

The Voice



CONTENDING FOR
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

IN
THE



CONTENDING FOR
AMERICAN FREEDOM

Wilderness

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." - Mark 1:3

Winter Edition 2009 • Free Subscription

See the mighty host advancing,
Satan leading on;
Mighty men around us falling,
Courage almost gone!

"Hold the fort, for I am coming,"
Jesus signals still;
Wave the answer back to heaven,
"By Thy grace we will."

-P.P. Bliss

The Voice IN THE Wilderness

PRINTED MISSIONARY

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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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Printed material from other sources does not necessarily imply an endorsement from this ministry.

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MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU



Dear Friends in Christ,

Lord willing, by the time you receive this edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness* I will be on the way to India. Three brothers in the ministry will be traveling with me to visit some of the work and experience what God is doing in this land of one billion plus souls. My first mission's trip to India was a dozen years ago, and what a venture that was! Presently, *The Voice in the Wilderness* has been supporting ministries in India for almost half a century--sometimes in a large way, often with prayers and encouragement for those laboring faithfully on a challenging field. Always thankful for your support and prayers through *The Voice in the Wilderness*, we extend your heart and hand to those who need the gospel.

You are a vital and precious friend of *The Voice in the Wilderness*. From my heart to yours—thank you so very much for the sacrifice, generosity, and faith you have demonstrated toward this missionary endeavor. To God be all the Glory, Amen!

2009 has already revealed a glimpse of the challenges a ministry like *The Voice in the Wilderness* will face throughout the year. Please read the enclosed "Ministry Update." There are some significant changes in printing and mailing schedules due to the economic downturn. Paper, postage, and overall production costs demand these modifications. The 2008 year-end giving was less than half what *The Voice in the Wilderness* needed to close out the year—leaving nothing for the start of 2009. I personally like the color *red* but not on the financial side. Again, I ask you to please read the enclosed "Ministry Update" on page 14 to see where we stand.

Now let me make this perfectly clear. We are not "hunkering down" in a survival position. As Bro. Royce stated many times, *The Voice in the Wilderness* operates on a shoestring budget—always has. My wife and I have sacrificed to see *The Voice in the Wilderness* go forward. Thankfully, due to the ministry I was in prior to *The Voice in the Wilderness*, we have been able to give thousands to this work while taking over a 50% cut in salary twice. I can honestly say this not boastfully, but say we are indeed committed to our Lord's call to *The Voice in the Wilderness*. As well, Steve and Rebekah Lilly, our staff missionaries, show their commitment by working outside *The Voice in the Wilderness* to subsidize the Aquila/Priscilla Ministry alongside of many who have more than generously stood with us.

"Lord, we thank you for the provision thou has given over the years, and Thy precious promises for the days ahead. To Thee be all the praise and Glory. In the name of Jesus, Amen!"

For Christ and Souls, Bro. Ronnie - Isa. 40:31 - Happy Trails!



P.S. A special note of THANKS to all those who responded with a year-end contribution to *The Voice in the Wilderness*. Please know how critical every gift was and how deeply we appreciate all you do. God Bless!



Study the

Mark 1:3: “The voice of
one crying in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
make His paths straight.”

The Voice in the Wilderness presents this *CrossVue Bible Series* as a help to believers in their obedience to Christ. May God add His blessing upon this endeavor. Appreciation is extended to Pastor Plemmons and the Leicester church family for allowing this Bible Study Series recording here at this beautiful facility. An Audio presentation of this study can be accessed on www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org. It is my prayer that all who study with us will grow in their knowledge of God’s Word.

Alpha to Apocalypse

Beginning to the External

A Bible Study Saltbox to create a thirst for God’s Word

THE BEGINNING, THE RACE & THE FINISH

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth”

Genesis 1:1. “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

Over 3,000 times this Book records the scriptures divinely inspired origin!

Hundreds of prophecies specifically and meticulously fulfilled. Archeological proofs are almost innumerable. Bible records have led to many amazing discoveries.

Genesis 1:1 may very well be the most frequently read

the Word

verse in the Bible. Many who have said, “I will read the entire Bible,” but never accomplished that worthy goal probably read Genesis 1:1. This is the Book of Beginnings, and it is here we begin with **The Word Power Study**. I will be using key words from the KJB English and the original languages to place this Divine Dynamite in the Bible student’s heart, head, and hand. Behold you frail mortal the Power in THE WORD.

“In the beginning God.” How blessed and privileged we are – grace and love are demonstrated to us in this momentous occasion. Think about it. We are introduced to GOD. I am allowed to inhale GOD. I am allowed to exhale GOD. The very name of GOD!



The Word **POWER** #1

The very name of His Sovereign majesty – His omnipotence--The name of God – **Elohim (TWP#1)** -The plural majesty of THE ONE CREATOR of All! In the beginning we are introduced to the fullness and glory of divine power – Elohim. The plurality of HIS name used in the singular gives us a glimpse of THE GODHEAD in all His power, glory and fullness.

An interesting note: The English word “GOD” is the same as the Anglo-Saxon word meaning for “good.” “There is none good but God.” “In the beginning God.” Let this be declared from loftiest heights, God is good! His very name, in this 1st verse reveals to us He is good....

Oh dear student, behold the Divine goodness!

For those who write margin notes in your Bible, this is an excellent observation. The Hebrew language gives us two powerful, personal names of GOD. **ELOHIM** – we’ve already discussed. Second, **Yahweh** or **Jehovah** – describing the all-powerful, self-existent, one GOD – **Yahweh!** Hallelujah – What a privilege to know the almighty God!



THE WORD **POWER** #2

The one and only Great God Creator “Elohim.” “In the beginning” = **bereshith (TWP #2)** created the heaven and the earth. “In the beginning” = bereshith (be-ray-sheeth) in the Hebrew is declarative as is verse two in stating as fact with no room for question, “In the beginning God....”(read verse 1 & 2). Verse 1 is no summary or heading for the following work of Elohim.

