



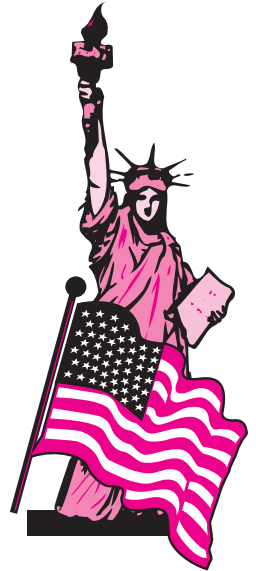
CONTENDING FOR
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

The Voice IN THE Wilderness

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

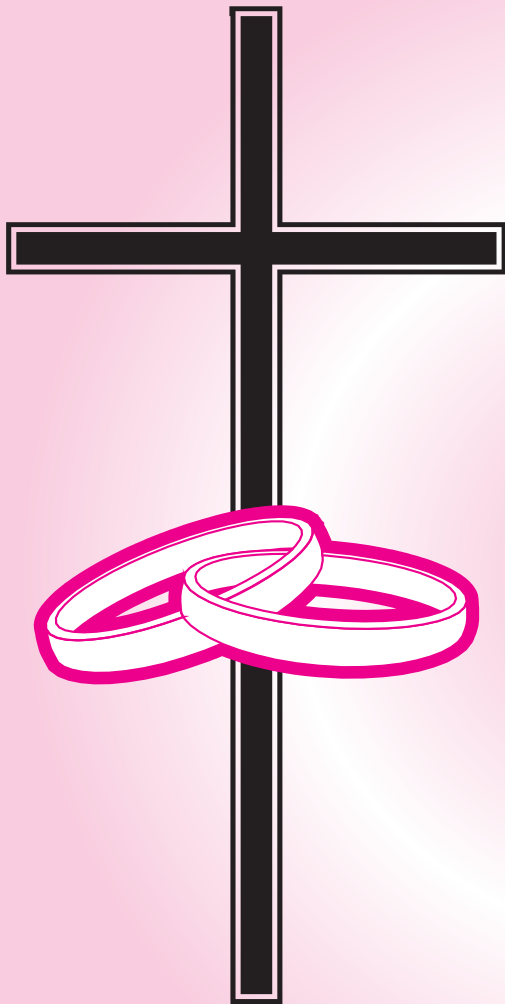
Mark 1:3

Published Monthly
Free Subscription



CONTENDING FOR
AMERICAN FREEDOM

May 2006



More Precious Still

The years fly by and it's more precious still,
Deeper, richer than ever, the day of "I Will."

O' the love, cherish, honour, respect;
This covenant we have committed to protect.

As one in the Lord, a true royal state
Our lofty palace and castle with golden gate.

That eternal treasure of love we share
To have and to hold and then to be joint-heir.

For too feeble are words and ink runs dry
To tell this story, can I, could I, or should I try?

This union of hearts and love entwined
As oneness unique of these two souls and mind.

Yes the years do fly and 'tis more precious still
Deeper, richer than even the day of "I Will!"

Happy Anniversary 
RLW + TLW

In This Issue - "Special Salute to My Soldier"



MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends:

This is a very important issue of *The Voice in the Wilderness*. Numerous feature articles deserve special consideration and many require prayer. As I have stated repeatedly, this publication intends to provoke you, the reader, to think. The Voice in the Wilderness does not endorse all the printed material from other sources. Often articles are printed just for information or as a challenge to God's people for prayer and action. These are critical days, the harvest field is white, and vigilance on our part is a must.

May is a month set aside to honour those who uniquely give themselves to serving others. In the March/April 2006 issue of *The Voice in the Wilderness*, we gave an advance notice for churches to plan special services for mothers and also for the pastor's wife. Indeed these are precious ladies and we all should let



them know they are loved. Then in this current publication, many have sent in the names of men and women serving this country in our military. Freedom, liberty, and independence are deep values for each red-blooded American. A great price has been paid to secure and maintain that which daily we often take for granted. Let us stand and salute those who sacrifice and serve.



During May and June, young people will be graduating from high school and college to continue on in life's pursuits. Congratulations to those who have worked hard and earned this distinction. Also, many godly young people will complete a phase of training as full-time Christian workers and enter various fields of ministry. Thank God for these precious workers and for the parents and teachers committed to leading as biblical examples.



May should prove to be a busy

and productive month in our churches. In it all **may** our Saviour be glorified and souls saved. **May** God's people be uplifted and encouraged during these special days. **May** our Lord's hand be evident as we faithfully serve Him and others!

Happy Trails!
For Christ and Souls,
RLW



P.S. May marks another very special occasion. My lovely wife and I celebrate 33 years of marital bliss. Happy Anniversary, Sister Terry. You are indeed my helpmeet and special gift from our Lord! God bless you richly! Also we had an opportunity to spend time with my mom and dad recently. As you can see, we celebrated Dad's 80th birthday. A little bit of cake and sweet stuff went along with the festive occasion.



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.

Sermon of the Month

"FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL. . ." I TIM. 6:10

The Love of Money

Sadly the Clintons are far from being the only crooked politicians in high places. Their dirty investments, foreign connections, and illegal campaign funds unquestionably leave an odious trail of power and greed. And now Tom Delay's alleged campaign money laundering demonstrates the treachery of the money trap. Several members of Congress are linked to Abramoff and Scanlon in the lobbying scandal. Yes, and note the connection with Indian tribe casinos. Even the Ethics Committee has been entangled by money dealing with such as staff allocations to the omission of their "watchdog" duties. Republicans and Democrats alike are guilty of money crimes, special interest, and perk payoffs. This practice of bribery and "love of money" grips this country with a death hold.

Human Events January 23, 2006, stated "over the past three decades, the NEA has carpet-bombed the political landscape with money." In just the one-year period from September 2004

through August 2005, the NEA spent \$25 million on political activities and lobbying, and another \$65.5 million on contributions, gifts, and grants. The NEA's political support goes almost exclusively to the Democratic Party. The money corruption runs deep. For years, unions in this country have comprised the top political contributors. The dollar sign has blinded any common sense and good judgment. Just check the record.

