

# 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

CONTENDING FOR  
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

Published Monthly  
Free Subscription

CONTENDING FOR  
AMERICAN FREEDOM

November/December 2003

## MANY BLESSINGS



For all Thy many blessings,  
We thank Thee, Lord, today;  
For joys Thy hand hath brought us,  
Or joys Thou didst take away;

For grief and pain and heartache  
And for the stygian night  
Through which Thine arm upheld us  
Till faith was changed to sight,

For words of comfort given,  
When we were tired and lone;  
For earth-ties that were riven  
To make us more Thine own;

We thank Thee, Oh we thank Thee,  
For all Thy wondrous grace:  
And yet, we yearn to see Thee,  
And thank Thee, face to face!

For friends and friendships holy  
That drew us nearer Thee;  
For Thine own servants lowly  
Who help the blind to see;

For health and strength and courage;  
For truth and faith and rest;  
For lives set free from bondage;  
For joys which Thou hast blessed;

For Calvary's saving fountain;  
For present peace and power;  
For promise of Thy coming,  
Perhaps this very hour-

-Author Unknown

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and  
His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The  
mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of  
Peace." Isaiah 9:6*



# MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends:

This is a work in progress and continues to be built on a foundation our Lord established through the life of Dr. J. Royce Thomason.

Bro. Royce phoned and wrote me in '94/'95 about coming to work with *The Voice in the Wilderness*. We both joined in prayer for a year before I accepted the invitation, during which time I wrote numerous articles for *The Voice in the Wilderness*. Then in October 1996 my family and I moved from Montana to Dallas, Texas, to begin a new ministry for the Williamsons. October 2003 begins our eighth year with *The*



*Voice in the Wilderness* and 2003 was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this printed missionary publication, *The Voice in the Wilderness*. We praise the Lord for His manifold blessings.

On June 12, 2001, *The Voice in the Wilderness* held a banquet in honor of Dr. J. Royce Thomason's 65 years of gospel ministry. This was indeed a timely event. Bro. Royce stated in the

August 2001 edition of this paper:

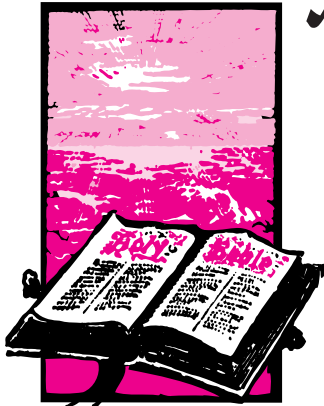
...“Before I go further, I want to tell you what a wonderful banquet friends prepared for me in Pigeon Forge, TN, on June 12<sup>th</sup>. As most of you know, Bro. Williamson, along with the assistance of his wife and daughter, did a great job. All I had to do was walk into the beautifully arranged and decorated banquet hall and sit down in the midst of so many precious friends, many who had driven long distances to be there. From North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Michigan, Florida, Oklahoma, Texas, South Carolina and Alabama they came. I wish you could have all been there.

“Bro. Williamson acted as master of ceremonies and could not have done better. Several nice gifts were received as well as a good offering. The food caterers were

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 and schools, supporting the American missionaries and native pastors, providing needy students with room and board, administering medical and dental services free, and preaching Christ to the lost. We are supported by the gifts of those who care. All gifts designated by missions will go directly without any deductions. 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 the 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 *Voice in the Wilderness*, P.O. Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802.

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# The Voice IN THE Wilderness

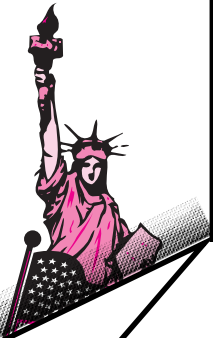


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*Have we heard from you in 2003? The Voice in the Wilderness will be updating the mailing list once again for 2004. Even though this is a free subscription, your name may be deleted after this issue. During November and December we are asking all subscribers who have not corresponded with the Asheville, NC, Headquarters during the calendar year 2003, to do so at this time in order to update your subscription. Please use the response slip attached to the enclosed envelope. This will ensure your uninterrupted subscription.*

*Note that this is the FINAL ISSUE of this Printed Missionary's Jubilee Year. We pray this combined November & December edition will be a blessing!*

# AS TO THE LORD

## COLOSSIANS 3:28

*“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men:”*

“As to the Lord” – how many live there? That is the place of death unto life. Death to self and life unto the Lord. That is the place of celestial air. Not the stuffy, stale breath of self, but the fresh, clean, clear breath from above. That is the place of freedom not bondage “as unto man,” but freedom from stinginess, freedom from fear of loss or misuse when given “as unto the Lord.”

“There was a day when I died, utterly died to George Mueller, his opinions, preferences, taste, and will – died to the world, it’s approval or censure – died to the approval or blame even of my brethren and friends – and since then I have only to show myself approved to God.” George Mueller, as we all, must bring into perspective all of life. The life that we have is by His grace, a gift that He has given out of His goodness.

The ushers gathered around the altar to pray as God’s people prepared to give the tithes and offerings. Unknowing to these men, sat one in the pew angry with the Pastor. As the ushers passed the offering plates among the congregation, this man said repeatedly in his heart, “I’ll show that preacher. I’m not giving another dime to this church until he changes his tune. I’ll show that preacher.”

Every church needs members with such a sweet spirit. Nothing but pity for such a miserable soul when his giving is so low that it is done based on a man.

### I. A Violation of Grace

“As to the Lord” is a

demonstration of Grace. Is He your Lord? That’s by Grace. It is only by His Grace that we may have such a relationship and opportunity. To think one can punish another by not reflecting or sharing the evident graciousness of God with another is a violation of Grace. Why should we expect personal gratification when just the ability to do or give is to recognize God’s Grace? From breath and life itself to every daily blessing, His graciousness is bestowed upon the undeserving. “For by grace are you saved through faith...” Nothing, absolutely nothing we can do merits salvation. And it is only by His Grace from the moment of salvation to the present that any believer can extend a hand and heart in an act of graciousness that originates from the Lord’s graciousness.

Why do you do what you do? – Because you like that person – Because you expect that person to reciprocate – Because you want the attention, reward, or it makes you feel good. After all, it is your gift, your time, your money, - right? WRONG! Anything the child of God has is because the Father was gracious.

### II. A Violation of the Gift

Dear brother and sister in Christ – all that the Father has so graciously placed in hand and heart is His gift to you. What is required? – “It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.” The gift God has given, all that one possesses in Christ is to be managed in faith, “as to the Lord.” Release that blue knuckled grip and let the Lord do the utterly amazing. It is selfishness, it is wickedness, it is a violation of the gift to hold back that which is a trust placed in stewardship. “The earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof;

the world, and they that dwell therein.” Thus, where do you claim ownership and control? “Daily He loadeth us with benefits.”

1. “HIS” is the gift of life, life abundant and life eternal.
2. “HIS” is the gift to be a blessing to others in the ministry of reconciliation.
3. “HIS” is the gift of giving that only means greater joy for the giver. “Give and it shall be given...”

As beneficiary of such marvelous grace and wondrous gifts, how can the Christian not serve “as to the Lord?” Charles Spurgeon said, “The very motto of the Christian should be “I serve.”

“Father take my life, yes, my blood if thou wilt, and consume it with thine enveloping fire. I would not save it, for it is not mine to save. Have it Lord, have it all. Pour out my life as in oblation for the world. Blood is the only value as it flows before Thine altar” (Jim Elliot).

Do we give and live “As to the Lord?” To do less is:

### III. A Violation of Good

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.” Must we debate His Grace? Must we delay His Gift? Must we doubt His Goodness?

Why “As to the Lord?” – Because “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from our Father! To not live, to not give “As to the Lord” is a violation of the very good He has bestowed. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your

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# THANK YOU, DEAR PILGRIM



By Eva Baker Wilson

**THANK YOU, EARLY PILGRIM** – cold, hungry, frightened – for making it possible for me to be born American.

You discouraged, bewildered, often sick – but strong – ancestor of mine, thank you for having the

purpose, the vision, and the courage to reject tyranny, to leave familiar scenes and relative security, so that you might build the free nation that would be my homeland.

Thank you for riding out the storms of the long, treacherous voyage and for shivering through that first winter. Thank you that, with death all around you, you survived. Thank you for keeping on when your dreams must have become nightmares as unforeseen realities engulfed you.

Thank you, Dear Pilgrim Father, for being steadfast, even as you must have come to question the wisdom of the idealism that had led you into

that bleak winter.

And Dear Pilgrim Mother, thank you for the brave bearing of your children – my forebears – in unceasing suffering and danger. Thank you for your constancy even in grief when you saw dread, inescapable disease cut down so many of those little ones.