Verses 1 and 2 demonstrate the sequential action of Elohim calling into existence all space, all time, and all matter as only the omnipotent eternal Godhead could do! In the beginning God – no proof theory, no great age theory, no gap theory, and no evolution theory.

By the way, if man’s pea-brain could prove God, God would be no God—man would be god. In the beginning God! – (case closed!)

Psalms 14:1 – “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.” The fool has declared no God in his heart, but the mind of the fool is still warring with God. The

fool keeps saying “there is no God” with his perverted pseudo-science. The fool keeps saying, “There is no God” with his perverted revisionist history. The fool keeps saying, “There is no God” with his perverted humanistic philosophy. But the universe itself is not big enough for the fool to find a place to hide from God. Spinning at 490,000 miles per hour, it would take our galaxy 200 million years to rotate one time through the vastness of God’s universe with over a billion additional galaxies. Yet with stars numbering more than the sand of the sea, all function in order by the hand of the great designer – ELOHIM!

(Continued on page 8)

This Month In History

On February 19, 1812, Adoniram Judson and his wife Ann left New England and sailed to India as America’s first foreign missionaries. After establishing themselves in Rangoon, Adoniram began to preach and write in Burmese, successfully translating the Bible and writing a dictionary. By the time of his death, there were 63 churches established, 123 ministers and over 7000 baptized Christians in Burma. “How do Christians discharge this trust committed to them? They let three fourths of the world sleep the sleep of death, ignorant of the simple truth that a Saviour died for them.”

January 20 is the day for inauguration here in the United States. Here are some quotes of past Presidents on their Inaugural:

John Adams-“I feel it to be my duty to add, if a veneration for the religion of a people who profess and call themselves Christians. . . to consider a decent respect for Christianity among the best recommendations for the public service.”

William Henry Harrison- “I deem the present occasion sufficiently important and solemn to justify me in expressing to my fellow citizens a profound reverence for the Christian religion.”

Abraham Lincoln- “Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulty.”

To say that the universe just happened takes a bigger fool that all of faith could imagine! Bereshith – (ray sheeth) “In the beginning”. Hey – there was a BIG BANG!!

BANG

B – beautifully

A – arranged

N – none other

G – GOD

Beautifully arranged by none other than GOD =

BANG

Again a good marginal note: “In the beginning” Genesis 1:1 is a different word meaning than John 1:1 “In the beginning.” In John 1:1 before there was a beginning the Word, Jesus, always existed and the Word, Jesus, was with God and the Word, Jesus, was God. In Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning” ELOHIM, Jesus the Word, created all things and by Him all things were created. HE is before all things and by HIM all things consist – Col:1:16 &17.

“Daddy, where did God come from,” the precious child asked? “Honey, in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” Before everything, God has always been. “In the beginning God.” “In the beginning was the Word.”

Anyone honestly and sincerely wanting Truth – to do himself/herself justice—must read and consider the

BIBLE. Scientific, historical, archaeological – the time tested, trustworthiness, and life-changing evidence of the Holy Bible must be carefully viewed. God's Holy Word is uniquely set apart. WHY? Throughout this series the undeniable, irrefutable Truth of God's Word will culminate in a crescendo of Holy, Holy, Holy, Hallelujah, to the King of Glory!



THE WORD **POWER** #3

“In the beginning God created.” Elohim created out of nothing, the space, mass, time, universe. This **“created,”** is a God-word, for this action only belongs to God. The word **“created” (bara) (TWP#3)** speaks uniquely of God in all HIS power and majesty. From nothing, no pre-existing material, Elohim by the power of His mind, spoke into existence that which had no existence.

What is the largest or highest number a man or machine could conjure up? Could the totality of the universe be measured? If so, at the very end – WHAT? Just utter blackness and nothingness.

BANG – BIG BANG – was there once a little BANG or a BIGGER BANG?

How about a MID-BANG or POST-BANG? Before all the happenstance, was that GOD?

The Bible says, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” This is order – worth and dignity. “In the Beginning God” gives answer, foundation, and confirmation. That is explanation to life, death, and accountability!

WHOA! Wait, right there. “**ME**” accountable to God? I heard Carl Sagan speak many times. He, among many others, seemed to be in constant argument with themselves--trying to persuade and reassure themselves there is no GOD. At least, no God, that I will ever give account to!

“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.” Hebrews 11:3.

Elohim, the Eternal Sovereign Lord God called the heaven and the earth into existence out of nothing! In the beginning God created... He still speaks, do we listen?



THE WORD **POWER** #4

“God created the heaven and the earth.” This Word Power section consists of the words “**heaven**” and “**earth**”(TWP#4).

I emphasize again the Divine Origin of Scripture – the inspired, infallible Word of God – The Divine Library: 39 books in the Old Testament; 27 books in the New Testament. Over the course of 1,500 years, God moved upon 40 writers to record His Word. This God-breathed revelation is the perfect, preserved Word of God. From Genesis 1:1 throughout the New Testament the Spirit of God guides the Bible student along the amazing journey of Truth. “God created the

heaven and the earth.” As if he were divinely conveyed upon omnipotence and omnipresence, the reader is transported from this original space—mass—time continuum (Gen 1:1) by the breath of Elohim and the pen of Moses to another writer named Paul. From the Book of Beginning (heaven and earth) to a church in Colosse, God breathes out His revelation concerning heaven and earth. Gen. 1:1 – “God created the heaven and the earth.” Then Colossians chapter one speaks of Him “who is the beginning” the preeminent one reconciling “all things unto Himself, by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.” Hey – Don’t tell me this Book is not relevant. Don’t waste your breath. God’s breath is freshly breathed from heaven to earth here and now. Even the liberal news media, magazines and television reports are talking Bible. How about the Middle East? What about the age old conflict - Arab, Palestinian, and Israeli? Have you ever heard of Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael? And then there is this global, one-world talk we hear? Duh, are you seeing prophecy or what –hello????

