



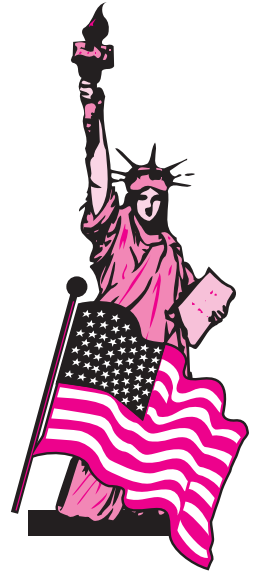
CONTENDING FOR  
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

# The Voice IN THE Wilderness

*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight."*

Mark 1:3

Published Monthly  
Free Subscription



CONTENDING FOR  
AMERICAN FREEDOM

March/April 2006

## THE CONQUERORS



Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three!  
One lived and died for self; one died for you and me.  
The Greek died on a throne; the Jew died on a cross;  
One's life a triumph seemed; the other but a loss.  
One led vast armies forth, the other walked alone;  
One shed a whole world's blood; the other gave His own.  
One won the world in life and lost it all in death;  
The other lost His life, to win a whole world's faith.

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three.  
One died in Babylon, and one on Calvary.  
One gained all for himself; and one Himself gave.  
One died to conquer, and one the world to save.  
The one made himself god; and God made Himself less;  
The one lived but to blast; the other but to bless.  
When died the Greek, forever fell his throne of swords;  
But Jesus died to live forever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three!  
The Greek made all men slaves; the Jew made all men free!  
One built a throne on blood; the other built on love.  
The one was born of earth; the other from above.  
One conquered all the earth, to lose all earth and heaven;  
The other gave up all, that all to Him be given.  
The Greek forever died; the Jew forever lives!  
He loses all who gets, and wins all things who gives!

-Author unknown





# MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends:

“Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergyman or laymen, such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of God upon earth.” The words of John Wesley express the need of 2006 and thank God for the preachers I know personally who are holy and wholly committed to Christ and His call. The Voice in the Wilderness presently works with dedicated godly folk in Africa, Asia, South America, and here in the USA and around the world who continue to hold the banner high. In 2006 through this little publication, we have taken a

look at where this ministry has been, the founder’s original intent, and the vision for the days ahead. Some have prayed and partnered with The Voice in the Wilderness for many, many years. Thank you so very much for your friendship and faithfulness. Then there are subscribers and supporters who have just recently come on board. We praise the Lord for you all. Again we continue to go forward for HIS GLORY!

Elsewhere in these pages we continue to share the vision and challenge for 2006. The request is for you to pray, and if possible participate in these great opportunities. William Booth said, “God loves with a great love the man whose heart is bursting with a passion for the

impossible.” Would you believe with us and work with us as God does the impossible? Read again Philippians 4:13, 17, 19, and 23. Some will not believe. Some will criticize and even attempt to tear down. Catherine Booth said, “Never mind who frowns, if God smiles.” His favor has been evident upon The Voice in the Wilderness for which we are thankful. Let us not look back, but look up and press on. What a joy to serve the God of the impossible. He smiles when we believe.

For Christ and Souls,  
Ronnie Williamson – Isa. 40:31  
“Happy Trails”



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. The Voice in the Wilderness Magazine is a fundamental publication, published each month in behalf of the work of the Lord and preservation of the liberties of our United States. Printed material from other sources does not necessarily imply an endorsement from this ministry. There is no subscription charge; all interested people of good will may have a copy sent regularly to their address simply by requesting it. Address all correspondence to: The Voice in the Wilderness, PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802.

## IS GOD’S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

A bequest in your Will to Voice in the Wilderness 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!

THERE MUST BE A TURNING FROM SIN, SELF, AND SATAN UNTO THE SAVIOUR.

## RESURRECTION POWER

Someone has said, “The true Christian has a **MIND** through which Christ thinks, a **VOICE** through which Christ speaks, a **HEART** through which Christ loves, a **HAND** through which Christ helps, and a **LIFE** through which Christ empowers.”

There they were 12 cowardly disciples, hidden away in an upper room in Jerusalem. This was a fearful bunch with seemingly the whole world as their enemy. Their leader lay in a tomb and they were all alone. Put yourself in their place. You are deposited smack-dab in the middle of a hostile world. The tentacles of darkness have embedded the minds and hearts of those around you. They hate you and desire to kill you. In this world just described many who name the name of Christ will pay the ultimate and supreme price. Yet, these martyrs cannot be silenced. The blood of the witness is the seed of His church. Nearly three centuries of brutalities and atrocities will be poured out upon His people. During

ten periods of intense persecution, dynamic growth for this humble, small band of fearful disciples marks their early beginnings. How can one explain the boldness and willingness to die, when shortly before, they hid behind closed doors? The Apostle Paul said in Philippians 3:10,11: “That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.” The disciples and the early church manifested resurrection power. It was only through the truth of Christ (The Way, The Truth, and The Life - the resurrected Christ) that those who had feared could be bold, that those who had clung so desperately to life could courageously lay it all down.

### I. Do you know Him?

Again the Apostle Paul said, “That I may know Him...” We too have access to know Christ and the resurrection power of Christ. This is not to know about Christ. It is not just an assimilation of facts. This is a personal knowledge and relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Do you know Him in the free pardon of sin? Do you know Him in His death, burial and resurrection? Have you asked Christ to forgive you of your sins, come into your heart, save your soul, and give you eternal life? The question is – Do you know Him?

### II. The Power of His Resurrection

If you do not know Him, you cannot know the power of His resurrection. The power that raised Him from the dead is the power that regenerates and gives eternal life. The 120 disciples that hid themselves in fear were only able

to come out in boldness through their knowledge of Him and His resurrection power. The martyrs who courageously poured themselves out were only able to do so in the power of the resurrection.