As I survey our holiday bounty, in humility I thank you for enduring the hunger-stalked first year at Plymouth on that storm-lashed arm of rocky sand.

Thank you for the legacy of your spirit that calls me back each year at this time to remember, with reverence and gratitude, the travail of my beginnings as an American.



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**Dr. Ronnie L. Williamson**  
**Voice in the Wilderness**

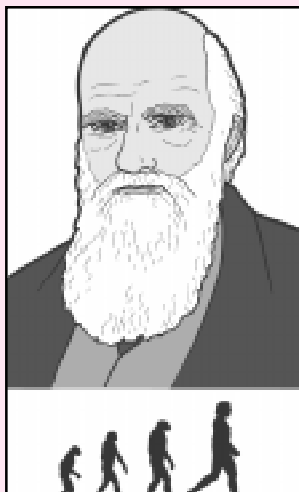
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*For Personal Correspondence,*

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**QUESTION:** Many Christians believe that Darwin rejected his idea of evolution on his deathbed. Is that true?

**ANSWER:** It's true that Darwin rejected a belief system at the time of his death—but it wasn't his evolutionary belief system—it was the truth of God's Word that Darwin turned his back on. Many Christians believe that Darwin changed his mind about evolution just before he died. A tract written by a certain Lady Hope has been widely distributed; she

supposedly had such a conversation with Darwin while he was dying.

But all investigation has shown that this tract has no factual basis. Actually, Darwin made statements shortly before he died which indicated he didn't believe there'd been any revelation from God. He also said that the Old Testament was to be no more trusted than the books of the Hindus. Actually, Darwin admitted that the more he believed evolution, the more he rejected God.

This should be a solemn warning for the church. The more Christians believe in evolution, the more they'll reject God's Word. Let's be careful. *-Answersingenesis.org*

# THE LAST GREAT RACE



## I CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

When I was a young boy growing up in eastern North Carolina, there was nothing like a good race. There were foot races, bicycle races, and even skateboard races. One event that would draw crowds of young people from our neighborhood was rather unique in itself. We boys would scrounge together 2 x 4's, old lawn mower wheels, and the largest nails we could find constructing a kid size pinewood derby racer. Now, eastern North Carolina was quite flat, but we had one decent hill in our area. This was ideal for such a race. Oh, how I remember those good ol' days and occasionally winning a race or two.

Many years later since the days of old in eastern North Carolina as a young boy with an adventurous

imagination, it has been my privilege to now have traveled all over the world. My family and I have driven from the Maritimes to Key West, from North Carolina to California, and from Texas to Alaska. Often it has been a race against time to get from one appointment to the next. On two separate occasions while in Alaska, we had the privilege to witness what some have dubbed "The Last Great Race on Earth," known as the "Iditarod." Not only is the Iditarod an incredible race today; but also behind it is an amazing story.

Six-year-old Richard Stanley was dead. Would this be only the first of many? Horror etched deep into the face of Dr. Curtis Welch as he looked down on the tiny form rapidly growing cold after succumbing to the feverish

delirium. Soon an epidemic of diphtheria would sweep the little village of Nome, Alaska. The serum so desperately needed to spare scores of children was exhausted and the closest railway station was more than 1,000 miles across some of the most formidable terrain in the world. The fastest means of transport was dogsled, which usually took two weeks. The situation looked hopeless.

On January 27, 1925, Nome's mayor, George Maynard, issued a desperate call for help. That very afternoon began a race against death and 1,000 miles of howling, icy winds and snow. Wild Bill Shannon strapped a metal case of 30,000 units of serum to his sleigh and set out on the first 50 miles driving his seven huskies mercilessly hour after hour. Half blinded by ice freezing to his face, Shannon charged the bitter cold darkness and razor-edged wind arriving in Tolovana shortly before midnight. Trapper Dan Green, with the serum aboard his sled, set out for Manley Hot Springs another 50 miles up the trail.

Unbeknowing that the serum had already left Nenana for Nome, 30-year-old gold prospector Leonhard Seppala leaves Nome to make a non-stop push to Nanana and back using fresh dog teams at the various trading posts.

Dan Green arrives at Manley

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Hot Springs on the morning of January 28 where Johnny Folger takes over and completes the next 30-mile leg in only three hours. From trading post to trading post, the race goes on.

Meanwhile, for day and night, Leonhard Seppala battles eastward against snowstorm and brutal winds. By daybreak January 31, Seppala, having covered 200 miles, meets Henry Ivanoff packing the serum westward. Ivanoff is suffering badly from frost bitten feet so Seppala takes the serum; turns around and heads back for Nome.

It was an agonizing journey for man and dog. When they were halfway across the frozen Norton Sound, a blizzard swept down. The swirling whiteness blotted out everything forcing Seppala to go on instinct alone as he pushed onward.

Early on February 1<sup>st</sup> Seppala reached Golovino, a tiny settlement on the far side of the Norton Sound. Even though it was now only 100 miles to Nome, the ice, snow and subzero temperatures had beaten both man and dogs into utter exhaustion. Reluctantly, Seppala handed the serum over to prospector Charlie Olson.

At 8:00 that evening, Charlie Olson arrived in Bluff, 30 miles along the trail and passed over the metal case of life to another prospector, Gunnar Kaasen. The serum had once again been passed to another.

Kaasen, who had taken part in one of Roald Amundsen's polar expeditions a few years earlier, was well known throughout the territory. So, too, was his lead dog, Balto, a Siberian half-wolf,

renowned for his skill and ability to outfight any other dog that crossed his path.

Kaasen set out into the darkness at a fast pace as Balto, his Siberian half-wolf lead dog, followed the snow covered trail unerringly. Kaasen was to have rendezvoused with a relief team standing by in a trapper's cabin, but with no sure knowledge of its whereabouts, he by-passed it.

At 5:30 on the morning of February 2, with a snowstorm raging, Kaasen reached the outskirts of Nome. His dogs collapsed and Kaasen – his face torn by ice, temporarily blinded, and almost unconscious – had to be chipped from the ice laden sleigh.

The epic race against death had taken 144 hours over 1,000 miles of mountain, forest, ice and snow, through storm and gale-force winds in temperatures of 50° below zero.

Thanks to those who faithfully and sacrificially ran the race, the terrible epidemic of diphtheria would claim only one other victim.

As believers, we all are involved in a great race, "...so run, not as uncertainly."

*The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 speaks of a race which involves not only this life but also the eternal. This race is truly THE GREAT RACE.*

Each year, the Iditarod, what Alaskans call the "Last Great Race on Earth," is ran from Anchorage to Nome, some 1049 miles for man and dog team through some of the most extreme conditions and terrain. I was privileged to witness the start of that great race one year

and followed its progress by radio until Doug Swingley of Montana crossed the finish line nine days two hours and 42 minutes later to claim the first place prize. However, today's Iditarod commemorates that Great Race to Nome in January of 1925. The stakes now are not as high as they were then. The time and training, the expense and sacrifice are so evident. The requirements to run such a race are obvious and if you have ever been to Alaska you readily recognize the risks. But from the yelping enthusiasm of each dog team and the intensive commitment of every musher, you knew the reward was great.

The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 speaks of a race which involves not only this life but also the eternal. This race is truly THE GREAT RACE. For here we deal not just with the physical body but also with the eternal soul. The reward is not a temporary, corruptible crown that with time will be spent and pass away – quite the opposite. This "THE GREAT RACE" holds an incorruptible crown and everlasting reward for those who would strive and obtain. However, there are requirements to run in this race. There are risks involved; yet the rewards are out of this world.

**I. Requirements for the Race**  
**A. An earnest desire.**

The apostle said, "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all." There must be a clear want to and desire of the heart before the race is begun. It becomes quite apparent that those who enter the

*(Continued on page 19)*

# The Voice IN THE Wilderness

# SERMON of the Month

PRIVATE INTERPRETATION  
The “*IDIOTES*” Version  
II Peter 1:20 & 21

“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

“For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

The apostle makes clear the prophecy of the scripture is of divine origin. “Knowing this first,” states the primary and foundational position for every Bible student. The prophet was not the originator; and to lay eyes and mind upon God’s Word with less than reverence and profound care is violation at the very FIRST! “Knowing this first” – or you will know nothing else of this DIVINE PROPHECY. First know this is the revelation of God’s mind. To enter with man’s opinion and bias of varied sorts is at the first an affront to the originator and Holy Author.