Robert Spencer, in his article "Preserving the Constitution While Saving Civilization" wrote, "On January 5, 2005, a drug runner named Noel Exinia, who was engaged in transporting more than 500 pounds of cocaine from Mexico to New York City, revealed in a telephone conversation that he was interested in other kinds of cargo as well. He spoke about 20 Iraqis who would pay \$8,000 to get into the United States." These were extremely dangerous people and the call was recorded under the Patriot Act. But again, the point of money and its death grip will lead people to horrendous acts. For "the love of money" there are those who will sell out themselves, their families, and their country.

From "faith healers" to televangelists, sordid stories have played out in the media about big money and corruption so inherent to vulnerable "mega-ministries." The Jim Bakers and PTL type scandals have been numerous. Even large "ministries," such as Pat Roberson's CBN and 700 Club, seemingly escape debilitating scrutiny, yet are entangled with Big Money investments, Hollywood movie connections and at the least very questionable financial

associations. Yet Christians will continue to throw money at religious organizations that take in multiplied millions per year even per month while withholding with skepticism, from solid, Bible-based local church ministries. Ready is the purse and wallet to rally for a lavish, full color, Madison Avenue, Hollywood style "Christian production" while the humble grassroots, local church mission truly living by faith is often token tipped as a second class citizen. Explain that attitude.

In March 2006, churches and Christians in Asheville, NC, rallied in support of local businesses that uphold biblical family values. The spark for the event was a local business that dismissed two females doing freelance work for the company. The lesbian couple announced their wedding and the Wolf Laurel company dispensed with their services. Wolf Laurel stated that the lifestyle of the two lesbians was contradictory to the family values of the business. Asheville, NC, has a very militant homosexual community that came out vocally against Wolf Laurel. However, North Carolina law supports Wolf Laurel's right to dismiss the two Sodomites. With that said, godly people in the area saw a need to publicly support business owners willing to stand for decency and Bible values. A rally, with well over 1,000 supporters, was held in downtown Asheville in open support of businesses with commitment to biblical family values. Many local companies, churches, and organizations signed on. One such group was a local, church-based disaster relief ministry. However,

(Continued on page 14)



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

Write to us

Dr. Ronnie L. Williamson
Dr. J. Royce Thomason
Voice in the Wilderness

P.O. Box 7037

Asheville, NC 28802

Voice (828) 649-1043

Fax (828) 649-9784

www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org



MY APOLOGIES: MAIL OVERLOAD!

Thank to all those who have sent kind notes, cards, and letters to our Asheville office. Many of these require a personal reply, yet due to such interest and positive response to recent issues of *The Voice in the Wilderness*, I have been unable to respond or answer all of the correspondence. Please accept my apology, if it is your letter that I have not responded to. We always appreciate and greatly look forward to receiving encouragement from our subscribers.

– Dr. Ronnie L. Williamson

HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

By sending our office your change of address, you are contributing financially to The Voice in the Wilderness Current Missions Projects!

If a subscriber does not submit their change of address or address correction and the Post Office returns *The Voice in the Wilderness* paper, that return costs the ministry \$.75 per paper.

We are asking our subscribers to help us decrease the money we must pay to the USPS by simply sending any address changes to us **before** the change goes into effect with the post office. Your assistance in this small but costly detail will save this missions work hundreds of dollars per year.

Please send any address corrections to:

- 1) PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802
- or
- 2) Call 828-649-1043
- or
- 3) E-mail: visionpartners@thevoiceinthewilderness.org, (This e-mail is only for address corrections. No other information should be sent)
- or
- 4) Fax 828-649-9784



Hi Ronnie,

How are you both doing? The family is doing very well....Have you heard from Royce lately and how is he doing? Ronnie, I also like what you have done in the last issue of *The Voice* with putting in the words of Bro. Royce. It is nice to have these memories. Ronnie, I believe in one of the issues.... I saw where you put in some parts of letters or comments of what people had wrote to you about Royce. Here is something I thought you may want to write in the paper about Bro. Royce.

Dear Bro. Ronnie,

Over the many years of knowing Bro. Royce as a close friend, he has meant so much to me and my family. Whenever I needed someone to talk to he has always been there not only to talk to but pray with me and know that he would continue to do so. I also have many memories of riding with Bro. Royce....Most of all [one of] the things is the example Bro. Royce sets before me...his faithfulness to God. So even though Bro. Royce may not be able to get out on the road and preach like he would like to or like others may want to see him, I know he can still pray. Thank you so very much, Bro. Royce, for your faithfulness and friendship over these many years. Bro. Ronnie, I also thank you and your wife for the hard work you do each day to keep this ministry going. I still enjoy reading the paper every month. Ronnie, I am signing this letter like I would to Royce.

Your Number 1 Buddy,
[subscriber, Maryland]



MISSION SPOTLIGHT

VENEZUELA: Praise the Lord and thank you to our supporters! – A need was met for one of our Venezuelan Missionaries. The Carlos Ramos family recently let us know that they were able to obtain a much needed automobile to assist them in their ministry. The Voice in the Wilderness Supporters contributed \$1,000 toward the vehicle expense. A special thanks to Beacon Baptist Church whom The Voice in the Wilderness partnered with to supply the additional funds necessary for the purchase. If others would like to participate in our Current Missions Projects, Bro. Ramos also needs a copier to aid the ministry of two churches and a Bible Institute in Venezuela. The approximate cost - \$1,200. Please contact The Voice in the Wilderness office at 828-649-1043 to assist with this need.

AQUILLA/PRISCILLA UPDATE: The Lord has provided in many ways for this special ministry. Steve and Rebekah are scheduled to be in Venezuela in May, teaching Bible students English as a second language and serving in the local church. Your prayers are deeply appreciated as they



travel, secure housing and begin ministry. Thank you to all those who have helped and encouraged this young couple with support. Any additional funds will go toward teacher/student classroom materials and miscellaneous expenses. Look for another update next month on this work. Thank you, Steve and Rebekah, for your willing hearts!