Often the finger of condemnation is so easily pointed at Thomas. Is he not called “Doubting Thomas”? After all, he neglected that meeting. The other disciples saw the risen Lord, but Thomas missed out. Then, after eight days and it’s Sunday again, Thomas, with head and heart down low, was present this time. It was going to take seeing to believe. Yes, some call him “Doubting Thomas,” but Dr. Peter Marshall called Thomas or Didymus “The Palestinian Missourian.” Thomas was one of those “show-me” kind of disciples. First, Jesus said, “Peace be unto you.” Then said Jesus to Thomas, “Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.” Thomas got the rebuke. Now listen to what Thomas says to Jesus as he cries out, “My Lord and My God.” *Adonai and Elohim* – My Foundation and Stay, My Prince and Judge.

Now this is the Thomas that tradition records as going to India. I have personally been to Madras and Chennai. The Christians there say it is all because of Thomas. That record of tradition says that Thomas came preaching Christ and many were born again. The story goes that Thomas was martyred, possibly by Brahmin Priests. Shot through with arrows or spears, Thomas boldly proclaimed Christ. What enabled him to go to India, the one called “Doubting Thomas,” and there in that strange land, lay down his life for Jesus? Do you remember those

(Continued on page 12)



*For Personal Correspondence,  
Contributions, Address Changes,  
New Subscriptions,*

*Write to us*

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# SERMONS IN MINIATURE

1. “Beware of false prophets....By their fruits ye shall know them” (Matthew 7:15, 20). “Mark them....avoid them” (Romans 16:17-18). Once upon a time, a man fell in a ditch. He screamed over and over again for help. He desperately needed to get out of that deep ditch. Confucius walked by and said, “A wise man would not walk so near the pit as to fall in.” Buddha walked by and said, “Your desires make you want to get out of the pit. Change your desires.” A Hindu walked by and said, “You just think you are miserable in the pit; change your thinking.” **Jesus walked by and helped the man out of the pit.**

2. Do beliefs govern actions? If so what are you doing? Is a child known by his doings? (Proverbs 20:11) Hey, what about adults!

3. Some people seem to be all stings. They live a life of bitterness and criticism. It appears their goal is to bring others down – down possibly to a level that makes them look better. The story is told of a number of beehives that were moved from a cold region to a very mild tropical type climate. For a period, the bees gathered honey for the coming winter. BUT eventually the bees learned they were in a land of perpetual summer, and they ceased to work and prepare for winter. As the account goes the bees spent their time flying around stinging people. Read II Thessalonians 3:11 and note I Timothy 5:13. “...they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.” Isn’t it sad when life’s only occupation is to sting?

4. There are those self-appointed Tare Exterminators and Wheat Inspectors who go about as champions of every juicy bit of gossip that comes along. They run off half-cocked, with half-truth and do a whole lot of damage to the cause of Christ. “He that answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame unto him” (Proverbs 18:13). “And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body” (James 3:6). Persuaded they are ripping out the tares when all along they damage the wheat (Matthew 13:24-30). Their instrument “is set on fire of hell.”

5. Something stinks! A skunk is a skunk is a skunk. Does a skunk ever say, “Phew Whee, what stinks?” The stink is the stinker. Then where is the source. “Thou hypocrite.” One’s own self is the source of the stink. Beware when a bitter, critical spirit arises. There may exist the beam (Matthew 7:3-5).

6. “Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you” (Matthew 7:6). It is a waste and dangerous to give the holy unto those who do not want the truth. That does not restrict sharing the gospel with the lost. To the contrary, they need the gospel truth. But there are those, as Matthew Henry describes, who cannot receive “instructions, counsels, and rebukes, much less comforts” being hardened scorners. They are unrecoverably and unreclaimably wicked.







# Do You Know A Soldier?



In the May edition, *The Voice in the Wilderness* will be honoring our troops who have served or are currently serving in any branch of our United States military. Soldiers' names and branch of service will be listed in the May edition. As this paper reaches our subscribers, many will then be able to specifically pray for and remember those who have served or are currently serving. **To honor the soldier you know:**

- 1) Please *legibly* enter their name;
  - 2) Check the applicable information;
  - 3) Check your soldier's branch of service, and:
  - 4) Mail to our office: MY SOLDIER c/o The Voice in the Wilderness, P.O. Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802
- We must have your submission by March 31, 2006, in order to include it in the May issue.**

1. My Soldier's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Check One:

- ☐ Currently Serving    ☐ Died in Service    ☐ Living Veteran    ☐ Deceased Veteran

## 3. Branch of Service (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Army    ☐ Navy    ☐ Marines    ☐ Air Force  
☐ Coast Guard    ☐ Reserves    ☐ National Guard    ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

(Submit one form per Service Member, copy form if necessary)

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Each day as mail passes through our Asheville Office, we count it a privilege and blessing to read words of encouragement, promises of prayer, and commitments to sacrificial giving. The Voice in the Wilderness has continued to support God's work through faithful subscribers like you. As we enter this Resurrection season and remember our responsibility to God's call, The Voice in the Wilderness is honored to partner with you. (Please see page 15.)



## Nuggets of Gold

1. Do right if everybody is against it. Reject evil if everybody is for it.
2. You cannot help a man who spurns the help and scorns the helper.
3. Selfishness short-circuits prayer.
4. It's easy to appreciate the points of a sermon that prods the other fellow.
5. You must speak up to be heard, but sometimes you must shut up to be appreciated.
6. Sin has many tools, but a lie is a handle that fits them all.
7. You can usually determine the caliber of a man by ascertaining the amount of opposition it takes to discourage him.
8. As a general rule, the angriest person in a controversy is the one who is wrong.
9. Be sure your brain is engaged before putting your mouth in gear.
10. It is a very common thing for ignorance to denounce what it does not understand.