Then the startling statement, “no prophecy of the scripture is of any ‘private interpretation.’” The Greek word for “private” is “idios” implying private or one’s own interpretation—In other words, the “idios” interpretation or the “idios” explanation (to explain or solve further than is appropriate). Again the emphasis is origination. True revelation is not “by the will of man.” Prophecy of scripture is from God Himself through “holy men of God” speaking “as they were moved” or

borne along by the Holy Ghost. This utterance was far beyond and above, this was divine, not their own. “Private interpretation” is to lower “prophecy of scripture” to the human level. Then to say there are errors in scripture and man, men, some men, some men somewhere must “interpret,” clarify by science and reason, “Thus saith the LORD,” is to attack the very source of scripture. Is scripture of DIVINE origin? If so, is God Holy and wholly capable of saying what He means, recording thus without error and then preserving His revelation for generation to generation? Consider the following:

- (1) Who is your God?
- (2) Can your God lie or make mistakes?
- (3) Did God record His Word for you to read and obey today?
- (4) Where is God’s Word to be found today?
- (5) Does God’s Word have errors? If it does, how can you know it is God’s Word, or do you recognize a god who is capable of error?

Be honest, and answer these questions. Scholar, Bible student, pastor, teacher – Do you have God’s Holy, inspired, infallible, preserved Word to read, study, meditate upon and obey? Does the Bible you read contain errors? Then what is the origination? If you or some other must eclectically, critically, or scientifically “yea” with some systematic method pick and choose the truth eliminating the errors, then

who or what must you attribute origination?

STOP – there is no “Private Interpretation.” We are not talking about simply understanding the scriptures. Hermeneutics is the science of biblical interpretation. There are rules of interpretation. Foremost is a proper relationship with the Holy Spirit of God. If the student is walking contrary to God’s Holy Spirit, the communication, interpretation, and illumination of God’s spiritual message for that individual can proceed no further than the conviction and conversion of that alienated mind. Understand that “Private Interpretation” concerns origination, not just simply understanding the scripture. The English word idiot is derived from *Idiotes*, but it had a very different meaning than would be associated today. The Greek word did not signify, either in the sacred or secular writers, a person deficient in natural capacity for understanding. The Greek originally meant a private citizen who held not public office. However, since the Greeks considered it a great honor to hold office, the word came to mean a person who could not take part in public affairs.

Whether referring to “prophecy of the scripture,” or the whole of God’s Word, today some have taken upon themselves the right of “private interpretation.” In doing so, an attack

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# A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

## A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

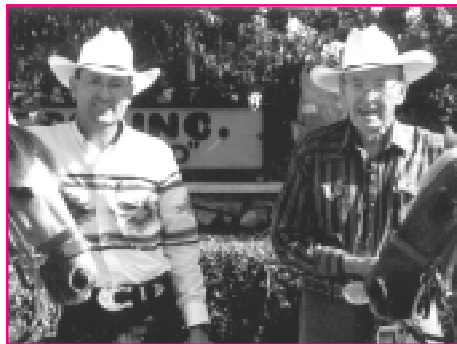
Dr. J. Royce Thomason

This is the time of year when Americans traditionally observe a day of Thanksgiving, a day in which we give God thanks for His manifold blessings to us as individuals and to this nation. I know America is not perfect; and I realize that our people have strayed far from the faith of our fathers, so much so that we can't truthfully call us a 'Christian Nation.' What a merciful God we have who, in spite of our backslidings, has blessed us above measure.

I have been thinking this morning of various situations around the globe and I can tell you this: if you will take a world map, lay it out before you, you will find it difficult to find a nation where things are as they should be. Starvation stalks several of them. Wars and murderous political strife curses others. Even our own America, blessed as it is, has many problems: terrorism, racism, the most corrupt [politics] we have ever known. We need to sing loud and long that portion of "America the Beautiful" that said, "God mend our every flaw."

Let us forget the problems for a while and let me share with you something a precious friend sent me years ago:

"How's your health? Not so good? Well, thank God you've lived this long, a lot of people haven't. You're hurting? Thousands, maybe millions, are hurting even now.



*Two strong leaders – alike in many ways – God called to the ministry, yet unique as individuals in Christ. Bro. Royce and Bro. Ronnie praise the Lord for all that has been accomplished over these many years for the cause of Christ through The Voice in the Wilderness.*

(Have you ever visited a veteran's hospital? Or a rehabilitation clinic for crippled children?) If you have awakened this morning and were able to hear the birds sing, use your vocal chords to utter human sounds, walk to the breakfast table on two good legs and read the newspaper with two good eyes, praise the Lord! A lot of people couldn't.



*A significant drop in support has caused a hardship this year for many ministries supported by The Voice in the Wilderness. Pastors in India, Orphanages, projects in South America, Africa and Asia go lacking when funds are not available. Pray with us about these opportunities and needs.*

"How's your pocketbook? Thin? Well, most of the world is poorer than you are. No pensions, no welfare, no food stamps. Not even any Social Security in most places. In fact, over a third of the people of the world will go to bed hungry tonight. Are you lonely? The way to have a friend is to be one. If nobody calls you, call them. Go out of your way to do something nice for somebody. It's a sure cure for the blues. Are you concerned about your country's future? Hooray! Our system has been saved by such concern, concern for honesty in government, concern for peace and concern for fair play under law. Your country may not be a rose garden in every respect, but it's also far from being a patch of weeds.

"Freedom rings! Look and listen. You can still worship at the church of your choice, cast a secret ballot and even criticize your government without fearing a knock on the head or a knock on your door at midnight. And – if you want to live under a different system, you are free to go. There are no Berlin Walls, Iron or Bamboo Curtains – nothing to force you to stay here. Think it over."

It is fitting that on this day we also review our heritage and the trust it imposes on us. The price the Pilgrims paid for survival. The bloody feet at Valley Forge, The thunder of the Alamo, Gettysburg, and Argonne, Midway, Bastogne,

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# NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

**SELLING OUT AMERICA – AGAIN? –** *US News & World Report* 10/6/03 reported that “Levi Strauss” has plans to close its last plants, makers of denim attire, in the United States and even Canada. This will cause 1,980 more workers to be jobless. These cuts add to 4,200 layoffs last year as Levi Strauss follows the trend in contracting out actual apparel making to overseas jobbers. It is expected that any remaining plants in the United States that make clothes will be following suit by 2005, when lids on textile imports are lifted.



**VETERANS’ DAY –** On November 11, 2003, we once again pause to honor those who have fought the fight to help preserve the freedoms of America. Sadly however, many today have never been taught the rich history of our nation, our founding fathers, or the cost that war and freedom are all about. Even years after the conflicts are over, some veterans

still face effects of combat. In a recent study in the journal *Neurology*, it suggests a link between service in the 1991 Gulf War and an increased risk of contracting ALS, the deadly and incurable illness better known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. The studies used different methods but came to the same conclusion: veterans of the war are at least twice as likely as the rest of the population to develop the degenerative disease before age 45. One suspected culprit is exposure to poisonous sarin gas. THANK YOU to all who serve our country in present conflicts as well as the many in the past for placing your very life on the line.



**PERVERTED LIBERAL JUDGES –** The 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit has a well-deserved reputation as the most liberal federal court in the land. Its far-left judicial philosophy puts it in constant conflict with the other 12 appellate districts, forcing the Supreme Court to step in again and again to provide a uniform, nationwide interpretation of the law. One-third of all cases before the Supreme Court are appealed from the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit, and the justices

reverse their western colleagues in more than 80 percent of the cases they agree to hear.

The judges of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit are known for being staunchly anti-death penalty, pro-abortion, anti-gun, and anti-religion. In recent cases they have argued that the right to bear arms is a “relatively obscure constitutional provision” and that physicians who help their patients commit suicide ought to be protected by the law.

Most famously it was the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit that ruled in June 2002 that some public-school children in California could no longer recite the Pledge of Allegiance because the phrase “under God” violated the separation of church and state.

Of the 26 active judges who serve the sprawling circuit – nine Western states and some 50 million people fall under its purview – Bill Clinton appointed 14 of them and Jimmy Carter another three. Because appellate judges are randomly drawn to hear cases on three-judge panels, the overwhelming Democratic tilt of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit makes it extremely difficult to achieve a conservative majority in any given dispute. With only nine GOP-appointed judges to choose from the statistical probability of picking a liberal over a conservative is almost 2-to-1.

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Republicans have little hope of reforming the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit through attrition. The 14 Clinton appointees are mostly 50-something baby boomers who could serve 25 years or more on the bench. President Bush has already had three judges confirmed for the circuit, but even his two additional nominees presently before the Senate Judiciary Committee would barely manage to shift the court a bit rightward.

The best hope for real reform may be splitting the huge circuit in two, essentially isolating California, source of the most left-wing judges. It's been done before – the busy 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit was recently pared from six states to three – and even some Democrats from smaller Western states favor the plan.