Everybody wants “change.”

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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!

The liar, sin and fallen man brought ruin upon all that God had made good. But He who is the Beginning, the Creator, and has by His Almighty power dispelled darkness, “let there be light”—divided the light from the darkness with the “Day Star” and the evening and the morning were the **first** day and the Church has met to worship! The bright and morning star has risen – GLORY to GOD – *formlessness*, and void, and darkness are gone. Death, hell and the grave are defeated! He is in the reconciling business “whether they be things in earth or things in heaven! Hallelujah!

Dear student, dip your cup into the never-ending thirst quenching living water – He is reconciling in earth and in heaven.


Surely we understand this reconciliation on earth. Elohim in all His goodness leadeth men to repentance and reconciliation. But what

*He is reconciling
in earth and in
heaven.*

of reconciliation in heaven? Could there be an account on our account that must be reconciled in heaven?--An account full of promises, power and provision we as children here on earth never drew down on.

Then too, what about the standing angels; those unlike Lucifer/Satan and his fallen host, those holy angels in heaven having seen the magnitude of sin, the infinite love and cost of redemption, as well as, the power of Elohim to do what none other could do. They now see the consummation of all. Perhaps we will say more about these events in later study. Suffice it now

to be declared there is reconciliation by The One and Only True and Living God now made manifest to His saints.

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” Why would God create the heaven and the earth? For One who is all-sufficient it seems purposeless for God to go beyond Himself to do, be or obtain anything. Then is it even permissible or presumptuous to entertain such a thought? Perhaps God Himself answers that question. Please listen to the continuation of this CrossVue Bible Series on The Voice in the Wilderness website. 



Nuggets of Gold

☞ If ignorance is bliss why aren't more people happy?

☞ The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. - Edmund Burke

☞ If we forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a Nation gone under. -Ronald Reagan

☞ If our posterity neglects religious instruction. . . no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity. - Daniel Webster

☞ Our end in leaving our native country is not to gain riches and honor, but singly this: to live wholly to the glory of God. - James Oglethorpe on the founding of Georgia

☞ God is going to reveal to us things He never revealed before if we put our hands in His. - George Washington Carver

☞ God is behind everything, but everything hides God. - Victor Hugo

☞ Man is unjust, but God is just; and finally justice triumphs. - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

☞ Young man, the secret of my success is that at an early age I discovered I was not God. - Oliver Wendell Holmes

☞ Before any man can be considered as a member of Civil Society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe. - James Madison



MISSION

Beginning with this issue of *The Voice in the Wilderness* there are some significant changes I am asking all subscribers to please note. Lord willing, in 2009 there will be 4 (one per quarter) printings of the full-color booklet size editions of *The Voice in the Wilderness*. Due to budget constraints, this quarterly format will save the ministry thousands of dollars and permit those funds, as available, to go toward missions projects. As a reminder, the booklet size already saves *The Voice in the Wilderness* over \$900 per month and the full-color edition costs no more than the former two-color format. With thousands receiving *The Voice in the Wilderness* around the world, free of charge as a ministry outreach, it is necessary to make some modifications in order to continue this printing outreach.

The Voice in the Wilderness' current mailing list will therefore be divided into three different groups, enabling us to better maintain our mailing list and communication with all subscribers. First of all, those who contact or contribute to *The Voice in the Wilderness* will receive regular correspondence and/or their usual receipt letter. Secondly, a "mini" *The Voice in the Wilderness*, will be designed to inform supporters about various missionary needs and projects. Thirdly, the full-color edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness* will be mailed to all subscribers on a quarterly basis. If in the future, finances are available, we may continue the original monthly edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness*.

There is also another resource that is virtually cost free, comparatively speaking, available to all subscribers and you may not, as of yet, utilize. For those who have access to a computer, back issues, as well as current printings, are available at www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org website. At this site, you may also subscribe to *The Voice in the Wilderness* weekly email and blog. A prayer list, ministry updates, along with the Aquila/Priscilla ministry, CrossVue School of Missions, and other valuable resources are available free of charge.



A Personal Note to our Friends, Readers, Financial Supporters, and Prayer Partners

Please pray for us as these needed adjustments are made. As mentioned in My Personal Message, The Voice in the Wilderness is not backing up or hunkering down, but simply making decisions that will enable the ministry to continue its missionary outreach.

It was interesting to read Bro. Hutchings letter and report concerning current events. He states:

I remember the 1929 stock market crash and succeeding period known as the Great Depression. My father lost everything and we had to live in vacant shacks with often nothing to eat but cornbread, water gravy, and sorghum molasses. Many are predicting that by this time next year the majority will be experiencing an economic depression greater than the one in the 1930s. In 1932 it was the New Deal; in 2009 it will be the Raw Deal.

...A national news commentator, Glenn Beck, expressed his opinion that the sudden international economic crisis was staged in order to quickly bring in the global government that globalists have been preparing through such organizations as the Council on Foreign Relations. H.G. Wells stated, 'Countless people will hate the new world order and will die protesting against it.' David Rockefeller, president of the CFR, stated that he and his family have been accused of conspiring to destroy the sovereignty of the United States to bring in an international world order, and he replied: 'If that's the charge, I plead guilty, and I am proud of it.'

Dr. Robert Lindsted and I attended the 1990 Religious Broadcasters convention in Washington, D.C., and heard President George Bush predict the new world order eight times in his speech, and each time, five thousand delegates stood up and cheered. Dr. Lindsted and I were the only ones that remained seated.