# NEWS BITS

## FROM HERE AND THERE

### BATTLEGROUND STATES-

This year there may be as many as 16 states battling with same-sex marriage legislation. Ten of the states could see amendments to uphold the biblical view of marriage between a man and a woman. Seven states have seen homosexual couples filing lawsuits for the right to marry. Seth Kilbourn, who is the leader of the Marriage Project for the Human Rights Campaign, said, "Let's not forget that California lawmakers passed a [homosexual]-marriage bill [in 2005]. If we can defeat the ballot measure, I think we can move forward again with that bill." Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed the bill to which he is referring. Several states will have the marriage amendments on their ballots this year (Alabama, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Virginia); others are in the midst of petition drives (Arizona, Florida, Illinois); yet others are having law suits decided in their courts (California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Washington State). President of the Alliance for Marriage Matt Daniels (supports the biblical definition of a man and woman) says, "We're in a race" and "we don't know who will win." *The Washington Times* 1/2/06

**CLINTON CAUGHT** – Here is something that the news media did not cover extensively. Hillary Clinton's "New York Senate 2000" has settled to pay \$35,000 civil penalty and admit reports made to the government were inaccurate by \$721,895 from donations. Peter Paul, the man who financed the fund-raiser and filed the complaint, said, "It's a kind of vindication, but this is only one battle." Mr. Paul is suing former President Clinton and his wife on other matters. Marc Elias, the attorney for "New York Senate

2000", said that the settlement "makes clear that there was no violation of federal election law by the Hillary Rodham Clinton for Senate Committee in connection with the Aug. 13, 2000, event." Mrs. Clinton has also given back \$2,000 in contributions to clients of the now famous Jack Abramoff. *The Washington Times* 1/2/06

### IS MEXICO INVADING THE US?

– Are Mexican soldiers crossing the border and entering the United States? According to the FBI, men dressed as Mexican soldiers have entered the US over 200 times since 1996. The latest incident took place 50 miles east of El Paso, Texas. The spokesman for the Mexican Embassy, Rafael Laveaga, said, "It's just allegations. We don't deny criminal activity on the border, which would be foolish to do. Cartels are a global force right now. If there is any field where the US and Mexico have been able to build relations, it is in combating crime. We have been able to build a confidence-based relationship with the US." The question now: Is it Mexican military or men dressed as Mexican military protecting the drugs that are crossing our southern borders? *NewsMax.com* 1/24/06 and *Dailybulletin.com* 1/25/06

**ONE LINERS** – On the heels of his recent comments about Ariel Sharon's recent stroke being a Heavenly chastisement, Pat Robertson, due to "scheduling complexities" will not be the keynote speaker this year at the National Religious Broadcasters convention.

-The elections in Canada took a turn to the right this year with Conservative Leader Stephen Harper replacing Prime Minister Paul Martin.

-With the confirmation of Samuel Alito (the fifth Roman Catholic to be on the

current court) to our nation's highest court, conservatives hope that there will be a change of the Roe v. Wade law.

-After an 18-year career as the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Alan Greenspan retired and turned controls over to Ben Bernanke.

-In Idaho, State Senator Robert Geddes proposes a plan to help with overcrowding of prisons by having prisoners share beds.

-For every 100 babies born in New York City there are 74 that are aborted.

*Taken from World* 1/28/06 and 2/4/06

### SUPREME COURT SUPPORTS NEW HAMPSHIRE

– According to *World* (1/28/06), the Supreme Court overturned previous rulings by lower courts concerning the New Hampshire law about the notification of parents for a minor to have an abortion. In her opinion, Justice Sandra O'Connor stated "states unquestionably have the right to require parental involvement when a minor considers terminating her pregnancy."

### "ABORTION IN REVERSE"

"With abortion, a mother chooses to kill her child. With euthanasia, a child might choose to kill his mother." In the recent Supreme Court case of Gonzales v. Oregon, Oregon's law was upheld. So far, this law has enabled 200 people to take their own lives. The ruling upheld the concept of state law over federal law. This is just a start of a slippery slope. Case in point - the Netherlands. Euthanasia started out only for those who asked for it; and now doctors may kill those who "lack free will" to consent to end their lives (the mentally handicapped and children). Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Thomas and Scalia voted against this law. *World* 1/4/06



# A REAL TEST

Questions show what schools once accomplished - with a lot less money than today.



The next time you hear a plea for a tax increase in your area to enhance the quality of education, be bold enough to ask the people in charge "What enhancements have you achieved with the money you already have?"

I couldn't help thinking about that a few days ago when my wife, a favorite aunt, and I spent most of a week emptying the home of Henrietta Abels, a devoted 99-year-old Christian woman who had died not long before. In the process, we ran across a little booklet called *Stephenson's Iowa State Eighth Grade Examination Question Book*. The 59-page pamphlet, published in 1924, was to help eighth-graders take the test at the end of their elementary years that would qualify them to move on into high school.

The bottom line is that most high-school seniors in 2006 would find the eighth-grade guide of 1924 quite a challenge. The questions covered 10 different subject areas—and you might enjoy (or you might not) matching your wits against those of a typical Iowa eighth-grader 80 years ago.

**Arithmetic.** A wall 77 ft. long, 6 ½ ft. high, and 14 inches thick is built of bricks costing \$9.00 per M. What was the entire cost of the bricks if 22 bricks were sufficient to make a cubic foot of wall?

**Geography.** What waters would a ship pass through

in going from Duluth to Buffalo? With what would the boat be apt to be loaded? What, probably, would it be loaded with on a return trip?

**Grammar.** Define five of the following terms: antecedent, tense, object, conjugation, auxiliary verb, expletive, reflexive pronoun.

**Physiology.** (a) Beginning with food in the mouth, trace the course of digestion, naming the juices with which the food is mixed and the results. (b) What is the reason that spitting on the street is dangerous to the health of a community?

**Spelling and Orthography.** Select the proper prefix and place before each word in the following list (up, under, out, fore, over): spread, balance, hold, sight, ground, shine, current, brush, roar, burst.

