom and dad. Was that genetic or repetitive influence? DNA, environment and a host of factors shape our thinking. The writings and documents of religion through the centuries have built and destroyed nations. People are a complex curiosity. So with all that said, we as believers in Jesus Christ have been given the mind and message of God in His inspired/infallible Word. The choice is ours. Will we be conformed to this world or transformed by the renewing of our mind? *(To be continued)*



UPDATE: The Voice in the Wilderness Ministry reprinted Sophie Muller's (Missionary to the Jungles) Bible translation work in Curipaco, Piapoco, Puinave, and Guahibo languages. In 1999 Brother Williamson was privileged to stand where Sophie served for 50 years and witness 1500 precious souls come walking through the jungle and canoeing down the Orinoco to receive the Word of God in their indigenous language. Indeed it was a blessing! Today, we need a printer in Colombia to print the indigenous language Bibles for the jungle work. Missionary Gage is researching this possibility. Pray the Lord will provide someone in country that can produce quality Bibles at a reasonable cost for the Indian brethren. PRAISE THE LORD! Offerings have been received and details for printing are being completed. We look forward to completing a print run in the near future. Please pray that this project will be completed in a timely manner!



- Trouble is usually produced by those who produce nothing else.
- Perpetual motion will no doubt soon be here because we have already reached the stage of perpetual commotion.
- The man who rows a boat, generally doesn't have time to rock it.
- Push! If you can't push, then pull! If you can't pull, then please get out of the way.