Nuggets of Gold

1. Throughout the ages no nation has ever had a better friend than the mother who taught her children to pray.
2. Works, not words, are the proof of love.
3. To train children at home, it is necessary for both the children and the parents to spend some time there.
4. When patriotism becomes a dirty word, a nation is ready to be taken to the cleaners.
5. In the war of right and wrong, we can't afford to be neutral.
6. Modern families don't seem to worry about the wolf at the door anymore. They just feed him on installments.
7. A friend will see you through after others see you are through.
8. You can't cultivate a friend by digging up dirt around him.
9. Some carve out a future, while others whittle away at it.
10. Generosity will always leave a more pleasant memory than stinginess.

GOSPEL ABC'S

Accept the Bible's written assessment: "As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one." Romans 3:10

Admit man's attitude: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23

Acknowledge your own aversion: "For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son..." Romans 5:10

By 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

But 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

Believest thou this?"

Confess with thy mouth...

Call in Faith...

Commit your heart, your all... Romans 10:9, 13

"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."



NEWS BITS

FROM HERE AND THERE

BEWARE OF LIBERAL MEDIA- Would the liberal media lie? A case in point. Sometime during the Clinton presidency, I was in India preaching and visiting churches and pastors. Of note, President Bill Clinton was in India at the same time. He was accompanied by this huge expensive entourage. I seem to recall the Indian press talking about Mr. Clinton's peculiar arrangements for his stay in India. Apparently, he brought his own bed linens and food for the trip. Now, I know we Americans are a bit particular, and yes, the ways, culture, and food of India are quite different. But I have also visited--mind you visited and seen, not used--the accommodations where dignitaries, such as president or head of state, would reside during a stay in India--very plush and royal to say the least.

Now within the last 30 days, while driving, a radio reporter was covering President G. W. Bush's visit to India. The persistent theme was an anti-Bush sentiment demonstrated by the people of India. According to the reporter, Bush was a warmonger and invader of countries that did not want an American presence. Then the broadcast contrasted Mr. Clinton's visit to India with that of Mr. Bush. The reporter said Clinton was applauded and warmly welcomed by India during his visit; while Mr. Bush received not only a poor rating, but anti-Bush demonstrations. However, that

was not what I witnessed first-hand while I was in India during Mr. Clinton's visit there. From Calcutta to South India, there were protestors calling for Mr. Clinton to go home. Even the media didn't treat Mr. Clinton favorably. You may recall the Brahmin I wrote about in this publication that had nothing good to say about Mr. Clinton. Oh yes, the Indian people did not like the fact that President Clinton brought his own sheets and food. My, how the liberal media-**SPINS LIES!**



CARTER CORRECTS BUSH?- At the announcement of his son's senatorial campaign and at the funeral of Coretta Scott King, former President Jimmy Carter criticized the Bush administration for the wiretapping and surveillance without warrants in the name of national security. "Under the Bush administration, there's been a disgraceful and illegal decision--we're not going to let the judges

or the Congress or anyone else know that we're spying on the American people. And no one knows how many innocent Americans have had their privacy violated under this secret act." Mr. Carter has forgotten his administration's tapping of two men suspected of spying for Vietnam in 1977. Then Attorney General Griffin Bell defended the wiretapping in the U. S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit (which ruled in favor of the wiretapping). The court's opinion said that the President had the "inherent authority" to wiretap and is not obligated to obtain warrants when it is "conducted 'primarily' for foreign intelligence reasons." Now Mr. Carter is saying that it was "ridiculous" for Attorney General Gonzales to justify the current wiretapping with Article II of the Constitution. *The Washington Times* 2/20/06

HAWAIIAN HAVEN- The state of Hawaii is in the process of becoming the "baby killing center of the Pacific." There is a bill that has passed the house and is currently in the Senate that would remove the 90-day residency requirement and the performing of abortions in hospitals. "The combined effect of all of these changes will be to make Hawaii one of the quickie-abortion capitals of the world," said Judie Brown of the American Life League.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

The bill had no problem passing the house and is currently in the Senate where it is expected to be approved. Once passed, the only way it could be stopped from becoming law is if Gov. Linda Lingle would veto it.
www.irnnews.com 3/7/06

HAMAS HEROES-According to irnnews.com (3/7/06) the Hamas terror group has a web site especially for children. The Al-Fateh.net (which means "The Conqueror") celebrates Shahabad or martyrdom. They have an entire section called "Stories of the Shahids" which is stories of the young men and women who have given their lives for their religion. The site celebrates the death of Israelites.

U. S. REPORT CARD TO THE WORLD- NewsMax.com (3/8/06) reports that on 12 key General Assembly votes in the United Nations, only four countries were on the United States side most of the time. Several nations voted with the U. S. ZERO PERCENT of the time. The following is a list of these nations and money they receive from the United States:

1. Turkey	\$1.007 billion
2. Ethiopia	\$594 million
3. Columbia	\$524 million
4. Egypt	\$460 million
5. Jordan	\$224 million
6. Peru	\$229 million

You would think that countries such as France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and South Korea would side with the U. S., but they voted with the U.S. only 8% of the time. By the way, the four countries that did side with the U. S. were Israel, Palau, Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands.

ABSTINENCE ATTACKED-

On January 26, the Bush administration released their criteria for its Community-Based Abstinence Education Program. This program will promote the practice of abstinence until marriage. The Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States is criticizing this program on two points: trying to "promote marriage" and teaching "that sexual desires are natural and controllable and that individuals are capable of making choices to abstain from sexual activity." Dr. Wade Horn, head of the Administration for Children and Families, said, "Today's youth are bombarded by implicit and explicit messages that promote sexual activity before and outside of marriage. Unfortunately, teens receive less information about the physical and emotional benefits that they may find by having one lifelong sexual partner within marriage." Representative Henry Waxman (D. -Calif.) wrote to Michael Leavitt (Secretary of Health and Human Services): "Under the new guidelines, funding for abstinence education will be awarded based on ideology, not the effectiveness of programs in reducing teen sexual activity, teen pregnancy, and teen sexually [transmitted] disease rates."
Human Events 3/6/06