**Writing.** Give five movements to develop accuracy in penmanship. Tell what you seek to do in using each movement.

**History.** (a) What colonies were founded in America because of religious reasons? By whom was each founded? (b) Give the cause, time, and result of each of the wars in which the United States has been involved.

**Civil Government.** Name three township, three country, and three state officers and state what office each person holds. Why do so many men dislike holding township offices?

**Music.** Draw a staff. Place on it the scale in half notes in the keys of G, D, and F. Write the scale that has a sharp on the fifth line and another sharp on the third space.

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## GOSPEL ABC'S

<p><b>A</b> ccept the Bible's written assessment: "As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one." Romans 3:10</p> <p><b>A</b> dmit man's attitude: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23</p> <p><b>A</b> cknowledge your own aversion: "For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son..." Romans 5:10</p>	<p>"...<b>B</b>y one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned;" Romans 5:12</p> <p>"<b>B</b>ut what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith which we preach..." Romans 10:8</p> <p>"<b>B</b>elievest thou this?"</p>	<p><b>C</b> onfess with thy mouth... "Call in Faith..."</p> <p><b>C</b> ommit your heart, your all... Romans 10:9, 13</p> <p>"Dear God, I know I am a sinner and Jesus died on the cross, shedding His blood and rose from the grave for me. Forgive me of my sins and thank you for salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen."</p>
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# Planning Ahead ... First Lady Day

Dear Church Family:

The month of May brings the special opportunity to honour our Mothers. I know many churches plan a special day in May for this occasion. Here is a suggestion that will surely be a blessing for your congregation. Have a special Sunday in honour of your FIRST LADY – the Pastor's wife. Proverbs 31:10-31 describes the virtuous women. Take time to study this portion of Scripture. Thank God for dedicated wives, mothers and those special Ladies serving as one with and help-meet to Pastors around the world. The following could be used during the month of May for Mother's Day and a "FIRST LADY" day.

**"FIRST" LADY FOR CHRIST**  
*...that in all things Christ might  
have the pre-eminence.*

For wives, mothers, and all young ladies in Christ, let us declare May as **"First" Lady Month for Christ**. Here is an acrostic using the word F-I-R-S-T to describe the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31.

**F**aith – A VIRTUOUS woman – a woman of strength made so by her faith and fear in the mercy, love, grace, and wisdom of her righteous and Holy God.

**I**ntegrity – A VIRTUOUS woman – a woman of holiness and wholeness, fixed and firm in honesty.

**R**econciliation – A VIRTUOUS woman – a woman reconciled to God with the ministry of reconciliation in the husband, home, and hearts of those around her.

**S**tewardship – A VIRTUOUS woman – a woman of industry well able to furnish her household.

**T**rust – A VIRTUOUS woman – a woman called blessed by her children, a woman trusted and praised by her husband.

In American history, the U.S. president's wife was not referred to as the "First Lady" until Zachary Taylor used the term in reference to Dolley Madison. Within a decade

Zachary Taylor's 1849 eulogy, "First Lady," had become the standard as the title of the president's wife.

Beginning with Martha Washington, many of the president's wives set forth an example of dignity and grace in their role as a leader. Though a very private person, she understood the pressures of this very public role. With her aristocratic Virginia roots, Martha Washington was criticized as too "royal" by some Americans wary of all things British. "At the same time, she was decried as too common by those who feared that her habits of recycling old gowns and of retiring early during receptions might confirm the suspicions of the world that America was an uncivilized wilderness. But to all who visited the president's house—in New York City or later in Philadelphia - Lady Washington was the model of grace and propriety; eventually these qualities won her the affection and respect of all America." Ref – *First Ladies of the White House* by Skarmeas, page 5.

Sara Polk and her husband brought to the White House a marriage that was a true partnership. She often told friends that she believed that she and her husband were predestined by God to lead America. Upon arriving to the White House, Sarah immediately

made her presence felt. Believing that dancing in the White House rooms would be undignified, she banned all dancing, card playing, and drinking. When the "First Lady" entered the room during her husband's inaugural ball, the music and dancing ceased in her honor. Known to possess a balance of ego and humility, she used her leadership role while insisting, "I recognize nothing in myself; I am only an atom in the hands of God." Ref – *First Ladies of the White House*, Skarmeas, page 23.

Lucy Hayes, mocked in the press as "Lemonade Lucy," immediately established a White House policy banning alcohol at all receptions. She resisted all efforts by the temperance movement to become part of their leadership and maintained a firm belief that hers was essentially a private role in a public setting. She was the first "First Lady" to hold a college degree. She had the education, resources, and opportunity to make the role of "First Lady" an active, independent, and powerful one. However, Lucy focused on her family responsibilities and her husband. While not totally shunning public duties, she was the first president's wife to travel without her husband

*(Continued on page 9)*



(Continued from page 8)

and to deliver prepared speeches. Lucy also took an active role as president of the Women's Missionary Society at her church during her husband's presidency. Ref – *First Ladies of the White House, Skarmearns, page 36.*

In Titus 2:3, the mature lady in Christ is exhorted to be an example and teacher of "good things" to the younger women in Christ. Today the life support system has been removed, and death is eminent for many. The departure from the biblical model by so many women in our church today has left us vulnerable. So called "Women's Liberation" and the farming out of our God-given privileges and responsibilities has thrown our children to the ravaging wolves. What has happened to the heart of mothers who no longer want to teach and train and love their children with the kind of affection that should be obvious to the woman in Christ?

An infant crying in the night:  
An infant crying for the light:  
And with no language but a cry.

*Tennyson*

Yet 'tis mother and without sigh  
Knows the language of her babies cry.  
And in the day or in the night  
'tis her love that brings comfort and delight.