Probably not one in a hundred high school students today

(Continued on page 16)

know that there was such a thing as the Jewish Holocaust in Europe, or know what happened at Pearl Harbor, and that 400,000 Americans died in WWII to save this nation from an inhuman dictator. Probably not one in one thousand high school students have ever read or heard one verse of scripture from the King James Version. Second Chronicles 7:14 should be read in every school classroom on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and the first chapter of Romans on every Tuesday and Thursday. (Southwest Radio)

It was staggering, certainly beyond my comprehension to have millions, let alone, to lose millions of dollars is inconceivable. But that's exactly what the brother said. For years now, he has faithfully raised support for a worthy mission work. The major supporter was a very prosperous businessman who lost millions, yes I said millions, of dollars in this economic downturn. Can you imagine? Now that ministry is looking for new supporters in a big way.

Terry and I were in a church recently in which three men had lost their jobs. Then a personal friend was just laid off after 27 years of steady employment on the same job. What a discouragement for that family.

Now this new administration in Washington, D.C., that promised great things and wonderful change, is saying it is up to the American people to make significant sacrifice.

After this election, it is obvious the Oval Office will cost about a billion dollars to obtain.

The last report I saw stated Obama alone raised over \$600 million toward his bid for the White House. All candidates in the 2008 presidential campaign spent over 1.5 billion dollars. America desperately needs our prayers and old-time Bible preachers to stand up and let their voices be heard.

The Voice in the Wilderness now has over 110 prayer partners listed in Founders Hall on the giant world missions map. If you have not volunteered to stand in the gap for a country and the missionaries serving on that field, may I ask you to help us on this project. Please send your name and the country you are praying for to: The Voice in the Wilderness, PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802. It will be a joy to post your enlistment in this global endeavor alongside the many prayer partners daily interceding for missionaries around the world.

Also, if you have not read "Capital Campaign" in the March/

April 2008 and July/August 2008 editions of *The Voice in the Wilderness*, please do so. We are asking pastors from all 50 states to join us in praying for America. If you are a pastor or know a pastor who would be willing to list his name on The Voice in the Wilderness prayer map for his state, please write us as well. Thank you for helping with this vital prayer project.

Your Year-End Gifts THANK YOU!

It was a joy to receive your many Christmas cards, greetings and letters over the Thanksgiving and Christmas period. Several faithful Voice in the Wilderness supporters moved up in 2008. They will be missed, but what a glad reunion day it will be. May God help us to fill the ranks and march on for His glory.

Many gave sacrificially at year-end and we deeply appreciate your support. Please continue to pray for the needs of The Voice in the Wilderness:

Ministry Prayer List

1. The missions trip to India in February of 2009.
2. The Lilly's work as they plan their return to Venezuela.
3. Pastor Niller and family in San Filipe as they plant a new church. (Thank you to Pastor Plemmons and Leicester Church for your generous support for Pastor Niller.)
4. Printing of *The Voice in the Wilderness*.
5. Meetings, revivals and safety of travel.
6. Finances for 2009.
7. A close spiritual walk for the Williamson and Lilly families as they serve through The Voice in the Wilderness.

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND COMMENTS

BRAZILIAN HOMESCHOOLERS TAKEN TO COURT – *The Berean Call* (1/16/09) reports that a Brazilian family has been charged with intellectual abandonment for choosing to home school their children.

Cleber and Bernadeth Nunes of Brazil decided to home school their children three years ago despite the fact it is against the law in their country. Cleber says they made the decision because it was in the best interest of their children.

"It's well-known the fact that education here in Brazil is a failure," the father says. "The statistics show that more than 70 percent of teenagers from 15 to 19-years-old [are] illiterate." He also adds that violence in school is rampant with more than 80 percent of teachers suffering some form of violence from students. Guns and other weapons being brought on school grounds also add to the problem. Cleber says that as parents they could do a much better job of taking care of their children.

As part of the trial involving the Nunes family, the children were tested by 16 teachers in a variety of subjects. Cleber says they passed with very high scores and then were ordered to undergo a mental examination. "The psychologist reported that they are mentally healthy," he says. Yet despite the

growing evidence against the charges, the judges refused to drop the case. One of the judges ruled that the test scores should not even be considered because the quality of public schooling versus home schooling was not on trial, and that home schooling can never replace public school.

Prayer to Continue- A federal judge in Washington, D.C., today denied a request by atheist Michael Newdow to halt prayers at Tuesday's presidential inauguration. PJI Chief Counsel Kevin Snider argued at the hearing on behalf of Pastor Rick Warren, who was named as a defendant because he has been invited to offer the invocation at the inauguration. The lawsuit had urged the court to issue an injunction preventing an invocation and benediction at the ceremony. U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton agreed with PJI and refused to stop the prayers. The judge also rejected Newdow's request for an injunction against Chief Justice Roberts to prevent him from saying "so help me God" at the end of the Presidential oath. This is the third lawsuit filed by Newdow since 2001 over inaugural prayers – and the third time his claims have been rejected. His long-running lawsuit against the Pledge of Allegiance and more recent attack on the national motto, "In God We Trust,"

are currently awaiting decisions in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. PJI President Brad Dacus commented, "Michael Newdow may have thought the third time was the charm with this lawsuit, but thankfully the court agreed with us, and three strikes means he's out. The very notion that a federal district judge should order either the Chief Justice or the President-elect's invited clergy what to say or not say is just censorship by another name." *Pacific Justice Institute 1/16/09*

Soup Anyone?- The American Family Association (1/16/09) reports that people aren't aware that when their school participates in Campbell's "Labels for Education" program they are supporting a company that has openly come out in support of homosexual marriage, and it has no intentions of stopping that support. "Labels for Education" provides equipment for schools in exchange for proofs of purchase from the family of Campbell's brands. Many of the schools that participate don't know that Campbell's supports the homosexual publication *The Advocate* with advertising. *The Advocate* is a leading promoter of same-sex marriage. The Media Daily News reported that a Campbell spokesman was quoted as saying: "Our plans for the Swanson brand [a division of Campbell's] include additional placements in *The Advocate*." To show their commitment to same-sex marriage, Campbell's sought out and featured two "married" lesbians and their son in one of the ads.