ALIEN BABY BOOM- 23% of births in the U. S. is to immigrant mothers. 42% of those children are born to mothers who are in the United States illegally. "We are heading, if you will, into uncharted territory. In the past, immigration was significantly reduced when it reached a similar level, but that's not happening today," said Steve

Camarota, director of research at the Center for Immigration Studies. Since the children born in the United States are automatically citizens and can stay on a permanent basis, it will be harder to deport the illegal aliens.
Midnight Call 3/06 {In March 2006 Iowa recorded an excessive outbreak of Mumps. Watch the correlation between illegal immigrants and disease in the U.S.A.}

PAYING BY TOUCH- Also in *Midnight Call* (3/06) we are told of being able to pay with the touch of our finger. You will not have to get fingerprinted to do this, but the machine will read measurements that are unique to you. You could even store private information and can access it with your touch. Just think, you will not have to carry cash, debit or credit cards with you anymore. {Hummm.....}

EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS-

Due to the terrorist attacks in London last year, the European Parliament wants EU citizens to agree to give up some of their civil liberties for the sake of safety. Charles Clarke, UK home secretary, said, "European Union states may have to accept an erosion of some civil liberties if their citizens are to be protected from organized crime and terrorism." Mr. Clarke claims that the imbalance of privacy and protection favor the terrorists right now. UK liberal MEP Graham Watson said, "We do not agree... that the human rights of the victims are more important than the human rights of the terrorists. Human Rights are indivisible. Freedom and security are not alternatives, they go hand in hand." *Midnight Call* 3/06





Special Salute to "My Soldier"



We appreciate the outstanding response from our subscribers to "Do you know a soldier?" Listed below are friends and family of our readers who are Currently Serving (S), Living Veterans (L), Deceased Veterans (D), Died in Service (DS), or Unknown (U). Thank you for responding and giving us the opportunity to realize the sacrifices that have been made for our country. Please continue to pray for our men and women in uniform.

ARMED FORCES DAY

At the urging of Harry Truman
The third Saturday in May
The new Department of Defense
Proclaimed it, "Armed Forces Day".

A day to thank all the Services
Who defend our air, land, and sea
Who serve our Country Proudly
Defending, this Land of the Free.

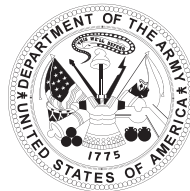
All those young Men and Women
And too, all of those "oldsters"
Who march, fly, and set sail
As Airmen, Sailors, Marines and Soldiers.

Some of them serve as "Regulars"
And some just do the weekend
But all step forward, Strong and Proud
When we need someone to send.

The times have been a'changing
And missions they're asked to do
Grow much more complicated
Than what, they used to do.

They must be Warrior and Diplomat
With clenched fist or gentle touch
Pass the ammunition, feed the hungry
Build roads, hospitals, and such.

"A Tradition of Heroes"
Is what some people say
But, we all owe them, "Thank you!"
On this, "Armed Forces Day"
by Del "Abe" Jones



UNITED STATES ARMY

1st SGT Dennis K. Crigger
(S)

A. C. Eaton(D)
Adrian Boyd Riddle(L)
Albert Ray Worthington(L)

Andrew Kunert(S)
Audie Pierce(D)
Billy Gene Michael(L)
Brian Wayne Baker(L)
Briana Griffin(S)
Candler Pierce(DS)
CAPT William Alex Gant
(D)

Carl W. Antrim, Sr.(D)
Charles Crabb(L)
Charles Woodruff(D)
Chester Eaton(L)
Chris Jones(L)
Clarence James(L)
Cletus Riddle(D)
CPL James S. Mumford
Jr.(L)
CPT Chesley Davis Thigpen,
Jr. (S)

CPT William Alex Gant(D)
Curtis Riddle(D)
Danny Johnson(L)
David Crabtree(L)
Dewayne Riddle(D)
Earl Eaton(L)
Eddie A. Modlin(L)
Edward Voss(L)
Edwin Lemke(L)

Emil Lemke(D)
Ernie Modlin(L)
Eulas Johnson(L)
Flavell Johnson(D)
Franklin L. McKee(L)
Franklin Taylor(D)
Gary Johnson(L)
George Crabtree(D)
George Whitfield(L)
Harman Hartman(S)
Herman Wigginton(D)
Hershel Harber(D)
Homer Eaton(D)
Homer Teeter(D)
Hubert Lee Graham(D)
Hugh Rorie(L)
J. Royce Thomason(L)
Jack C. Bailey(D)
James Chrestman(D)
James Crabtree(D)
James Russell Nichols(D)
James Samuel Riggs, Sr.(L)
James Simmons(DS)
James Spencer(L)
Jeffery Meneghin(S)
Jimmy Isbell(DS)
Joe Breedlove(D)
John Burke(L)
Johnny Gurley(D)
Johnny Pike (L)
Jon Harris(S)
Jon Hegyi(S)
Jonathan Lambert(D)
Joseph A. Vandevenne(L)
Junior S. Riddle(D)
Kenneth Carpenter(D)
Kenneth O. Snodgrass Sr. (D)
Kevin McKenna(S)
Larry Wynn(L)
Lawrence F. Morris(D)

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Lenus Woodruff(L)
 Lowell Killough(DS)
 Malcolm C. Peck(D)
 Melvin Freddie Blevins(L)
 Michael Lilly(L)
 Milford Lacy(D)
 Milford Nichols(D)
 Milton Clyde Pardue(D)
 Mount Eldridge Ingram(D)
 Nicholas Whaley(S)
 Nicklas Whaley(S)
 Paul R. Blough(D)
 Paul W. Sparks(L)
 Percy Stricklen(D)
 PFC Brian L. Threatt(S)
 PFC Christopher Perdue(S)
 Prentiss Thornton(L)
 Quindal Pierce(D)
 Randall Chaffin(D)
 Randy Gene Teaster(L)
 Ray Testerman(L)
 Raymond Lemke(L)
 Richard C. Hill(L)
 Richard D. Christian(L)
 Richard Mayhugh(L)
 Rosser Bynum(D)
 Russell Bass(L)
 SFC Willis M. McKenzie(L)
 SGT Chris Whitfield(S)
 SGT Larry A. Tucker Jr.(S)
 SGT Larry Stains(D)
 SGT Matthew Griffin(S)
 SGT Patrick J. Kennedy (L)
 Spec/5 Gary Paul Heizer(DS)
 SSGT Clifford A. Crigger
 (Reserves) (L)
 SSGT James B.
 Patterson(Green Beret) (DS)
 SSGT Thurman D.
 Ramsey(L)
 Steven Alther(L)
 Terry Pike (L)
 Thurman Johnson(L)
 Timothy Ingram(S)
 Timothy Voss(S)
 Tony A. Brown(S)
 Travis Riddle(L)
 Trent A. McKee
 (Reserves)(L)
 Victor M. Greene, Jr.(D)
 W. R. Spencer(D)
 Walter Lee Rorie(D)
 Wilmer Lee Phipps(DS)
 Woodrow Robert Teaster(D)