*RLW*

## MOTHER'S ALTAR

Many years ago I knelt  
And bowed my head in prayer  
Upon a checkered apron  
As my mother stroked my hair.  
I have knelt at many altars  
Of wood, of gold, of stone;  
But that gingham-covered altar  
Is the sweetest I have known.

*-Unknown*



No wonder our families, children, and marriages are out of control. The very stabilizing element so critical to the home has been eroded. Without these godly women actively engaged in their biblical role, Titus says the Word of God will be blasphemed (Titus 2:5).

Thank the Lord for godly ladies who courageously stand firm in this age of compromise! Those today who are characterized by Titus 2:3-5 are indeed to be praised (Prov. 31:28). *Thou excellest them all.*

*-RLW*

(Continued on page 10)

## A MOTHER'S POWER TO SHAPE AND MOLD

*Train up a child in the way he should  
go: and when he is old, he will not*

*depart from it.*

**Proverbs 22:6**

I took a piece of plastic clay  
And idly fashioned it one day.  
And as my fingers pressed it still,  
It bent and yielded to my will.  
I came again when days had passed,  
That lump of clay was hard at last,  
The form I gave it, still it bore,  
But I could change it never more.  
I took a child, God's living clay,  
And gently shaped it day by day  
And molded with my Saviour's art  
A young child soft and yielding heart.  
I came again when years were gone.  
He was a man I looked upon.  
He still that early image bore,  
But I could change him never more!

*-Anonymous*



(Continued from page 9)

## PROVERBS 31:10-31

**10** Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.

**11** The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

**12** She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

**13** She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

**14** She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

**15** She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

**16** She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.

**17** She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.

**18** She perceiveth that her merchandise *is* good: her candle goeth not out by night.

**19** She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

**20** She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

**21** She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household *are* clothed with scarlet.

**22** She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple.

**23** Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

**24** She maketh fine linen, and selleth *it*; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

**25** Strength and honour *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

**26** She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.

**27** She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

**28** Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband *also*, and he praiseth her.

**29** Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

**30** Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

**31** Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

"Who can find a Virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies." Matthew Henry states, "This description of the virtuous woman is designed to show what wives the woman should make and what wives the men should choose... We have the abridgment of it in the New Testament (1 Tim. 2:9,10; 1 Peter 3:1-6), where the duty prescribed to wives agrees with this description of a good wife."

The ungodly world cannot understand God's perfect plan; and with great effort, rejects biblical teaching concerning marriage and the family. Unregenerate man, and sadly, some professed believers think they know more than God. The devastating result is heartbreaking consequences and ruined lives. Many religions of this world treat women as second class citizens or less. But the Bible sets forth the worth and honor of the Proverbs 31 woman.

### *My Love, My Wife*

If I were an artist with palette and paint,  
I would dip my brush into the colors  
of Proverbs 31 and upon the canvas  
of my heart create the portrait of my wife.

If I were a gardener with a certain green thumb,  
who grew a prize rose...from the fertile  
soil of Proverbs 31 would grow my treasured  
rose and winner of the blue ribbon and golden spade.

If I were a composer of song, I would sing the  
sweet melodies of Proverbs 31 in honor of  
my partner and wife who is the harmony line of life.

If I were a poet with pen in hand,  
I would write from Proverbs 31  
a sonnet of love to mine.

If I were a sculptor, I would quarry from  
among the gems of Proverbs 31  
a work in her honor far above rubies.

As her husband, friend and one for life,  
I praise her and rise up to call my wife  
Blessed!

**-RLW**

(Editor's Note: A Bulletin or handout could be printed with the above material. Plan Ahead! Have a special May 2006!)

# RELIGIOUS NEWS

## AND COMMENTS

**GOD OR GHOSTS?** - A recent Harris poll stated that 82% of Americans believe in God. The statistics also went on to say that 73% believe in miracles, 70% in life after death, existence of Heaven, and Jesus is the Son of God. Six out of 10 surveyed believe that there is a devil and hell. The poll stated, "What may be more surprising is that significant minorities believe in ghosts, UFOs, witches, astrology and in reincarnation (only 21%)." *The Washington Times* 1/2/06

**CATHOLICS VS. CHRIST-** Intelligent Design has been in our media recently with the decision in Pennsylvania against the Dover school board. Now Roman Catholic teachers and priests are coming out on the side of Darwin. Fiorenzo Facchini, who is a professor of evolutionary biology at the University of Bologna, wrote in the official Roman Catholic paper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, "If the model proposed by Darwin is not considered sufficient, one should search for another. But it is not correct from a methodological point of view to stray from the field of science while pretending to do science. It only creates confusion between the scientific plane and those that are philosophical or religious." Another Catholic Cardinal Christoph Schonborn wrote in an article to the *New York Times*, "Evolution in the sense of common ancestry might be true, but evolution in the neo-Darwinian sense - an unguided, unplanned process of random variation and natural selection - is not." Newly elected Pope Benedict has also weighed in on the controversy by saying that we as humans "are not some casual and meaningless product of evolution." {Editor: We must remember that Darwin proposed a theory, not a fact. Either you trust God's Word completely or the ideas and thoughts of man.} *The New York Times* 1/19/06

**DIGS BOLSTER BIBLE** - Archeologists have been digging near the biblical city of Gath recently. One of their discoveries has been a ceramic shard that contains the earliest known Philistine inscription having two names that are similar to Goliath. Also around Amman, Jordan, archeologists have discovered artifacts of the ancient nation of Edom. Until recently, scholars have stated the biblical reference to the nation was not legitimate. The discovery of more than 100 building complexes has bolstered the Bible, again showing that scholars should trust God's Word. *The Everlasting Nation* Jan/Feb 2006

**A PRIEST PROTECTED** - In Sweden, the clergy union defended a Lutheran priest after it was found that he was viewing pornography while using the church's computers. The unidentified priest stated that he found the web sites while doing research about homosexuality. The priest was dismissed by a parish council, but later reached a settlement of a voluntary resignation. The clergy union also worked out a 32-month severance package worth about \$100,000. *World*, 2/4/06

**SAINTS CELEBRATED** - It was fifty years ago that Jim Elliot, Nate Saint, Pete Fleming, Ed McCully, and Roger Youderian gave their lives trying to reach the Waodani (some of you may know them as the Auca) tribe of Ecuador. These five men's death sparked an interest in missions during the 1950's and 1960's. For those of you who do not know, Jim's wife Elizabeth and Nate's sister Rachel went into the village of the men who killed their loved ones and witnessed to them. Today there are over 200 believers of the Waodani tribe. Let us take what these five men demonstrated to us and continue on reaching the world for Christ.