City Closes Church's Doors?- In

Guatay, CA, the city decided that a piece of property was improperly zoned and therefore the Guatay Christian Fellowship, which had been meeting at the location for nearly 25 years, either had to shut down immediately or face \$2,500 in fines each day. The church was also threatened by the county, which said that they would direct the electric company to turn off power to the church. The Cease and Desist Order that the county wrote recommended that the church site would be more appropriately used as a bar than a church, and that the site used for churches would be "illegal." Federal Judge Jeffery Miller sided with the church by writing, "To effectively deprive a group of individuals from practicing their religious beliefs at a site in continuous use for over 20 years, presents extraordinary circumstances." He went on to write that public interest "overwhelmingly favors" the church. Pete Lepiscopo, attorney for Pacific Justice Institute and defense for the church, said, "It is very gratifying to have the Court recognize that the County's actions were extreme and illegal. The County is not off the hook yet as the church will seek monetary damages from the County for violation of the church's religious, assembly and speech rights, but the church is relieved that it will now be allowed to resume meeting for worship as it has done for nearly a quarter century." *Pacific Justice Institute 11/25/08*

Prop 8 Update- PJI (1/13/09) also gives us an update on the hotly contested Prop. 8 in California. This was a key issue that voters in California decided in the November

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NEWS BITS

FROM HERE AND THERE

Bits of News- The beautiful Hemlock trees in America are being decimated by a pest known as the wooley adalja. Drastic measures with pesticides are being taken to kill the wooley adalja. When will some new ager step forward to champion the bugs right to life? They did for the darter snell and many other creepy crawlers.....Radical Islam is at war with the West. The American voter has forgotten 9/11 and the preceding events of the Clinton administration. The ballot was cast for the destruction of Biblical Values and The Constitution of the United States of America. Obama promised change and has immediately reinstated the same old corrupt, liberal Washington insider tax and spend big government crowd. Billions of hard earned American tax payer dollars will be squandered while the Treasury prints more bogus money and the nation is sold out to the One World System. The enemy is on the border and within!.....Topics immediately following the election in an interview with Barack Obama were Family, Fashion and Fido. These alliterated topics belong to the liberal media, believe it or not.....Technological advances make it possible to drill without

damage to the environment. It is environmental extremists and liberals who are blocking progress. The U.S. has more energy resources than any other country in the world. One source says the Rocky Mountains alone contain more shale oil resources than Saudi Arabia's oil reserves. Then drilling offshore will not destroy our oceans or beaches. And by the way there is enough coal in the United States to supply America for 250 years.

Be Vigilant- In his *Legal Alert* (January 2009), Dr. Gibbs asks us to be vigilant in watching out for several important issues to Christians. The first is the Homosexual Agenda. Christians need to be up to date on the gay activist goals for 2009 of federal anti-discrimination laws, opportunity to serve openly in the military, federal hate crime legislation, and repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act (this preserves the definition of marriage as one man/one woman). Dr. Gibbs also asks us to keep an eye on: the appointment of federal judges, the life agenda, which includes abortion and euthanasia, and finally the fairness doctrine (which would require broadcaster's equal time for opposing views

during a show). But we should not lose heart because God is in control and He holds the heart of the king in His hand.

Bible Beliefs- In an interview done with Cynthia McFadden of ABC, President Bush acknowledged his doubts about his belief in the Bible. Upon hearing the question about if the Bible was literally true, President Bush responded by saying, "You know. Probably not. . . . No, I'm not a literalist, but I think you can learn a lot from it, but I do think that the New Testament for example is . . . has got . . . You know, the important lesson is 'God sent a son.'" While explaining his salvation experience, the President said, "It is hard for me to justify or prove the mystery of the Almighty in my life. All I can just tell you is that I got back into religion and I quit drinking shortly thereafter and I asked for help." Describing his belief in the one true God: "I do believe there is an almighty that is broad and big enough and loving enough that can encompass a lot of people." But Bush believes that he prays to the same God as those with different religious beliefs. When asked whether six literal days of creation or evolution is true, the President follows the middle of the road. "I think you can have both. I think evolution can- you're getting me way out of my lane here. I'm just a simple president. But it's, I think that God created the earth, the world is so mysterious it requires

something as large as an almighty and I don't think it's incompatible with the scientific proof that there is evolution." www.abc.com 12/08 {Editor: What? Are you kidding me? If God is powerful enough to create the world in six days and rest on the seventh (Genesis 1-2), can we not believe that He made a completed world? If we doubt one aspect of the Bible, then could none of it be true? If we cannot believe in creation, then Heaven could not be real. If we cannot believe in creation, then we cannot believe in the promise of a Saviour in Genesis 3:15. If we cannot believe in creation, then what about the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus.}

"Leaders are readers."- I have been reading recently on the founding of this great country of ours and discovered that during the Colonial Period two-thirds of the people in the New World were literate. This means that they could read and write. That got me thinking. What is the literacy rate in the United States now? Here is what I found from an article published in 2007 titled, "Illiteracy: The Downfall of American Society." The writers report the following:

- 50% of adults cannot read a book written at an eighth grade level.
- 20% of Americans are functionally illiterate and read below a 5th grade level.
- Nearly half of all Americans read so poorly that they cannot find a

(Continued on page 22)

election. If you recall, the bill, which supported the Biblical definition of marriage, was passed. The brief filed by Pacific Justice Institute stated that the bill affirmed that marriage is to be of a heterosexual monogamy. This would not only do away with "homosexual marriage" but also bisexual and polygamist unions. Kevin Snider, PJI chief counsel, stated, "It is simply inaccurate to say that reaffirming the traditional definition of marriage singles out homosexuals for exclusion. Even the radical redefinition of marriage currently sought by gay activists maintains exclusions based on such factors as age and monogamy. It is hypocritical for them to pretend they are the only group affected by Prop. 8."