UNITED STATES NAVY

Bob Davidson(L)
 Buford Schmidt(D)
 Charles Strickland(L)
 Claudie Williams(D)
 Dale A. Chastain(L)
 Dewey Whitfield(D)
 Donald Lilly(D)
 George Rogers(DS)
 Gerald Padgett(L)
 Grant Smith(L)
 Gus Fustafason (Reserves)(S)
 Harold A. Spade(L)
 Harold Rogers(L)
 Henry F. Gunning(L)
 Jake N. Sumner(L)
 James F. Leary(D)
 Jeremy Ray Moore(S)
 Jerry L. McKee (ATCS)(L)
 Jonathan Maddalena(S)
 Joshua M. Lubeck(S)
 Juanita Modlin(L)
 Lester Rogers(L)
 Levy (Skint) Griffin(L)
 Lt Austin C. Tilghman(D)
 Melvin Nichols(L)
 Perry Allen Jr.(S)
 Richard Arbet(L)
 Robert Crabtree(D)
 Ryan W. Brubaker(S)
 Stephen Harrison(S)
 Terry D. Blough(L)
 Thomas G. Little(L)
 Tim F. Leary(S)
 Troy Pollard(L)



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Alesia Westbrooke(L)
 Chad Kratz(S)
 Clifton Hardison(L)
 David Sommerdorf(L)

Don Herod(S)
 Dustin Scott Hammer(S)
 Eddie Griffin(L)
 Glenn A. Spies(L)
 Jacob Jones(S)
 Jason Riley(S)
 Jeremy Hawkins(S)
 John Hall(S)
 Kenton Shatzer(S)
 Larry R. Blough(D)
 LCpl Billy Edward Burris(L)
 LCpl Stephen Lucas(S)
 Luke Hardison(S)
 Mark Fulling(S)
 Matt Fulling(S)
 Nick Hardison(S)
 PFC Norman D. Johnson
 (DS)
 Robert Andrew Apostolec(S)
 Ryan Roberts(S)
 Tony DeVoy(U)
 William Dean Riddle(L)
 William Hollifield Jr.(S)
 Jonathan Putney(S)



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

A. Michael White(D)
 A. Miller White (D)
 Barry Neal Davis(L)
 David McIntosh(L)
 David W. Jennings(S)
 James Prentiss(D)
 Joe Michael(D)
 Joshua M. Chastain(S)
 Lt.Col. Kelly G. Noler(S)
 Mark Griffin(S)
 Neil V. Pascarella III (S)
 Norman Modlin(S)
 Rick Garvin(L)
 Ricky Harber(L)
 Roy Martin(L)
 Terry Solomon(L)
 Tommy Martin(L)
 TSgt Joshua Roland(S)
 William M. Tilghman,
 Sr.(L)
 Winford Solomon(D)



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Joshua C. Knepper(L)
 Justin Cash(S)
 Matthew Martin(S)
 Randy Cox(L)
 William A. Jackson(D)
 Branch Unknown
 Edwin Sanburn(L)
 Keith Lacy(S)



NATIONAL GUARD

Chris Couture(S)
 Dennis Bridges(L)
 Dennis Jones(S)
 James Derek Nunley(L)
 James Samuel Riggs, Jr.(L)
 John Certain(S)
 Matt Martin(S)
 Paul Morrow(L)
 Pete Marsh(S)
 Ricky Gargus(L)
 SGT Joshua Wesley Potter (L)
 Spec Chris Vining(L)
 Spec Travis Kramer(S)
 SPC Kenneth B.
 McCormick(S)

OTHER SERVICE

Dillard Cunningham (L)-
 Nurse
 Faydell Isbell
 Wagnor(L)-WAC



We appreciate the tremendous response. Regretfully, names received at our Asheville office after March 31, 2006 could not be included on this list. Perhaps others can be listed in a future publication.



What About CREMATION?

Confusion and error continue to grow in this country with an obvious "Money Connection." Not only are the crematories profiting, but cremation, itself, is being marketed as a much less expensive means. The following is a reprint of a needed article on this subject.

More than 300 corpses stacked in sheds or rotting in the woods were found. This certainly was a nightmare for the many families involved. The criminal investigation in Lafayette, Georgia, of this bizarre story surrounded a crematory. Originally, the excuse for the decomposing bodies was a broken incinerator. However, that was not true and photos of the bodies were found on the office computer of Ray Brent Marsh, the crematory's operators.

Think about this. **Hundreds** of bodies to be **cremated** – this service was paid for by the deceased family. **How many people in America are now using cremation?**

A graduating class in 2000 was surveyed and among the questions these young people were asked was: "What is your greatest fear?" Their reply: "Our greatest fear is the death of a loved one." The answer was not what caught my attention; rather it was the story behind the survey. Two teens were featured that had already experienced this dreaded event. One family was interviewed on an Oregon beach where they had recently scattered the cremated ashes of their loved one. This member of the Class of 2000 shared her sorrow over the death of her younger sister. Now, with risk of seeming callous what stood out to me was the fact this family had chosen cremation. I am amazed how often this subject comes up in conversation. Christians are exploring cremation as an option. I do believe we have some clear examples and guidelines concerning burial and the treatment of the body after death. I appreciate Dr. Gregory D. Mutsch for permitting me to use the following article.