Still, breaking up the liberals' legal stronghold will take a bigger Senate majority than the GOP can currently muster, and the court itself, unsurprisingly, insists it can function just fine as is. *World 9/27/2003*

**FYI** – The full U.S. 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals will not reconsider an April decision by a three-judge panel striking down the Virginia Military Institute's tradition of reading a suppertime prayer..... A federal judge in Colorado has blocked a state law requiring recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools.....140,000 – that is the estimated number of U.S. troops in Iraq. 40,000-65,000 is the maximum number of active duty troops the U.S. can sustain in Iraq

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after next March... 3% of U.S. population has tattoos. Out of that 3%, 50% want their tattoos removed (*AARP 8/03*).....Free education materials about the Constitution can be found at [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org)... One out of five people move annually. The U.S. Postal Service states 20 percent of the United States population moves each year and change of address information is often not communicated to friends, businesses or the postal service... In the final moments before the close of the 2003 legislative session, the South Carolina Legislature passed a measure to lower the legal limit of a person considered “under the influence” to a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 percent. The current level is a higher .10 percent BAC. This enables SC to receive more than \$65 million in federal highway funds, money that would have been denied SC if the level remained at .10....Secretary of State Colin Powell visited postwar Iraq and a mass grave memorial in Halabja. Any question about weapons of mass destruction? About 100,000 Kurds died when Saddam Hussein trained his chemical weapons on them for supposedly aiding the enemy during the Iran-Iraq war... Nabil Hilmi, dean of the law faculty at Egypt's al-Zaqaziq University, plans to sue the world's Jews for plundering Egypt thousands of years ago, as recorded in Exodus 12:35-36. “We are just investigating if a debt is owed.” Mr. Hilmi has not said which human court he plans to take his case to, but his problems may lie

in a much higher jurisdiction. According to Exodus, it was after God “had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians” that the Egyptians willingly gave up their gold, silver, and clothing to the departing Jews: “Thus they plundered the Egyptians.” *World 9/27/03*...\$75,000 – the cost to become a member in an elite club community, with another \$400 a month for the privilege to play “golf.” “Triple Crown” is the term used for those who own membership in at least three different golfing communities. Question – Where are you laying up your treasures?

## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOHN KERRY

– John Kerry promises to block any nominee to the Supreme Court who does not support abortion. National Abortion Rights Action League president Kate Michelman is praising Senator Kerry for “protecting our fundamental right to privacy.” That's her cute way of saying “the right to take the lives of children without anyone stopping you.” God does not grant such a “fundamental right.” *God's World News 9/23/03*

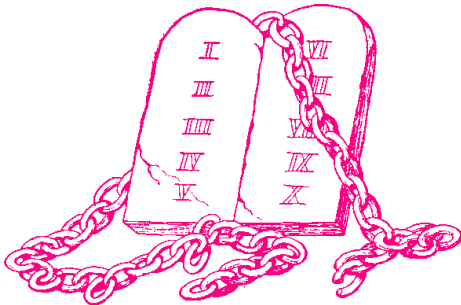
  
Where magic lives.

**DISNEYLAND – “FAMILY” FUN?** - On behalf of airplane pilot, Sandy Skolnick, and American Air-Lites, The American

(Continued on page 23)

# RELIGIOUS NEWS

## AND COMMENTS



**FOUNDATION OF WESTERN CONCEPTS OF LAW - THE TEN COMMANDMENTS** - Maggie Gallagher, who writes a syndicated column for the *Nashville Tennessean*, nailed the matter in her August 27, 2003, column entitled "Now That the Gods of the Godless Have Prevailed." She said:

The Ten Commandments... actually, historically speaking, the foundation of Western concepts of law, deeply instrumental in forming the common law of England (or the canon law of France) upon which American legal systems were formed. Does freedom require rewriting our history and excising the sources of our institutions from public knowledge and acknowledgment? I don't think so.

The people who are offended by the sight of this stone are the secularists, the people who do not believe in God. And if Judge Moore loses, ultimately they will get their own faith enshrined as sacred in the public square.

Certain documents such as the Ten Commandments are religious in nature, but they are also a major part of the historical fabric of this nation. It is utter nonsense to ban everything Jewish or Christian yet to enshrine and encourage everything secular and pagan. But that is exactly where all of this is headed.

The Ten Commandments battle is only one piece in a much larger puzzle. It is a struggle for the heart and soul of our nation. Once again a window of opportunity is opened for Christian people to make their presence felt. In every community border to border, someone should be giving out Ten Commandments posters by the hundreds, displaying them openly and taking a stand. Let's stand up and be counted! Amen! *The Sword of the Lord* 9/2003



### EPISCOPAL

**PROSPECT OF MESSY, DRAWN-OUT FINANCIAL SQUABBLES** - The 7,364 congregations of the Episcopal Church receive \$2.14 billion in offerings a year: Their buildings and liquid assets are worth untold billions. Add it up, and suddenly much more is at stake than spiritual matters if the church splits over the Episcopal General Convention's approval of an openly gay bishop. Both conservatives and liberals are beginning to ponder the prospect of where this will lead. *ACT* 9/03



**WHICH BOOK RANKED NO. 1 EVERY STUDENT SHOULD READ IN COLLEGE?** - The editors of *Human Events* asked a panel of 28 distinguished scholars and university professors to serve as judges in developing a list of Ten Books Every Student Should Read in College. To derive the list, each scholar first nominated titles. When all the nominations were collected—they amounted to more than 100 titles. Interestingly enough, the No. 1 book our judges decided every college student should read is a volume that has been virtually banned in public schools by the United States Supreme Court. Following is the top 10 list:

- No. 1 - *The Bible*
- No. 2 - *The Federalist Papers*
- No. 3 - *Democracy in America*
- No. 4 - *The Divine Comedy*
- No. 5 - *The Republic*
- No. 6 - *The Politics*
- No. 7 - *The City of God*
- No. 8 - *Nicomachean Ethics*
- No. 9 - *The Confessions*

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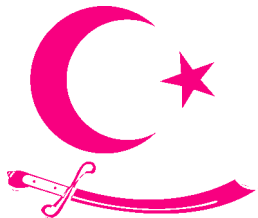
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No. 10 – Reflection on the Revolution in France

Taken from *Human Events* 6/02/03

**EVOLUTION TAUGHT BY CATHOLICS, MAINLINERS**

– Professors in the mainline non-fundamentalist seminaries and university divinity schools today accept the “evolutionary view of reality” rather than the “creationist view.” (9/8 *Chr. News*). Pope John Paul II rejects the natural interpretation of the Genesis account of creation and allows for the notion that man and the universe gradually evolved from some primary organism. Evidence abounds for creation (Psa. 19:1, e.g.) These “scholars” are “willingly ignorant” (II Pet. 3:5). *Calvary Contender* 10/03



**ISLAMIC JESUS VS. CHRISTIAN JESUS**

– The Christian Jesus is the virgin-born Son of God, the eternal God, the Creator, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and Holy Spirit. He died for our sins, rose physically from the dead, and is coming back physically and visibly one day. The Islamic Jesus is said to be one of God’s prophets but inferior to Muhammad who brought Allah’s final revelations to man. The Quran denies the Trinity and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and any Muslim who believes in the deity of Jesus has committed “the one unforgivable sin” and will be sent to hell.... *Calvary contender* 10/03

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**JEWISH LEADERS FEAR A BACKLASH OF ANTI-SEMITISM**

– Debate continues over Mel Gibson’s “The Passion” as to whether it “unambiguously portrays Jewish authorities and the Jewish mob as the ones responsible for the decision to crucify Jesus. There already have been some revisions.

A line from the Gospel of Matthew that some say puts collective guilt on Jews, “Let his blood be on us and on our children,” has been cut. But there may never be agreement over the movie, because both sides read the Bible differently, says Ted Baehr, an evangelical Christian and editor of *Movieguide*, a magazine of Christian movie commentary. Gibson, a traditional Catholic, promotes a literal reading of the Bible, while many Catholics, mainline Protestants and Jews do not. One group says you can argue with the text, and the other says you can’t, Baehr says. “In the end, no one is ever going to be satisfied.” *USA TODAY* 9/03 [In the end, every knee shall bow and Jesus will be King of Kings and Lord of Lords!]