Harassment for Land- We have heard of the "Land for Peace" propositions in Israel, but this is a new one - Land or Harassment. A female Egyptian lawyer has intimated that it is ok for Arab men to sexually harass Israeli women. The interview which ran on Arab television in October 2008 quotes the attorney, "In my opinion, they (Israeli women) are fair game for all Arabs, and there is nothing wrong. . . this is a new form of resistance. Sexual harassment. . . in my view, the [Israeli women] do not have any right to respond. The resistance fighters would not initiate such a thing, because their moral values are much loftier than that. However, if such a thing did happen to them, the [Israeli women] have no right to make any demands, because this would put us on equal terms. Leave the land so we won't rape you. These two things are equal." *Israel/My Glory January/February 2009*

single piece of information when reading a short publication.

- 3 out of 4 people on welfare can't read.
- 20% of Americans read below the level needed to earn a living wage.
- 50% of the unemployed people who fall between the ages of 16 and 21 cannot read well enough to be considered functionally literate.
- Between 46% and 51% of American adults have an income well below the individual threshold poverty level because of their inability to read.
- 3 out of 5 people in an American prison can't read.
- 85% of juvenile offenders have problems reading.
- Approximately 50% of Americans read so poorly that they are unable to perform simple tasks such as balancing a checkbook and reading prescription drug labels.
- To determine how many prison beds will be needed in future years, some states actually base part of their projection on how well current elementary students are performing on reading tests.
- Illiteracy costs American taxpayers an estimated \$20 billion each year. It has been proven to cause children to drop out of school. Dropouts cost our nation \$240 billion in social service expenditures and lost tax revenues. {www.education-portal.com/articles}

Could this be the reason why we are giving up so many of our liberties during this age? Could this be why crime, immoral activity, and lack of respect are prevalent?

EDITORIAL

America:

Crossing The Deadline



On April 21, 1803 Thomas Jefferson wrote a letter to Benjamin Rush expressing his opinion on religion:

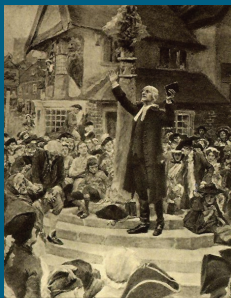
"My views...are the result of a life of inquiry and reflection, and very different from the anti-Christian system imputed to me by those who know nothing of my opinions. To the corruptions of Christianity I am indeed opposed, but not the genuine precepts of Jesus himself. I am a Christian in the only sense in which he wished anyone to be, sincerely attached to his doctrines in preference to all others..."

Be assured, this assault by a generation of those who aggressively attack the doctrines upon which this nation was founded is no surprise. Turn back the pages of history and one can read of the ongoing war for independence. In this country liberal collectivists and totalitarians raise arms against freedom, family and faith. The theological and Biblical imperatives once taught and preached throughout the land have been eroded away by ungodly education, AWOL parents, and corrupt government. Now, Barack Hussein Obama has "promised to bring the country 'a new Declaration of Independence' - free from small thinking, prejudice and bigotry." (www.chron.com, 1/17/09) Read the words of the 1776--The Declaration of Independence: (No small thinking, prejudice, or bigotry!)

WHEN in the Course of Human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal. That they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness-- That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to

(Continued on page 31)



SERMON

OF THE

MONTH

WHAT SHALL I RENDER UNTO THE LORD?

- I. The Cup
- II. The Call
- III. The Cost

Psalm 116:12 "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all His people."

Think about that question – "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits?"

Someone has said "Salvation totally depends on God while Holy Spirit fullness totally depends on the believer." I'm not quite certain about the complete ramifications of that statement but our Lord said "...How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" Have you asked? Ponder that for a moment. Permit me to use an O.T. passage to illustrate our responsibility as well as what the Lord has for those who love Him, obey Him and ask.

I. The Cup – "I will take the cup of salvation..."

The Psalmist is not contemplating an equal recompense to God. We could never equal the benefits of the Lord.

Psalm 68:19 says, "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah." I will drink of my Lord's goodness. I will offer the drink offering appointed. Appointed by the Law.

- The Cup of Salvation
- The Cup of Deliverance
- The Cup of Blessing
- The Cup of Communion
- My Cup Runneth Over

The fullness is a partaking of the cup to the fullness-over running all. This Cup of Salvation is part of the thank offering... this cup of salvation is of all we possess in the Lord. There is the cup of deliverance, the cup of blessing, the cup of suffering, the cup of thanksgiving. The cup full to running over with God's fullness.

"What shall I render unto the Lord?" I will take the cup of salvation – the drink offering is lifted in thanksgiving and drank to

the fullness.

I write a lot of thank-you letters and cards. For many, taking the time to write in these days of busy schedules has become a lost art. Thank yous for support and gifts to our ministry-Graduation, birthdays, weddings, funerals. This has become a generation of ingrates. But in everything give thanks. How could the child of God be anything but thankful. Taste the cup of salvation- thanksgiving. You will taste the flavor of time, talents and treasures. All we have, every good gift cometh from above. Shall we lift and drink of the cup of fullness.

What shall I render unto the Lord?

ASK HIM ... Take the Cup and drink to the fullness.

II. The Call

“What shall I render to the Lord?” I will take the cup of salvation, I will call upon the name of the Lord. The Call is to be in order to do.

Romans 8:28-30: “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. For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom

He did predestinate, them He also **called**: and whom He **called**, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified.”