Cremation is the irreversible process of reducing human remains to bone fragments through extreme heat and evaporation. To begin the cremation process, the human remains and the cremation container are placed in the cremation chamber. Open flames raise the temperature to 1,600-2,000 degrees Fahrenheit for approximately two to three hours. To reposition the

human remains or to remove the cremated remains from the cremation chamber, a broad hoe-like instrument is used. Every effort is made by the operator to completely remove every particle from the chamber floor. However, tiny particles may remain in the cremation chamber and become co-mingled with particles of another cremation. Throughout church history, ground burial has been the tradition, but in recent years, the popularity of cremation accounts for 50% of final dispositions.

Fire Frequently Represents Judgment in the Bible

God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah with fire (Gen. 19:24). He used fire to judge Nadab and Abihu for their inappropriate sacrifices (Lev. 10:1-2) and to punish those who were insubordinate to the spiritual leadership of Moses (Num. 16:1-32, 35). When Achan disobeyed God's prohibition of claiming possessions from the cities destroyed during the conquest, he was stoned and burned with fire (John 7:15, 25).

God's final judgment of this world will be by fire. "Wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat" (2 Pet. 3:12). God destroyed the whole world once with a flood, but His second and final judgment will be by cremation. The final abode for those who reject Christ will be in a place of fire. "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15). It is inconsistent for Bible believers who have been saved from the judgment of fire to use this method to dispose of their bodies at death.

The New Testament Pattern Is Ground Burial

The supreme example for a Bible believer is Jesus Christ in both His life and death. "...leaving us an example, that we should follow his steps" (1 Pet. 2:21). Jesus was buried because this was consistent with Old Testament Jewish history and because burial fulfilled the plan of God (Isa. 53:9). Jesus Christ is the author of the New Testament in which cremation is not once practiced. Ground burial in contrast was employed for John the Baptist (Mark 6:29), the Rich Man (Luke 16:22), Lazarus

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

(John 11:17-19), Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:6-10).

Ground Burial Honors the Temple of the Body

Man is a three-part being: body, soul and spirit. All three parts belong to God since man is created in God's image (Gen. 1:27). When a man becomes a Christian, God's spirit takes up residence within him, and from that time, his body is God's temple. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Cor. 6:19-20). Although God's Word does not give us a declaration regarding cremation, it does teach us principles by which we can reach a Biblical conclusion.

Since we do not own our bodies, we do not have the right to do as we choose. To adopt a practice which has pagan roots is to dishonor the temple of God.

Although cremation is popular in our modern culture, nowhere is it practiced by believers in the Old Testament, New Testament, or in the early history of the church. Romans 15:4 declares, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning." The lesson clearly taught is that God's people from Moses to Jesus Christ chose not to be cremated.

--Dr. Gregory D. Mutsch, Ed.D.

Now, take a few minutes to read what the Apostle Paul says in Romans 6:1-5. Note that those of you who "...were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried (not cremated) with Him by baptism into death; that like as Christ..." Profound teaching and illustration we believers are given here by the Holy Spirit. Where does the idea of cremation come from? On the other hand, where do we get our teaching about the believers' death, burial, and resurrection unto eternal life?

Cremation is becoming very popular in this country and many believers and pastors have questions as to its origin and appropriateness for the Christian. For the sake of time, let me just make the following comments and leave it at that:

1. Cremation irrefutably, without a doubt, has its origin and roots in paganism.
2. From the Old Testament to the early church, burial was the practice, not cremation.
3. With the bones of Joseph (Ex. 13:19) to the borrowed

tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, great care, respect, and expense is taken for the body. Read about that alabaster box of ointment and the fact no rebuke came from Jesus (Mark 14: 3-9).

4. As far as the value of the body itself, well that's not the point. It's not necessarily the value of a thing, but the value is in doing what is right. A rich man's tithe probably exceeds in value the widow's mite but...Cain's fruit of the ground versus Abel's firstling – which was more valuable? I do know which was right. What's valuable about Joseph's old bones? But Moses knew what was right. What is so valuable about this old body? Well, the Bible has a lot to say about the temple, raising of the dead, corruptible putting on incorruption and the bodily resurrection and on and on!
5. When it comes to accidentally or intentionally burning the body, God is sovereign and omnipotent over atoms, molecules, ashes and dust. He will have no problem with bodies on the resurrection day.
6. 1 Cor. 13:3 – Paul is talking about martyrdom not cremation. In 1 Samuel 31:12 they burnt the bodies of Saul and his sons. Of course you know how Saul died. I will not describe for you what these mutilated, bird-picked decaying bodies were like. This was not cremation. This was preparation for burial of incredibly emaciated bodies. Note the burial in 1 Samuel 31:13. Lastly, 1 Kings 16:15-19 is not cremation but "For his sins which he sinned in doing evil in the sight of the Lord."

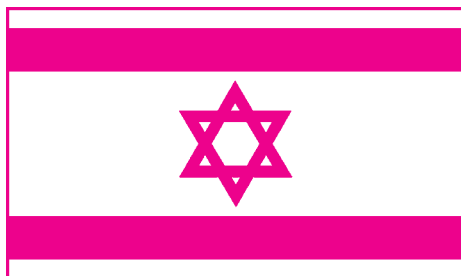
In one service, I finished preaching, gave the invitation, and moved to the door to shake hands as folks began to file out of the auditorium. This church had been without a pastor for sometime, and on several occasions I was asked to fill the pulpit. A man and wife came by to express appreciation for my help and request prayer. This lady's mother had just passed away and to my shock the body was cremated.

Here is another experience I've had with cremation. A lady in our church and her husband decided to take a three-month trip to Alaska. Sue and Tom (names changed) owned a beautiful home and asked my family and I to do house sitting for them, and we did. Tom's brother traveled with them to Alaska, but sad to say, Tom's brother died while in Alaska. His body was cremated and sent to me via USPS. Needless to say, Tom's brother sat on the shelf until they returned home! - RLW



RELIGIOUS NEWS

AND COMMENTS



IS THE THIRD TEMPLE READY?