**IS DARWIN DIVINE?** - "By now, the Christian conservatives who once dominated the school board in Dover, Pa., ought to rue their recklessness in forcing biology classes to hear about 'intelligent design' as an alternative to the theory of evolution" (*New York Times*). Judge John Jones III wrote in his opinion that "the overwhelming evidence is that (intelligent design) is a religious view, a mere re-labeling of creationism and not a scientific theory.... It is an extension of the fundamentalists' view that one must either accept the literal interpretation of Genesis or else believe in the godless system of evolution." Now the question in classrooms all over the United States is, "Where is your evidence?" *The Washington Times* (1/2/06). [Editor: It's evolution or creation. What are you going to choose?]

**SAVED STRETCHERS** - Imagine yourself in a gym and hearing the following exchange: "Relax. Stretch out now, slowly. Now open your body up. Open up your mind. Now, feel the presence of God." This exchange may not be as absurd as you think. Mary Swan Murphy, a Christian who began practicing yoga about 30 years ago, is one of the 16.5 million Americans involved in yoga today. Yoga is part of the Hindu religion; but women like Mrs. Murphy are trying to change that into an avenue to worship Christ. "We're creating another entity here. We're bringing into the postures an intention of focusing on God and the Scriptures." Laurette Willis says that yoga is "the missionary arm of Hinduism and the New Age." Pastor Matt Ristuccia of the Westerly Road Church stated, "what's important is that things like yoga be an incidental part of life. Christians need to understand the broader context so that they can be aware. It's part of being a responsible Christian. And as Christians, we are meaning-makers. It's part of being made in God's image." *World* 12/17/05 [Editor - Please, where is discernment?]



(Continued from page 3)

words, “My Lord and My God”? It was only because of the resurrected Christ. The risen Jesus Christ has given His presence, promise, and power to His church.

Confucius’ tomb – occupied

Buddha’s tomb – occupied

Mohammad’s tomb – occupied

**JESUS’ TOMB – EMPTY**

He Lives! He Lives! Christ Jesus Lives Today!

### III. The Fellowship of His Suffering

This is the part that causes the mortal to recoil. After all, who is it that signs up for suffering? Paul said that he wanted to know the fellowship of Christ’s sufferings, being made conformable unto his death. The world will not be your friend. Quite the contrary, the world will hate you. There is a price to pay. There is a sacrifice to be made in living for and serving Christ. There must be a turning from Sin, Self, and Satan unto the Saviour. Sin and Self will dull the cutting edge of the resurrection power. Sin and Self will dim the visionary eye of the resurrection power. Sin and Self will deter the momentum of the resurrection power. Satan does not want you to know Christ.

There is a picture called “The Game of Death” in which a young man is portrayed as playing chess with the Devil. By the position of the chessmen, the Devil has won the game. A noted chess player went to see the picture, and after careful study, he declared, “I can save that fellow!” Then he explained how the chessmen should be moved to win the game. It was with one power move – the power of the resurrection that Jesus Christ eternally check-mated and defeated the Devil and death. Through the resurrection power of Jesus Christ you too can have life, life abundant, and life eternal.

-RLW



(Continued from page 7)

**Reading.** Who were Hamlet? Lochinvar? Naomi? Socrates? Gathergold? What are the three most important topics now being discussed in the newspapers? State two reasons for reading a newspaper. Give five uses of the dictionary. Do you use the dictionary while studying?

All this, mind you, was accomplished in the context of almost overly disciplined patriotism. The same booklet suggests, in great detail, proper decorum during the daily salute to the flag: “At the given hour in the morning, the pupils are assembled and in their places in the school. Every pupil rises in his place. The flag is brought forward to the teacher. While the flag is being brought forward from the door to the stand of the teacher every pupil gives to the flag the military salute, which is as follows:

“Raise the right hand smartly till the tip of the forefinger touches the forehead above the right eye, thumb and fingers extended and joined, palm to the left, forearm

inclined at about 45 degrees, hand and wrist straight; while thus standing, with the forefinger touching the forehead in attitude of salute, all the pupils repeat together slowly and distinctly the following pledge: *I pledge allegiance to the flag and the republic for which it stands; one country; one language; one flag.* At the words, *To the flag*, each one extends the right hand gracefully, palm upward, toward the flag, until the end of the pledge of affirmation. Then all hands drop to the side.

“The pupils, still standing, all sing together in unison the national hymn, ‘America.’” (Note to history aces: Congress voted “The Star-Spangled Banner” our national anthem in 1931.)

It was, to be sure, an altogether different time. We shouldn’t over-romanticize it. But neither should we miss the point that it produced a remarkable educated society—without bankrupting taxpayers in the process. *Used by permission February 4, 2006, Joel Belz, World Magazine*



### This Month In History

Queen Ka’ahumanu served as regent-prime minister of Hawaii after the death of her husband, King Kamehameha. Together with her son, King Kamehameha II, they ended all idolatry and human sacrifice on the islands. On this date, March 31, 1820, the first missionaries, led by Hiram Bingham, arrived in Hawaii on the ship, *Thaddeus*. Hiram learned the Hawaiian language, devised a twelve letter alphabet and, with his associates, translated the Bible into Hawaiian. He originated Hawaii’s first newspaper and pastored the first church. The Queen received Christ and helped spread the Gospel throughout the islands. Just prior to her death, Queen Ka’ahumanu was presented with the newly completed version of the New Testament in the Hawaiian language. Her last words were: “I am going where the mansions are ready.”