**SEASCOUTS LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP IN QUESTION**

– The California State Supreme Court has an amicus brief filed before them on behalf of the Scouts’ constitutional right to implement their morals and convictions regarding Scout leadership and membership. The Sea

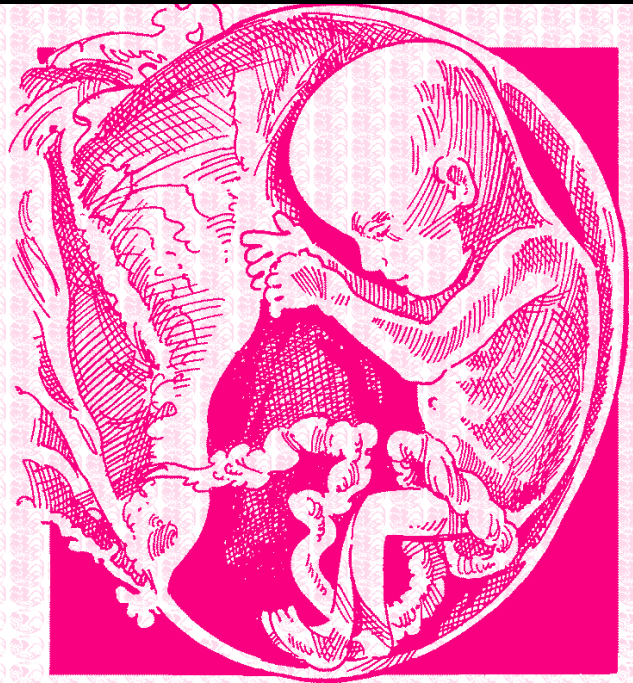
Scouts, an affiliate of the Boy Scouts, have used a public facility at the Berkeley Marina for more than sixty years. Despite their impeccable usage and substantial improvement of the facility, the City of Berkeley deprived them of free access because of the Sea Scouts’ refusal to adopt an explicit nondiscrimination policy regarding homosexual and transsexual leaders and participants. “We are hopeful that the State Supreme Court will reexamine this growing trend of intolerance by local governments,” said Brad Dacus, president of the Pacific Justice Institute. “One-way tolerance isn’t tolerance at all – it’s tyranny.” *Pacificjustice.org*



You may recall in the March 2003 edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness* there was a photo spread on the step-by-step production of this publication. Please pray for Brandy, shown above pasting up a negative, as she has been deployed for active military duty.

“I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made...”

*Psalm 139:14a*



**Approximately 4,000 abortions each day.**

**By age 45, 43% of all women will have had an abortion.**

**In the US it is legal to have an abortion through the 9<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy.**

**There is 1 abortion for every 3 live births.**

**234,000 evangelical Christian women choose abortion each year.**

**Less than 5% of all abortions are done because of rape, incest, or health.**

**Legal Protections: None**

**Environmentalism for some means sawing wood is a sin, and aborting (murdering) babies is a community service.**

(Examine the background. This is what 4000 babies aborted in only ONE DAY add up to.)



# POLITICALLY CORRECT BIBLICALLY CORRECT

## Answers to A Survey

The September 2003 issue of *The Voice in the Wilderness* contained a survey to challenge our biblical knowledge and understanding of today's issues. I had about sixty adults and high school youth to respond to this survey. The following is a compilation of responses. Hopefully, some pastors took time to discuss from scripture the biblical position in relationship to these critical areas. For regular readers, *The Voice in the Wilderness* has addressed most of these issues in past editions.

1. Do you consider yourself to be a Christian?
2. What are the biblical requirements for one to be called a Christian?
3. How often do you attend church services?
4. Are you currently registered to vote?
5. What are the most important issues facing America today?
6. Have lawsuits banning prayers from the public schools and eliminating religious symbols and expressions of faith from many parts of America's public life damaged our nation?
7. Based on scripture, what should the Christian's position be on Islam?
8. Was America right to go to war in Afghanistan to defeat the Taliban?
9. Is the war against Saddam Hussein and terrorism Biblically justified?
10. What is the scriptural position on same-sex homosexual couples?
11. Does the Bible speak to parental, school, and government authority?
12. Should government enforce laws and rules equally and allow people to enjoy the fruits of their honest work even though this will create economic inequality?
13. It now requires thousands of pages to print our nation's official tax code. What proposal should be made to change the way we pay federal taxes?
14. What is the answer to our nation's Social Security system?
15. Do you believe we should follow the plans to create a government-run health care system?
16. Are you in favor of an effort to protect the religious heritage and character of our nation?
17. Do you agree with the Bush administration asking the Supreme Court to overturn a lower court's ruling and keep the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance as recited by public school students?
18. Do you support a bill banning partial-birth abortion?
19. An average of more than one million legal and illegal immigrants enter our country each year and overburden our schools, hospitals and other social services. How should America best address the current immigration crisis?
20. Should the U.S. Department of State enter into an agreement with Mexico allowing its citizens to collect U.S. Social Security benefits based on money those citizens earn in the U.S.?
21. Do you support the development of a missile defense shield to protect American from rogue nations like North Korea, Iran and terrorist groups who could purchase nuclear missiles from America's enemies?
22. Do you support policy of nominating conservative federal judges who respect the Constitution?
23. Should steps be taken to stop the trend toward multi-lingualism in drivers' license testing, voter ballots and citizenship ceremonies by making English the official language of America?
24. Should a temporary "Immigration Moratorium" be declared to give the current immigrant population time to assimilate and the Border patrol the opportunity to regain control over our borders?

Questions 1-3: Thankfully, each person professed a personal relationship with Christ, a biblical understanding of salvation and faithful attendance to their local church.

Question 4: Are you currently registered to vote? Obviously most of the young people were not of age. I pray those eligible will go to the polls and let your vote be heard. "...And That Government of the people, By the People, for the People Shall Not Perish From the Earth." Read Proverbs 29:2,7  
Question 5: Answers ranged from abortion, religious freedom, homosexuality to war and terrorism. See *The Voice in the Wilderness* October 2003 page 7 "Is War with Iraq Justified?" – "Principles for the Just War." Genesis 25:22,23; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:41,44; Eccl. 11:5; Romans 1:21-32

(Continued on page 16)

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Question 6: When the wicked rule – Proverb 28:15; Proverbs 29:2,7,16; Proverb 20:26.

Question 7: John 14:6.

Questions 8 & 9: See *The Voice in the Wilderness* October 2003 page 7 “Principles of the Just War.” “They that forsake the law praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them.” Proverb 28:4.

Question 10: Deut. 23:17,18; Romans 1:26,27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11.

Question 11: Parental authority Eph. 5:21-6:4. Governmental authority – Romans 13:1-7.

Question 12: The Bible teaches *workfare* not welfare. I Thess. 4:11; II Thess. 3:10,12; I Tim. 5:8.

Question 13: Answers ranged from a “Flat Tax” to a simplification of the tax code. See CLA article *The Voice in the Wilderness* May 2003, page 10. Matthew 17:24-27. The state must stay out of God’s business, but the church must be active in the state’s business. Romans 13:1, 6-7.

Question 14: Faith, family and the local church – I Tim 5:4,5,8,9.

Question 15: A mix of “yes” and “no” answers were given to a government-operated health care. My personal experience in travel to Canada and Europe is that it does not work financially or from the standpoint of quality health care. (See scripture below for private property and individual responsibility.)

Questions 16 & 17: Overwhelming support for our Scriptural/Christian Heritage. “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.” Psalm 33:12a “Righteousness exalteth a nation.” Proverb 14:34a.

Question 18: Abortion is murder. – See article in this issue. Psalm

139:14-16; Isaiah 42:5; Zach. 12:1; Rev. 9:20,21.

Questions 19 & 20: There are laws and procedures not being enforced by the U.S. government and appropriate agencies.

Question 21: The survey response was a strong “yes.”

Question 22: Deut. 1:16; 16:18; Ezra 7:25; Psalm 2:10; Psalm 141:6; Psalm 148:11-14; Proverbs 8:15,16; Proverb 29:2; Isaiah 1:26; 5:20; 40:23; Daniel 9:12; Acts 4:19.

Question 23: The survey produced a mix of “yes” and “no.” Think about this however: Why are there different languages? Could America have been French or Spanish? Historically, what has been the language of the U.S.? What is the story behind Genesis 11:1-9? – Psalm 19:3; 81:5; 114:1; Daniel 3:29; 6:1-10; Proverb 1:11; I Cor. 14:40.