- In Jerusalem at the Temple Institute, skilled artisans finished a three-year project of putting the Techelet robe together. This robe made of blue, purple, and scarlet wool with 72 golden bells and pomegranates, is to be worn by the high priest. Other high priestly items such as the ephod and breastplate are already finished. It is the hopes of the researchers that the high priest of the Third Temple will use this robe. *Zion's Fire Jan/Feb 06*

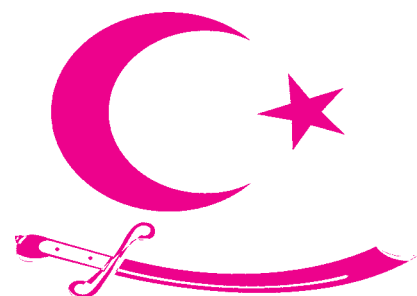
SAINTLY DOLLS- *The Berean Call* (2/28/06) informed us of the use of dolls to comfort children. Mary Englund moved her 5-year-old child into a basement room and put a statue of Jesus in bed with him because he was afraid. "I put it under the blanket and told him, 'Jesus wouldn't want you to be afraid.' He was fine with it . . . When I left the room, I thought, 'I wonder if there is a Jesus doll'." Mrs. Englund then created "My Loving Jesus Doll." She is not the only one in this business. Jim Keding is also trying to sell dolls to Catholic stores nationwide. Teri O'Toole, founder

of Soft Saints, began making dolls of Jesus, the Virgin Mary, Joan of Arc, Pope John Paul II, St. Francis, and Mother Teresa, and 24 other historical characters in 2000. The price of these religious dolls ranges from \$16.95 to \$98 each. {Editor: Have we forgotten that Exodus 20:4 commands us not to "make unto thee any graven image that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath?"}

RELIGIOUS UNITY?- The World Council of Churches recently had a meeting in Porto Alegre, Brazil. This ten-day meeting was attended by 800 delegates and 3,000 church leaders, scholars, advisors, and activists. One of the goals announced at this meeting was for "a greater measure of unity with those outside the WCC fold." According to Hilarion Alfeyev, the leading Orthodox bishop, the gap between traditional Christianity and liberal Christianity "is only growing day by day." The US delegation also read a two-page letter that "denounced the US government, apologized for all its supposed wrongs, and claimed that the United States is pushing the world toward environmental catastrophe." *World 3/11/06*

BIBLE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE- "A biblical worldview often reveals the limitations of conventional approaches and pushes us to ask the right questions, so

that the data we obtain will not leave us still ignorant." (Marvin Olasky *Human Events* 3/6/06) In February, President Bush signed into law a welfare reform bill that funds marriage education. This law is a reaction to the former welfare reform bills based on Wisconsin's reforms. In one of the training rooms in Wisconsin, there are quotes on the wall such as, "A family doesn't need a man to be whole," and "Stop waiting for Prince Charming, his horse broke down." A report published in 2003 by the Manhattan Institute said, "we must find a way to get fathers involved."



ISLAMIC INFIGHTING-

For those of us who do not know the difference between Sunni and Shiites, *World* (3/11/06) helps make it clear. After the death of Mohammad, there was a split in the religion with some following the son-in-law Ali (Shiites) and some following the father-in-law Abu Bakr (Sunni). A civil war was fought with the Sunnis winning and Abu Bakr becoming the leader of the Muslim world. The Sunnis

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deem Shiites to be idolaters. They do not approve of their veneration of human beings, their devotion to shrines, or their mysticism. Only 15% of Muslims are Shiites, but they are predominately in Iran, Syria, and Iraq. Al-Zarqawi, the al-Qaeda leader of Iraq, said that the Shiites are “a greater danger and . . . more destructive to the nation” than the United States. “Targeting and hitting them will provoke them to show the Sunnis their rabies.”



DARWIN SUNDAY- All over our nation on February 12, people were going to church to worship. Some may not have known it, but their service would be centered on “Evolution Sunday.” This day was the brainchild of Professor Michael Zimmerman of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Mr. Zimmerman

started what he called “The Clergy Letter Project.” This is a statement of more than 10,000 clergy who are in support of evolution. “I wanted to let the public know that numerous clergy from most denominations have tremendous respect for evolutionary theory and have embraced it as a core component of human knowledge, full harmonious with religious faith.” *Answers in Genesis* and Michael Zimmerman University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

SUPPORTING FAITH- *The Washington Times* (3/20) reports on a recent Gallup research that frequent churchgoers mostly support the war in Iraq. Of those that don’t go to church, 26% Republicans and 81% of Democrats opposed the war. There is a discrepancy among the different religions. Protestants support the war by 55%, where as Catholics opposed it by 52%. Of those who do not go to church, 62% oppose the war. The Southern Baptist Convention said in 2003, “Our choice is to pay less now and deal with this problem or we can pay a lot more later.” The Orthodox Union (Jewish) said that they supported President Bush 100%. 🐦

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Received by The Voice in the Wilderness

In Memory of MIKE SPRINGER

Given By: Denise Eggert

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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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

Army Day, Navy Day and Air Force Day were combined in 1949 to become Armed Forces Day, celebrated the third Saturday of May. This day honors the men and women of all armed forces, now serving under one Department of Defense. Army Day formerly was the date the US entered World War I, Navy Day was on President Theodore Roosevelt’s Birthday and Air Force Day was on the day the War Department established a division of aeronautics.

On Armed Forces Day, May 1995, Secretary of Defense William Perry stated: “In World War II, the United States Armed Forces helped defeat the forces of aggression and oppression on two sides of the globe... In the Cold War, we faced down the global Soviet threat. Today, our forces stand guard, at home and abroad, against a range of potential threats... On Armed Forces Day, the nation says thank you to our men and women in uniform, their families, and the communities that support them...”

Daniel Webster said, “God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it.”

AmericanMinute.com

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!



(Continued from page 3)

shortly after the rally, it appears pressure was brought to bear and the relief organization, in a television interview, expressed the removal of its name as a supporter of the rally. The ministries director stated that it was their policy not to get involved in political issues. The director said it could alienate people and jeopardize the ministries tax-exempt status.