Two different ministries sent out mailers advertising reading and study materials for youth. Significant was the very contemporary look and language of the publications. Even though the student books discuss how the thinking of Pop Culture is so different from Biblical teaching, the hair styles, dress, and demeanor of the young people pictured in the catalogue reflected the world not His Word. Then sadly, the complexity of this compromising age is apparent in the subject matter.

Eating Disorders  
Low Self-esteem  
Excessive Attention to Appearance  
Body Image  
The Pervasive Influence of Pop Culture  
Meaning and Relevance to Life  
Sexuality

Some parents, pastors and churches think you can adopt the fashion, the dress of the world, sing like the world, do church like an amusement park and still produce spiritual young people. If it looks like the world, dresses like the world, talks, sings, and thinks like the world, then here is your multiple choice answer:

- A. It is of the world.
- B. It is of the world.
- C. It is of the world.
- D. All of the above.

# CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD

Can you believe this one title? “Post-Modern Youth: Exploring Cultural Shift, Creating Holistic Connections, Cultivating Authentic Community.” One author counsels parents on how to help “Christian” teens deal with “Dirty Dancing at the Prom and other Challenges.” For crying out loud; what is the “Christian” teen doing at a dance to begin with? Excuse me, but Pop Culture, public schools and parents without a brain sound like peas in a pod. If the blind lead the blind they may all fall in the ditch (Matt. 15:14).

But hand in hand with this menagerie of modernistic materials goes the consequences of compromise. Water down the antidote and the victim dies of the snake bite. A watered-down compromised Bible is destined to produce a complicated mess. “Are ye without understanding,” Jesus asked the disciple. Christian parents put their children in public schools and wonder “what happened to their child?” Pastors drop the standard and reap a carnal congregation. Is there a “reap what you sow” principle here? This is not rocket science, it’s spiritual law. Is a bumper crop coming in at the church nearest you? Unwed pregnancy, abortion, divorce, drugs, alcohol, pornography, and suicide to name a few consequences of pulpit and parental compromise.

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.” I John 2:15

“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.” Romans 12:2

“But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.” Romans 13:14

“Be not unequally yoked...come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord...” II Corinthians 6:14-18



## ON THE LIGHT SIDE

A Sunday school teacher began her lesson with a question, “Boys and girls, what do we know about God?” A hand shot up in the air. “He is an artist!” said the kindergarten boy. “Really? How do you know?” the teacher asked. “You know – Our Father, who does art in Heaven...”

The maiden lady had died. The news editor whose job it was to write up the obituaries was on vacation and the job was left to the sports editor. He wrote a very brief article, age, remaining relatives etc. Then he added a suggestion for the tombstone epitaph:

*Here lies the body of Mary Jones;  
For her, life had no terrors.  
She lived an old maid  
And died an old maid,  
No hits, no runs, no errors.*





# MISSION SPOTLIGHT

## Local Missions

Thank God for ministries like Hephzibah House who reach out to the hurting. It is often difficult to explain how many ever start down the path of rebellion. Here is an excerpt from Hephzibah's recent letter.

"We have often been asked how it is that daughters of Godly, responsible homes end up at a ministry like ours. The possible answers to this scenario are plentiful, but one is often a part of the situation: the parents have been undermined by forces and influences without their knowledge.

Obviously a youngster in a government school is going to have a myriad of voices in her life that are antithetical to those positions, principles and standards of her home. These worldly influences assure the youngster of "her rights," that her parents are: hopelessly out of touch with reality, old-fashioned, overly strict, dictatorial, and are standing in the way of happiness. This daughter will be taught the evolutionary hypothesis, humanistic values and secular goals. No wonder such a child sees little in the Biblical morality and values of her parents to admire. Living for self and for the moment are much more enticing than crucifying the flesh. Adapting the "feeling orientation" of her peers is seemingly more fulfilling than living under the "shackles" of Bible Christianity.

One can surely understand a pliable, plastic mind and a fallen nature succumbing to the godless and worldly environment of a government school, but what of the youngster who is home-schooled, or who is in a godly, separated Christian school? Many a trusting parent has found out too late that their child has been undermined by members of his extended family

(older siblings, uncles, aunts, cousins, grandparents, etc.) Other youngsters have had their head and heart turned by a member of a youth group, Sunday school class, church member or close friend or neighbor. In each case, the personality doing this evil and undermining work is a secret enemy of the parents.

These whispering adversaries of the parents have convinced themselves they need to "help" this poor, unfortunate youngster who has the sad misfortune to be in a tyrannical, "puritanical" home. Lest this hapless youngster be permanently injured by this harsh home setting, they set about to "rescue" this child from its deleterious effects. They promise aid, comfort and assistance if this daughter ever seeks "liberation" from the "chains" of her awful situation. In a season of self-will and rebellion, many youngsters decide to take advantage of these evil offers of assistance.

Parents cannot be too careful about the personalities who have access to their impressionable and naive children, especially if there is a question about the loyalty of that child to her home and family. Isolation is not the answer either, but rather seeking to gain the heart of one's child, and consequently their loyalty to the Lord and the family in which God placed them."

## Venezuela Missions

"...We have seen the tension building up for several years in Venezuela. President Hugo Chavez has a goal to increase the National Guard force to 1 million men. He has bought war ships from Spain, thousands of rifles from Russia and is now junking his F-16's to purchase war jets from Russia and China....