Question 24: The survey was a mix of “yes” and “I don’t know”. I Cor. 14:33,40; II Cor. 6:14-18. Study the following references: (Private Property and Individual Responsibility – Lev. 19:15; Proverbs 10:4,23; Isaiah 65:21-22; Jer. 32:43,44; Matt 25:14-30; Luke 10:7; Acts 5:1-4; Ephesians 4:28; II Thess. 3:10) (The Wicked – Psalm 1 & 10:15; 17:13; 37:7; 71:4; 92: 9,10; 145:20) (Government – Genesis 9:1-17; Exodus 18:19; Deut. 17:15; Daniel Chpt’s 3 & 6; Matt. 22:21; John 19:11; Acts 5:29; 16:16-40; 25:9-12; II Cor. 11: 23-31; Phil 3:20) “Republican institutions in the hands of a virtuous and God-fearing nation are the very best in the world, but in the hands of a corrupt and irreligious people they are the very worst and the most effective weapons of destruction...” – Philip Schaff – *Church and State in the United States* 1818.



## Nuggets of Gold

1. Housekeeping never killed anyone, but some don’t want to risk it.
2. Stressed? Spelled backwards “desserts,” yeah!
3. Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.
4. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
5. You don’t get much done by starting tomorrow.
6. The big jobs of tomorrow are for the man who is doing today’s small jobs as best as he can.
7. “I’ve seen first hand parents leaving their children at the door of a college which was called a “Christian School” believing that in four years their children will turn out all right and have their faith strengthened.” –Gene Price
8. Robert E. Lee – He could fight without anger; he could win without ambition; he could triumph without vanity; he could lose without bitterness.



## 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!

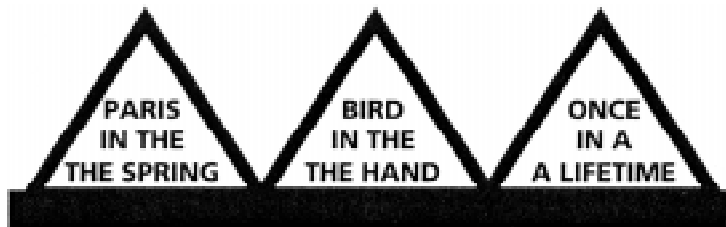




# Spiritual IQ

Below you will find a simple IQ Test. Please follow the instructions from top to bottom. This test should take less than 2 minutes.

Read OUT LOUD the wording in the three triangles:



READ this sentence:

FINISHED FILES ARE THE  
RESULTS OF YEARS OF  
SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED  
WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS

Now count aloud the F's in the box. Count them only ONCE  
Do not look back and count them again.

Answers: The words "the" and "a" are repeated. There are six F's.

Here is another I.Q. test:

This one is more important. Answer Yes or No OUT LOUD:

1. Is there a God? 2. Does God care about right and wrong?
3. Are God's standards the same as ours? 4. Will God punish sin?
5. Is there a hell? 6. Can you avoid hell by living a good life?

Answers :

1. Yes. 2. Yes. 3. No. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. No.

How did you do on the IQ Test? Did you notice in the three triangles that the words "the" and "a" are repeated? Did you observe that the first time you read the words in the triangles? Be honest. On the first count did you find six "f's"? Be honest. Obviously, the last half of the IQ Test is the important part. How did you score? The first half may have revealed some errors in your initial observation and reading. Sometimes we are convinced we are right, when that may not be the case. Concerning eternal matters, the guesswork, personal opinions, and margin of error has been removed. There is an absolute authority on the matter of eternal things, and that is the Bible, God's Holy Word.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A woman, calling a local hospital, said, "Hello, I'd like to talk to the person who gives the information regarding your patients. I'd like to find out if the patient is getting better, doing as expected or is getting worse."

The voice on the other end of the line said, "What is the patient's name and room number?" She said, "Sara Finkel, in Room 302."

"I will connect you with the nursing station." "3-A Nursing Station. How can I help you?" "I would like to know the condition of Sarah Finkel in Room 302." "Just a moment. Let me look at her records. Oh, yes, Mrs. Finkel is doing very well. In fact, she's had two full meals, her blood pressure is fine and her blood work just came back as normal. She's going to be taken off the heart monitor in a couple of hours and if she continues this improvement, Dr. Cohen is going to send her home Tuesday at twelve o'clock."

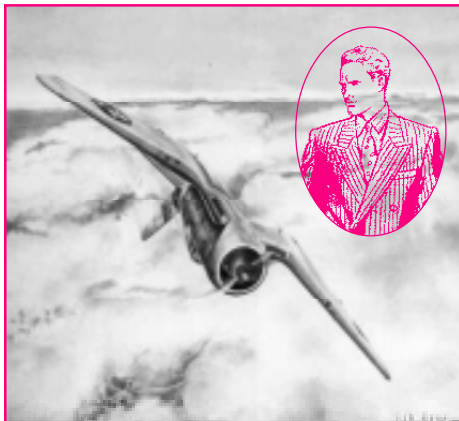
The woman said, "Thank God! That's wonderful" Oh! That's fantastic. That's wonderful news!" The nurse said, "From your enthusiasm, I take it you must be a close family member or a very close friend!"

"Not exactly, I'm Sarah Finkel in 302! Nobody here tells me anything!"

-Author Unknown



# Selflessness, Sacrifice, Duty and Honor



Please read both of these short stories to learn the lesson.

**1.** World War II produced many heroes. One such man was Lieutenant Commander Butch O'Hare. He was a fighter pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier, the USS Lexington, in the South Pacific.

One day his entire squadron was sent on a mission. After he was airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge and realized that someone had forgotten to top off his fuel tank. He would not have enough fuel to complete his mission and get back to his ship. His flight leader told him to return to the carrier. Reluctantly he dropped out of formation and headed back to the fleet.

As he was returning to the mother ship, he saw something that turned his blood cold. A squadron of Japanese bombers was speeding their way toward the American fleet. The American fighters were gone on a sortie and the fleet was all but defenseless. He couldn't reach his squadron and bring them back in time to save the fleet. Nor could he warn the fleet of the approaching danger.

There was only one thing to do. He must somehow divert them from the fleet. Laying aside all thoughts of personal safety, he dove into the formation of Japanese planes. Wing-mounted 50 caliber's blazed as he charged in, attacking one surprised enemy plane and then another.

Butch weaved in and out of the now broken formation and fired at as many planes as possible until finally all his ammunition was spent.

Undaunted, he continued the assault. He dove at the planes, trying to at least clip

off a wing or tail, in hopes of damaging as many enemy planes as possible and rendering them unfit to fly. He was desperate to do anything he could to keep them from reaching the American ships. Finally, the exasperated Japanese squadron took off in another direction.

Deeply relieved, Butch O'Hare and his tattered fighter limped back to the carrier. Upon arrival he reported in and related the event surrounding his return. The film from the camera mounted on his plane told the tale. It showed the extent of Butch's daring attempt to protect his fleet. He had destroyed five enemy bombers. That was on February 20, 1942, and for that action he became the Navy's first Ace of WWII and the first Naval Aviator to win the Congressional Medal of Honor.

A year later he was killed in aerial combat at the age of 29. His hometown would not allow the memory of that heroic action die. And today, O'Hare Airport in Chicago is named in tribute to the courage of this great man.

So the next time you're in O'Hare visit his memorial with his statue and Medal of Honor. It is located between terminal 1 and 2.

**2.** Some years earlier there was a man in Chicago called Easy Eddie. At that time, Al Capone virtually owned the city. Capone wasn't famous for anything heroic. His exploits were anything but praiseworthy. He was, however, notorious for enmeshing the city of Chicago in everything from bootlegged booze and prostitution to murder.

"Easy Eddie" was Capone's lawyer and for a good reason. He was very good! In fact, his skill at legal maneuvering kept Big Al out of jail for a long time. To show his appreciation, Capone paid him very well. Not only was the money big; Eddie got special dividends. For instance, he and his family occupied a fenced-in mansion with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day. The estate was so large that it filled an entire Chicago city block. Yes, Eddie lived the high life of the Chicago mob and gave little consideration to the atrocity that went on around him. Eddie did have one soft spot, however. He had a son

that he loved dearly. Eddie saw to it that his young son had the best of everything; clothes, cars, and a good education. Nothing was withheld. Price was no object. And, despite his involvement with organized crime, Eddie even tried to teach him right from wrong. Yes, Eddie tried to teach his son to rise above his own sordid life. He wanted him to be a better man than he was. Yet, with all his wealth and influence, there were two things that Eddie couldn't give his son. Two things that Eddie sacrificed to the Capone mob that he could not pass on to his beloved son: a good name and a good example.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision. Offering his son a good name was far more important than all the riches he could lavish on him. He had to rectify all the wrong that he had done. He would go to the authorities and tell the truth about Scar-face Al Capone. He would try to clean up his tarnished name and offer his son some semblance of integrity. To do this, he must testify against the Mob, and he knew that the cost would be great. But, more than anything, he wanted to be an example to his son. He wanted to do his best to make restoration, and hopefully have a good name to leave his son.