Now could there be a money connection here? If you take a stand against Sodomy, and yes “alienate” business people and contributors who are sodomites, would that not obviously hurt financially? After all, it is a known fact that there is big money in the homosexual community of Asheville, N. C. But since when, for a Christian, is Sodomy a political issue? Sin is a biblical issue. And are not sinners already alienated from God? (Eph. 4:18 and Col. 1:21) Oh, and does tax exemption dictate or is God’s Word our sole authority for faith and practice?

Obviously, money connects the dots. Bruce Wilkerson’s *The Prayer of Jabez*, Lahaye and Jenkins’ *Left Behind* books, and Rick Warren’s *The Purpose Driven Life* have sold millions upon millions. That kind of money makes secular publishers sit up and notice. Religion has become a BEST SELLER. Just visit Barnes and Nobles or notice the bookstands in Wal-Mart and you will know. Secular publishers are “crossing over” just like gospel musicians are “crossing over” to pop, rock, country, etc. But the price is far more than money can buy. The doctrinal and theological compromise is huge. Then “Christian” publishers are getting in on the “Buck” with books on conservative politics and self-help titles. And must we mention the proliferation of Bible versions churning off the presses with fat cat owners, investors and CEO’s

salivating at the profits.

Over the years, the escalating proliferation of Bible versions has created a hot bed of confusion and divisiveness. Could this be a case of everyone doing that which is right in their own eyes as they go to the Bible-buying cafeteria, picking and choosing the version that suits them best? Are these Bibles really God’s Word or has somewhere in all this marketing hype, the Bible become man’s word? With this hodge-podge assortment of every kind, how do you give responsive reading, or memorize scriptures and know for sure it came from THE BOOK and not some other book? Are the presses cranking out moneymaking best-sellers and not a revered, inspired, Holy Book Divine?

For centuries the KJV has been held in the hands of men anointed by the Spirit of God, powerfully preaching those beautiful words to the wonderful transformation of sinners, as well as the refreshing and edification of saints. The English speaking church read and memorized the King James Bible. God preserved in print and upon the hearts and minds of his people The Wonderful Word of Life. Now I guess these money-marketing geniuses with their so-called Christian publishing companies have done one better than heaven and produced a “Bible” that accommodates all!!!

The pulpits of this land seemingly have little real impact for genuine good these days. This “Therapeutic Preaching,” user-friendly churches, and best-selling “Biblettes” are producing a perverted view of the Holy God of Heaven filling pews with a bunch of “churchanized,” unregenerate souls primed to bust hell wide open. You can take it to the bank, “Old slew foot” is having a laugh on us, thinking the liberal, big business, Bible printing crowd is going to improve on THE

BOOK and ultimately produce the all time money-making, best-selling, “standard Bible” accepted by all. Mark it down. There is a vested interest in the continued proliferation of modern versions! MONEY, MONEY, MONEY, is the song they sing to the steady drone of presses pumping out their gravy train.

Listen carefully to the Apostles warning:

“For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” I Tim. 6:10
God’s people must stay vigilant and always remember :

1. Godliness with CONTENTMENT is great gain. I Tim. 6:6
 2. Money and the material will one day be gone. I Tim 6:7
 3. Contentment is not in money. I Tim 6:8
 4. Guard your heart and love. I Tim. 6:9,10
 5. Flee the worldly and follow the righteous. I Tim. 6:11
 6. There is the good fight of faith. I Tim 6:12-16
 7. Remember JOY. I Tim. 6:17-19
- J-is for Jesus
O- is for others
Y- is for yourself

-RLW



ON THE LIGHT SIDE

One Sunday after church, Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. Her daughter answered, “Don’t be scared, you’ll get your quilts.”

Needless to say, Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the Pastor stopped by for tea. Mom asked him what that morning’s Sunday school lesson was about. He said, “Be not afraid, thy Comforter is coming.”

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTICIPANTS IN PARTNERSHIP

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

The Voice in the Wilderness sends a special “THANK YOU” to all those who participated and sacrificed financially to support the Current Missions Projects. During the past month, this ministry has received **19%** of the total needed to fund these projects for 2006. PRAISE THE LORD!

If you have not yet participated, The Voice in the Wilderness invites you to prayerfully consider how you could participate in the Current Missions Projects. Please complete the form below and return to our Asheville Office.



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The Blue and The Gray

"O mother! What do they mean by blue?
And what do they mean by gray?"
I heard from the lips of a little child
As she bounded in from her play.
The mother's eyes were filled with tears;
She turned to her darling fair
And smoothed away from the sunny brow
The treasure of golden hair.

"Why, mother's eyes are blue, my sweet,
And grandpa's hair is gray,
And the love we bear our darling child
Grows stronger every day."
"For what do they mean?" maintained the
child,
"For I saw two cripples to-day,
And one of them said he had 'fought for
the blue,'
The other had 'fought for the gray.'"

"The one of the blue had lost a leg,
And the other had but one arm,
And both seemed worn and weary and sad,
Yet their greeting was kind and warm,
They told of the battles in days gone by
Till it made my blood run chill,
The leg was lost in the Wilderness fight
And the arm on Malvern Hill."

"They sat on the stone by the farmyard gate
And talked for an hour or more,
Till their eyes grew bright and their hearts
seemed warm
With fighting their battles o'er;
And parted at last with a friendly grasp,
In a kindly, brotherly way,
Each asking God to speed the time
Uniting the blue and the gray."

Then the mother thought of other days,
Two stalwart boys from her riven;
How they'd knelt at her side, and, lispng,
prayed:
"Our Father, who art in heaven;"
How one wore the gray and the other the blue,
How they passed away from sight
And had gone to the land where gray and blue
Merge in tints of celestial light.

And she answered her darling with golden hair,
While her heart was sorely wrung
With thoughts awakened in that sad hour
By her innocent, prattling tongue;
"The blue and the gray are the colors of God;
They are seen in the sky at even,
And many a noble, gallant soul
Has found them passports to Heaven."

-Author unknown

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