It is obvious the Lord has called. He has called you. He calls to repentance, He calls according to His purpose.

It is not so much us waiting for His call. It's God waiting for our call. I will call upon the name of the Lord!

Lord – acknowledge who He is. This call is a **position** of worship. Prostrate before Him who alone is worthy. This call is **perpetual**. He that putteth his hand to the plow. Be ye, being **FILLED**. This call is **pure**. Not of the flesh, not of the world, not of isolation. But of separation to The Lord of Lord's.

You have a gift – to have a gift is not the goal. I am to grow, exercise my gift, and gather together with you to strengthen the brethren, and go into all the world to preach the gospel. Let my light so shine that He will receive all the glory. To Him be all the glory. Call upon the LORD!

III. The Cost

“What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?” I will pay my vows...

The cost – Gen. 3:21 “Unto Adam also and to his wife did the

(Continued from page 25)

Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.”There was a cost- blood-death... ultimate and extreme.

We gloat and glory in the worthless. Stand in front of that mirror - glory in that wardrobe-clothes and fashions.

Isaiah 61:10 “ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...” Joyful in my God. Naked I would be without His salvation and robe of righteous.

The whole sacrificial system of the Old Testament foreshadows Christ sacrifice and His finished work. He paid it all. All to Him I owe! The rendering is done publicly. The cup is public, the call is public, the cost is paid publicly. The fullness, this running over is to have His Glory flow up and over the brim of our vessel into this wilderness of darkness.

What shall I render unto the Lord? Ask and the Father will give.

1. Religion is a binding-
Relationship is a releasing –
Here we begin to understand the filling. Self removed and the Saviour revealed.
2. Herein lies the rendering-the giving-give and it shall be given unto you.-Lk. 6:38

3. Give yourself and receive HIMSELF!

My cup runneth over...We can run over with self or Saviour fullness.You cannot fill up a vessel with the Holy Spirit that is already full of an unholy self. As we are broken and self runs out the Fullness of The Holy Spirit fills the vessel.This is not a far eastern new age mantra type emptying. Quite the contrary. As a new creation in Christ, He is waiting for us to drink the cup, call or ask the Father for His Holy Spirit Fullness.

Back to Psalm 116 verse 15 - “Precious in His sight is the death of His saint.” Then “Thou hast loosed my bonds.” Psalm 116:16. He has freed us to be filled. Ask and drink the cup, call and He will answer. Obey, pay, render unto the Lord and His gift of The Holy Spirit will fill and overflow in you.

In Ephesians 5:18 we are given the commandment “Be not drunk with wine...”

I did an acrostic with the word wine:

W-world

Love not the world

I- iniquity

Repent, confess and turn from sin, agree with God

N- need

The Lord is my Shepherd,
I shall not want. It has been said that Jesus is

not all you need until
Jesus is all you have.

E- Ego

Precious in the sight
of the Lord is the death
of His saint.

Have you died to self. Have you
been broken that the Holy Spirit
may fill you?

Be not drunk with wine, full of
wine, drunk on this world, drunk
on the iniquity of the flesh, drunk
on the needs of me, mine but
dead to ego- broken to self.

Now how much more, how
much more shall your heavenly
Father give the Holy Spirit to
them that ask Him?

At 10 o'clock on Friday evening
four to five hundred people
gathered for prayer meeting.
Satan was determined to ruin
the meeting. First of all three
men began to shout and pound
the chairs with great emotion.
Another brother exhorted the men
that all must be done decently
and in order. At that the men
became rude and carnal. Then
another individual who had
a mental disorder stood and
proclaimed to be a prophet of
God. Some in the assembly
decided to leave. A confusion
seemed to persist until late that
night as others determined to
stay and not allow the devil to
defeat. It was about mid-night
that victory came and prayers
unspeakable were uttered. All

were on their knees and a hush
fell over the entire gathering. No
one could speak. Only a sobbing
of joy unspeakable and full of
glory could be heard. The very
air seemed to tremble with the
presence of God's Holy Spirit.
It was not emotional. It was
eternal. From the church house
to the schoolhouse and places
of business came testimonies of
dramatic conversions. From that
meeting there went out men and
women around the world, Japan,
China, Australia, New Zealand,
India with the power of God upon
them.

Death to self. Precious to God.
The Cup, the Call, the Cost. His
fullness is not for my comfort,
emotion, self pleasure and
gratification. The fullness is for
His glory to fill and run over into
a world thirsting and groping lost
in great darkness. What shall I
render unto the Lord?

JUST ASKING...

- If the U.S. Presidential election had been held in November 2001, would Americans have elected someone named Barack Hussein Obama? *Just asking.*
- If one's supporters are Hollywood, homos and a humanistic parade of liberals and one says "Our people will get there," guess who those people will be? *Just asking.*
- A \$745 million campaign, the most expensive (over \$150 million) Inaugural in history, over \$100,000 for a White House makeover and more billions in bailout—Is that change or the same old same old? *Just asking.*



Mail Bag

(A special letter contained this poem entitled
"How Can it Be?" by E.H. Roy)

How can a black cow give white milk?
How can a worm from a leaf make silk?

How can a bear sleep the winter away?
How can a bird eat its weight each day?

Why are a bumblebee's wings so small?
And how in the world can it fly at all?

Why can't we see the swift, blowing wind?
And how does it make the giant trees bend?

How do all the stars above stay in their place?
And how are they directed out there in space?

How is it that a human cell splits and grows,
Till it's a baby with eyes, ears, fingers and toes?

If these things just happened, wouldn't it be odd?
But you and I know they are created by God.

Dear Bro. Ronnie,

It's always good to get the magazine. I do enjoy it. Thanks so much. God bless you for carrying on the same work. Keep looking up. Jesus is just around the bend. Isn't that wonderful!