So he testified. Within the year, Easy Eddie's life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a lonely Chicago street. He had given his son the greatest gift he had to offer, at the greatest price he would ever pay.

What do these two stories have to do with one another? Well, you see, Butch O'Hare was Easy Eddie's son.



(Continued from page 7)

race with focus and determination to win are deeply motivated by desire.

### B. Sacrifice

“Every man that striveth for the master is temperate in all things.” To be fit for the race, will take time and training. There is a cost and sacrifice to be made. Today there are many preachers who are not willing to make the sacrifice of standing alone. Sometimes in this race you will be required to take a stand that may cost you some friendships. The denominational compromise and liberalism of our day has placed many a pastor in a difficult position. Sad to say, many of those pastors will not take a stand and come out of their denomination’s compromise. I was preaching a revival in South Carolina and one of the church members had surgery scheduled early one morning so the pastor and I went to the hospital to have prayer with the patient before surgery. As we sat in the waiting room, I struck up a conversation with another visiting pastor. I will not mention the name of his denomination, but it is one associated with some extremely liberal positions today. Interestingly enough, as we discussed the Bible, salvation, heaven, and hell, along with other topics, there was very little difference in our personal positions on these doctrines. Yet it was apparent that his denomination did not hold those biblical positions. Why would he not come out of such a movement? Could it be his salary package, tenure, and such things as retirement investments? There is a

race to be run, and sometimes we have to make the choice to run the race alone.

**TO RUN THE RACE WE  
MUST BE COMMITTED  
TO DO OUR BEST.**

### C. Determination to do the very best.

“I therefore so run, not as uncertainly...” The confidence and determination to strive for excellence and to give the race one’s very best is an essential requirement. Have we failed a generation in teaching them to do their best? Many young people today manifest a lack of commitment in various relationships and aspects of life. One employer expressed difficulty in finding workers that would simply show up, be on time, and do the job. We are not talking about over and beyond the call of duty. One dad told his boys, “I want you to work only a half day every day, and I’m going to allow you to choose which twelve hours that will be.” Today’s so-called social compassion may have turned to moral corruption if we teach a generation welfare instead of *workfare*. To run the race we must be committed to do our best.

### D. Discernment of weakness.

“But I keep under my body...” Do you know your weakest areas? The flesh is subject to fatigue, sickness, as well as temptation. There must be a constant vigilance against these

areas of failure.

## II. Risks in the Race

### A. Physically

The race places extreme demands upon the body. There is potential for breakdown, wear-out, and burnout. There must continually be constant maintenance and conditioning of the physical for the race.

### B. Mentally

Attacks can come from within and without. Things will play on your mind such as discouragements and rejections.

### C. Spiritually

This is a spiritual race, not just a competition of flesh and blood.

## III. Rewards of the Race

“We shall reap if we faint not.” The runner has his eye on the finish. Nothing can deter him from the ultimate goal. Yes, we should have a vision and burden for winning the lost soul to Jesus Christ. Yes, we have a responsibility to teach, train, and disciple. But in the race with all the disappointments, when we endeavor to reach the lost and disciple a new convert, we must keep our eyes on the finish. We must keep our eyes on the *Author and Finisher of our faith*. Philippians 3:14 says, “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

Dear believer, we are all engaged in this “THE LAST GREAT RACE.” “So run that you may obtain.”

-RLW



(Continued from page 4)

good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

John Wesley said, “If doing a good act in public will excite others to do more good, then ‘Let your light shine to all: Miss no opportunity to do good.’ O’ but preacher, you do not understand. That person is despicable. My pastor said and did such and such. I was so hurt, so humiliated, so angry...”

Charles Spurgeon wrote, “I am told that Christians do not love each other. I am very sorry if that be true, but I rather doubt it, for I suspect that those who do not love each other are not Christians.”

Go ahead, live a life of bitterness. Refuse to serve. Be a “*mealy-miser.*” You have constructed your own prison. You have built your own gallows.

Take time to review the many wonderful lessons of Job. Then take particular note of Job 42:10 – “And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends:...” God’s grace, gift, and goodness did not return while Job was disputing with his friends. The Bible says, “And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends.” “Also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.”

We have the power to make the choice. We can choose to live our lives “as to the Lord,” or we can choose a life of rebellion against God, resistance against His will, and waste away in bitterness. Mr. Spurgeon said that some Christians do not love each other. I do agree with Mr. Spurgeon, if that be the case, they are not Christians. How can bitterness and sweetness spring from the same well? An example is a letter and note I received in our office from “*a pastor?*” recently. (We thank the Lord that the majority of the letters received are very

supportive. In the “Mailbag” section of this publication, you have read many encouraging letters. However, from time to time we do have our share of critics. Just read on.) I will not waste the space to print the venom spewed by this “*pastor?*” but as an example cite the total misunderstanding this man has about our relationship to Christ. He states, “\_\_\_\_\_ Church nor I, \_\_\_\_\_ are your partners... We support missionaries not organizations. We don’t *sponser* [sic] your much needed world tours.” Quite frankly, as a Christian, we have the right to partner with those we so choose. If this “*pastor?*” does not want to partner with The Voice in the Wilderness, then that is his choice. Without citing his letter, you will not be able to sense the spirit of this “*pastor,*” but I just wanted to clarify an important point concerning the many faithful and sacrificial missionaries committed to spreading the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Voice in the Wilderness nor any one we are associated with sponsors world tours. This “*pastor,*” apparently unknowing to him, has indeed sponsored some individuals that have taken world tours. However, never has he given a single penny to any travel The Voice in the Wilderness has sponsored in conjunction with its missionary effort. The godly men and women I know who are traveling today’s unpredictably dangerous world and often placing their lives in harms way to carry the Gospel and help nationals reach their people for Christ are not on some world tour! This “*pastor’s*” bitter indictment is an insult to all those who are simply doing what God has called them to do. Whether that travel is stateside, or to some foreign shore, missionary work requires travel here and abroad; and

yes, that travel is expensive. But to point a finger of accusation at the precious individuals who have given themselves to this task is an insult to the sweet Savior that called these people to this work. It is my opinion that such a “*pastor?*” is no partner or friend of God and missions.

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:31 & 32

Paul outlines in Galatians 5:19-21 the works of the flesh and among that list is strife, and envyings, which Paul says I tell you that they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. Spurgeon was biblical on his assessment.

I beseech you – can we determine to live here “as to the Lord?” Whether you are placing your tithe, offering, or faith promise in the plate as the ushers pass by, determine to do it “as to the Lord.” In faithfully supporting your pastor and local church (and let me say, I do whole heartedly support the local church), do it “as to the Lord.” When in life, persecution comes, and it will, live on “as to the Lord.” Be faithful in your witness for Jesus Christ. Share the Good News with a lost soul today! And if that lost soul should refuse or even abuse, give the Gospel message “as to the Lord.” Please, just a note to our faithful readers – if the Lord should lead you to partner with The Voice in the Wilderness and our missionary work, do it “as to the Lord.” “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do; do all to the glory of God.” Husbands, wives, children, parents, and servants, the apostle Paul exhorts us to live “as to the Lord.”

-RLW



*(Continued from page 2)*

well organized and efficient. Of course, I had a few words to say, touching some of the high spots from my very first revival meeting under that old brush arbor in Boehler, OK, in August of 1936 right after my senior graduation in Frederick, OK.”

Then in September 2001, (Bro. Royce penned this actually early in August due to the printing schedule) Bro. Royce wrote in his personal message:

“Dear Friends: Rejoice with me that this is the first issue of my 66<sup>th</sup> year in the work. No, I have not retired and have no plans to do so until circumstances force me to quit. Evidently my work is not all finished here; and until God says it is enough, I must carry on....”

Bro. Royce did not know how prophetic those words were nor when he wrote the following in his personal message for the very next month, October 2001 (which Bro. Royce actually penned the 1<sup>st</sup> of September due to the printing schedule), how traumatic the next few months would be. Here is the account in Bro. Royce’s own words:

...“I must share the following testimony with you. I was setting at my desk and started to get up only to find that my whole right side was paralyzed. I was stricken by a stroke and could not so much as move a finger on that affected side.

“There was a phone at my fingertips but should I call 911? It was just four days until my schedule of meetings would resume, and I wanted so much to make them. Calling an ambulance

would surely mean hospitalization for at least a few days, and I felt I had more important things to do than lay up in a hospital if there was any way to prevent it. So, I began to pray and remind the Lord (as if He didn’t know) about the work I had to do and told Him how much I wanted to stay on the job and be physically fit to do so.