This could very well be the 11<sup>th</sup> hour for open American missionary work in Venezuela. On January 11, 2006 President Hugo Rafael Chavez Frias of Venezuela is quoted in the newspaper "El Impulso" in Barquisimeto saying, 'The only war possible for us will be an invasion from the North American Empire. For this war we must prepare...this (marks) a change in our military doctrine.' Regardless of the causes of tension between the Venezuelan government and the current U.S. government it seems as if Mr. Chavez has placed all of his energy into an open conflict with the U.S.

Mr. Chavez is no friend to the American Missionary. He recently reacted to remarks by Pat Robertson and stopped the approval of all missionary visas....

...During the year 2004, I either called or sent letters to over 120 pastors asking them to send church planting teams, evangelistic teams and Bible teachers to Venezuela. We wanted to train the young church leadership, have mass evangelistic crusades and strengthen the national churches. Only four pastors responded...We praise the Lord for the souls saved and the churches that were strengthened however it was a weak effort. It was weakened by the lack of urgency to reach the open hearts of the Venezuelans before they would be closed by the Communistic philosophy against the Americans and their "religion."

In this 11<sup>th</sup> hour in the harvest field of Venezuela the missionaries are not running away but charging the gates of Hell with compassion and pulling lost souls out of the fire. There are not yet four months and then cometh harvest. Look on the fields for they are white already to harvest."





# PRAYER AND FINANCIAL NEEDS OF THE VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

## Current Missions Projects

### 1. THE AQUILA/PRISCILLA MINISTRY (APM) – Missionary Team

**Projects:** Airline Tickets, Mission field housing, Ministry expenses, etc.

**Description:** We praise the Lord that most of this need has been supplied. Any funds you give to APM will be used for additional missionary needs.

### 2. INDIA MISSIONS

**Projects:** Orphanages, Indian Pastors, Tamil Edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness*, Training and supervision of new and currently supported ministries

**Description:** The Voice in the Wilderness's India Missions ventures are expanding. Indian Pastors are being trained and supported, orphanages continue to help the children of India, and *The Voice in the Wilderness* is printed in the Tamil language and mailed throughout India. We would like to expand to another language. We need your help with

this project. Can you help?

### 3. VENEZUELA MISSIONS

**Projects:** Church Planting, New Constructions, travel to assist missionaries

**Description:** There are numerous opportunities for The Voice in the Wilderness in Venezuela. As funds are available, we will respond.

### 4. OTHER MISSION POINTS

**Projects:** Many state-side missionaries and ministries, new church plant, travel to assist missionaries and local ministries

**Description:** A new pioneer church is being planted here in the states. Financial help is needed for building rental, mailings, etc. Each month we give updates to subscribers on various mission points in *The Voice in the Wilderness*.

### 5. THE VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS PUBLICATION

**Projects:** Monthly printing and mailing

**Description:** The publication is received via free subscription by

thousands in all 50 states and many countries around the world each month. Once again, in 2006, our postage has increased dramatically from \$.03 to as much as \$1.00 per individual mailing each month. Can you help meet the financial commitments of this printed missionary?

### 6. ASHEVILLE HEADQUARTER MINISTRIES

**Projects:** School of Missions, The VUE (Vision Until Eternity building), Literature, Office Management

**Description:** The Voice in the Wilderness Asheville Headquarters Ministries provides a base of missions operation to reach our Jerusalem and the uttermost. The VUE will offer a location for the School of Missions which will endeavor to train mission students through a first-hand, one-on-one session with veteran missionaries. Also, The Voice in the Wilderness assists with student materials, tracts, and printing for the mission field, student institutes, etc.



**ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS:** In order to assure your uninterrupted subscription to *The Voice in the Wilderness*, we would appreciate hearing from you. If you have not yet contacted The Voice in the Wilderness in 2006, please cut out the following form and mail to: PO Box 7037 - Asheville, NC 28802.

## TO KEEP YOUR SUBSCRIPTION CURRENT FOR 2006: PARTICIPATE!

Cut out this form and mail immediately!

As a Subscriber, I will **PARTICIPATE** in The Voice in the Wilderness Current Missions Projects through:

#### ☐ PRAYER and PURPOSE

I will **PARTICIPATE** by being a prayer partner for:

- ☐ The Aquila/Priscilla Ministry    ☐ Venezuela Missions    ☐ *The Voice in the Wilderness* Publication
- ☐ India Missions    ☐ Other Mission Points    ☐ Asheville Headquarters Ministries

#### ☐ PARTICIPATE

I will **PARTICIPATE** financially in The Voice in the Wilderness Current Missions Projects.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly/One-time gift (**Circle one**)



# NOTHING

I am using this time while I have *nothing* to do to let you know that *nothing* does make a difference.

People tend to look down at the word *nothing* and ignore its importance. However, it can mean life or death, success or failure, joy or sorrow.

Mountain climbers have died when they stepped out on it. Parachutists despair when they pull the rip cord and it comes out. Farmers have lost their farms when they grew it. Ballplayers and coaches have lost their jobs when they scored it.

It is a good reason for joy when it represents the sum total of your debts. It's what you earn when you do it. I have saved it over the years and now have it in my bank account.

It's often discussed at meetings, with arguments and fights starting over it. You may find it in your mailbox or the nearby candy machine.

I could go on, but it would mean *nothing*.

I just want you to be aware as you go through life that even the earth hangs upon *nothing* (Job 26:7).

Likewise, the angel declared to Mary before the birth of Jesus: "With God *nothing* shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

Jesus Himself said, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed...*nothing* shall be impossible unto you" (Matt 17:20).

Paul instructed the Philippians, "Be careful for *nothing*; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Phil. 4:6).

Like Simon Peter, have you "toiled all night and taken *nothing*?"

The flesh profits little, but God's words are life, abundant life. So ask in faith, for your Lord is concerned that you be perfect and entire and have lack of *nothing*.

*Nothing* does make a difference in the here and now - and throughout all eternity.

-Daniel H. Kelchner

Dear *Voice in the Wilderness* Subscriber,

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