In Christian Friendship,
Subscriber, NY

I just want you to know how much I enjoy reading the new format. It is easier for my eyes to see and I am tickled you can save mailing expenses by changing the publication. I have shared "The Voice in the Wilderness" with my pastor and friends.

Sincerely in Jesus,
Subscriber, KS

Dear Sir:

Your stand for traditional music and modesty in dress we deeply appreciate. Your listing of the nations of the world and their populations occupy a sacred place in my study. With tears, prayers are made for the seven billion eternity bound souls. God Bless.

Subscriber, PA

Dear Aquila and Priscilla,

Sorry I've not completed MTA #2 as quickly, but we've been moving....I would like another "Hall of Faith" card. Can you send one?
... I hope everything is well there.

Your sister in Christ,
Club MIT Member, NC

CLUB MIT

(MISSIONARY-IN-TRAINING)

For All Boys & Girls

Engaging children in being a steadfast worker for Christ, *Encouraging* them to be a boy or girl pleasing to the Lord, and *Equipping* them to be a missionary every day . . . through lessons from the Apostle Paul's missionary helpers, Aquilla & Priscilla.

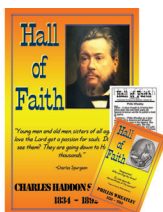


Lessons from Aquilla and Priscilla

When some adults begin a new year, they make a resolution. This just means that they promise themselves to do or not to do something during the year. The problem is that many times people do not keep the resolutions they made. Instead of making a resolution, why not ask God to help you reach a goal for Him this year. Let's do something for God in 2009. Here are some things that you could promise to do for God this year:

1. Read your Bible every day. God wants to talk to you, and the way that He does this is through the Bible.
2. After reading, pray to God. This is your way of talking back to Him. God wants to hear from you
3. Memorize a verse of Scripture each week. Psalm 119:9 says, "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Add to this list, write your goals in your Bible, and tell them to a friend. They can help you stay on target for reaching your goal for God.



Club MIT Member...

Did you receive your first *Hall of Faith* collector card? Be sure to write for the next card in the series. Many are already working to collect all 12!

BITS AND PIECES

Boy's

Boy's Bits

Defender of the Jewels

Your jewels (a beanbag or something easy to grab with one hand) placed on a table top are to be guarded by one person. The rest of your friends can try to sneak and grab the jewels without being tagged and frozen in place. The frozen players stay frozen until the game is over. The defender can wander away from the jewels, if he dares, and tag potential thieves, but he needs to keep an eye on his jewels. If a person takes the bag, he can be the next defender of the jewels.

PRISCILLA'S PIECES

Here is a special treat that you can bake with mom - Chocolate Creams. To the white of 1 egg, add an equal amount of cold water. Stir in 1 pound of confectioner's sugar. Flavor with vanilla. Stir until fine and smooth; then mould into balls and drop into melted chocolate. Let set until chocolate hardens. Place each candy in a specially decorated container. Include a tract or invitation to your church and give to a neighbor or friend.

Girl's

Take the Bible Scholar Challenge!

Find these words in the puzzle:

Resolution, Promise, Read, Pray, Memorize, Psalm, God

A	P	R	A	Y	B	C
D	S	E	E	F	G	H
I	A	S	Z	A	J	K
L	L	O	I	M	D	N
M	M	L	R	P	Q	R
A	T	U	O	S	T	U
V	W	T	M	X	Y	Z
A	G	I	E	B	C	D
E	F	O	M	D	H	I
J	K	N	D	L	M	N
P	R	O	M	I	S	E

Write TODAY for your next Hall of Faith card!

Cut here and give this page to a young person.

(Editorial - Continued from page 23)

throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security....

In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury....

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Has America crossed the deadline? The "silent majority" as described by the poet Homer were the dead. Personally, I belong to the church of the One, True and Living God, Jesus Christ, and He hath said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail." Evident or not, America has moved far from its founding, but the anchor for our soul is steadfast and sure. The heart of the King is in the hand of the Lord. Let us not grow weary in well doing but continue to faithfully press the battle against the darkness of our day.

As I reread The Declaration of Independence and ponder the egregious acts perpetrated against the colonists I cannot help thinking of the perversion of today's U.S. government. What about the thousands of tax funded murders of babies in this country every month? Corrupted Elected officials and liberal judges are robbing our freedoms daily. If the founders had grounds to sign that document then what about NOW?

The Revelator exhorts us to "hold that fast which thou hast...." From Washington, D.C., to the mega church purpose-driven movement, foundations crumble. But dear saint, "hold fast!"

See the mighty host advancing,
Satan leading on;

Mighty men around us falling,
Courage almost gone!

"Hold the fort, for I am coming,"
Jesus signals still;

Wave the answer back to heaven,
"By Thy grace we will."

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Received by The Voice in the Wilderness

Given in Memory of: BEATRICE LITTLE

By: Christy & Tim Rains

Given in Memory of: DR. J. ROYCE THOMASON

By: Curtis Kline

We would like to express our thanks to those who have given a memorial gift to The Voice in the Wilderness, Inc. Ministry. These names will be added to a plaque and displayed in our office. If you would like to honor a loved one, please send a Remembrance Memorial Gift or a Living Memorial Gift with the person's name (legibly printed). Your gift will be listed in an upcoming issue of this publication.

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- CrossVue School of Mission
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- The Visual Voice
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- Photos of Missions Projects
- Aquila/Priscilla Ministry Details

To be an active Prayer Partner:

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Request a Prayer Card

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by Sophie Muller

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by Sophie Muller

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It will save time and make our record keeping more accurate if you would kindly include your subscriber number on your correspondence and contributions sent to Voice in the Wilderness. When writing a check place your subscriber number on your check in the "For" space at the bottom. **Thank you** for your assistance.
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