“God being my witness and with my hand raised, I felt nothing but was conscious that the stroke had gone aimlessly and as quickly as it came. Within five minutes (maybe less) I was ready for the fast lane again. I arose from the chair, went about the chores, made my schedule and I have NO ill effects from the stroke, thank God, thank God.

“I wondered what brought it on and wondered if the cause itself might still be present. So I went to a specialist who ran a series of tests, inside and outside, searching, searching. Finally, all was “normal” and he just said, “I don’t know.” I could not help but compare my case to the one I have heard so many times—that of Johnnie Appleseed of pioneer days. I cannot vouch for the veracity of the story but here it is. Brother Appleseed felt he was called to set out apple trees across the land and he was doing his job feverishly. One day while eating his lunch under a tree, an angel came and told him the Lord needed him in heaven. He replied, ‘I can’t go now, I have apple trees to plant.’ It was then that the angel told him, ‘That is what God has for you to do in heaven’ to which Johnnie is quoted as answering, ‘Oh, that’s different, let us get going.’

“No angel messenger came in my case and I knew the Lord had no preaching jobs open in heaven (such is not needed there) and I am afraid I was not as submissive as Johnnie Appleseed was. I wanted to stay here a little longer if I could be of further use and evidently He in mercy granted it. Thank you Jesus....” Those were the very words of Bro. Royce.

However, that October was to be a “trouble” filled month. None of us will forget the events of 9/11/01. My wife and I were in Washington, DC, when the Pentagon was hit. (Read the November 2001 issue of this paper for that account). The day before the terrorist attack, I received word that Bro. Royce was in the hospital. I wrote the following for Bro. Royce in the November 2001 issue:

“I’m writing this month’s letter to you on behalf of Bro. Royce who is recovering in a Rehabilitation Center in Texas. On September 10<sup>th</sup>, Bro. Royce had a stroke-like episode while staying at the home of Pastor Oswalt and was taken by ambulance to the Wayne Memorial Hospital in Greenville, Ohio. On September 12<sup>th</sup> he was released from the hospital only to suffer a more severe episode early that Thursday morning. Again he was taken by ambulance to the hospital. During these two episodes, many tests including CatScan, MRI, and blood work were conducted, yet the diagnosis was not conclusive. On both occasions he experienced marginal recovery and wanted to be released from the hospital. After the second episode, however, the doctors in Ohio wanted to conduct

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## Personal Message

(Continued from page 21)

further tests, but Bro. Royce insisted on being released and returning to Dallas. Now to make a long story even longer, but not as long, I began to make arrangements to have him flown back to Dallas. Deep appreciation must be expressed at this point to Pastor and Mrs. Oswalt, as well as Pastor and Mrs. Leonard for their invaluable assistance during a very difficult time. The Oswalts summoned the ambulance twice in four days to their home. The second time was extremely critical for Bro. Royce and deeply emotional for the Oswalts to see him in such a condition. Again, let me say how much we appreciated their help and caring.

“Now keep in mind that on September 11<sup>th</sup>, our nation came under attack by terrorists, and air travel came to a screeching halt....

“Terry and I were able to drive down and visit Bro. Royce at his home for a few days. We also took care of some important business while in Dallas and attended to a few personal things for him. When we left Dallas, we drove up to Frederick, Oklahoma, to meet with the Realtor whom Bro. Royce had contracted to sell that property. It was of the Lord’s leading that we indeed arrived in Frederick when we did, as there were some serious needs to address at that time. I’ll give more details about this later.

“At present, Bro. Royce is improving. Continue to lift him up in your prayers. We will keep you updated as to his progress through this paper.”

The mini-strokes Bro. Royce wrote about in the October paper

which I think actually occurred in August/September were signs of the more serious September 10<sup>th</sup> episodes in Ohio.

These past two years have presented some serious challenges. On several occasions, I’ve encouraged Bro. Royce to take a day at a time. The Lord knew these events would take place and obviously Bro. Royce nor anyone else could prevent this season in his life. God had a purpose and in it all, the Lord is good and right. We may not always like the circumstances, but the Lord makes no mistakes.

There have been many bumps in the road, but time and again prayers have been answered. Some support has dropped off, but the Lord has provided. Bro. Royce has made several trips preaching. In August 2002 he attended a special service held in his honor in Beckley, WV. Just this past August, Bro. Royce was in Tennessee preaching. Even though there are still physical limitations, he has much to be thankful for.

The Voice in the Wilderness has gone through a transition period. I would personally like to thank some dedicated board members who rose to the occasion and assisted with some critical decisions. The Voice in the Wilderness is still committed to world missions, revival and winning the lost to Christ. “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.” At the heart of this printed “voice” is “Contending for Fundamental Christianity,” and “Contending for American Freedom.” Pastors, we

stand with you and the local church in preaching The Book, The Blood, and The Blessed Hope. As *The Voice in the Wilderness* enters its 51<sup>st</sup> year, will you pray this will be the greatest period of fruitful outreach ever? A letter from you right now would be such an encouragement. This is a faith work, and those of like faith and vision make it possible. My dear wife and I have joined you, an elite few, by giving out of our pockets several thousand dollars to help The Voice in the Wilderness meet needs around the world. It has been a joy to stand with you in this endeavor. We will continue to serve and sacrifice until He calls. May we all be found faithful!

The Lord is good, and The Voice in the Wilderness is determined to go forward to what God has called us to do. Thank you all for your prayers and faithful support. Have a blessed Thanksgiving and Celebration of Messiah and His soon return!

For Christ and Souls,  
Bro. Ronnie Williamson ☺

*Isa. 40:31*



### TRY READING THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE:

It dnsoe't mttar how you spler  
a wrod as lng as the frsit and  
lsat ltters are crorcet.

(It doesn't matter how you spell  
a word as long as the first and  
last letters are correct. This  
came from a recent study on  
how we read. We can usually  
make out the correct word  
even though it is misspelled.)



(Continued from page 11)

Family Association Center for Law and Policy has filed suit challenging a no-fly zone over the Disneyland theme park in Anaheim, California. Hearing of Disneyland's "Gay Day," an annual event attended by thousands of homosexuals, Skolnick decided to tow a banner over the park to express a message of Christ's love. But in preparing for this year's "Gay Day" the pilot learned the FAA had designated the airspace over Disneyland as a "no-fly" zone. Some believe the FAA used anti-terrorism as a pretext to give Disney the special protection it had lobbied to get for years. The entertainment company's friends in government transformed its commercial interests into a security concern "in order to suppress First Amendment speech Disney doesn't like. FAA regulation does nothing to prevent terrorism, but effectively shuts down banners carrying messages Disney does not want its patrons to see. The only other commercial entity in the entire U.S. that benefits from the "no-fly" designation is the Valdez terminal of the Alaska oil pipeline.

**"I KNOW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HOW WHITE HOUSES WORK"** – The U.S. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton made this statement while accusing the Bush White House of "a cover-up at the highest level" concerning overly reassuring Environmental Protection Agency reports of NYC air quality in the weeks following 9/11. *The Wall Street Journal* noticed the incriminating nature of

her claim: If Mrs. Clinton "wants to argue that she knows a cover-up when she sees it...who are we to argue? *World* 9/6/03 Hummmmm!!!!



**PIRATES OF THE HIGH SEAS PERSISTENT – GO AUSTRALIA!** – *G O D ' S WORLD NEWS* TOP STORY 9/23/03 reported this story of an unlicensed fishing ship from Uruguay, the *Viarsa*, spotted by Australian patrol boat *Southern Supporter* fishing in Australian waters near Heard Island close to Antarctica. The seas were dotted with icebergs fraught with snowstorms, howling gales, and mountainous waves. *Southern Supporter* blasted through 4,000 miles of mostly stormy seas, dodging icebergs and trying not to lose the *Viarsa*. Three other ships—South African, British, and Australian, also joined them.

About 2,000 miles southwest of South Africa armed Australian and South African officers finally managed to capture the *Viarsa* and arrest its 40-man crew. The ship was carrying an illegal 95-ton catch of Patagonian toothfish. The heroic chase had lasted three full weeks.

Australian Fisheries Minister, Senator Ian MacDonald, calls it "a

warning to the pirates and poachers who invade Australia's waters to fish illegally. "Australia," he says, "will pursue them to the end of the earth."

Facts: (1) The Patagonian toothfish is found only in the southern seas, mostly in sub-Antarctic waters. (2) The fish is vulnerable to over fishing because it takes 10 years to become old enough to reproduce. (3) When caught, poachers must forfeit their ship and its catch (worth about \$1.3 million in this case) and be fined up to \$270,000.



**MISSISSIPPI ACLU IS "TROUBLED"** – Last issue we reported on the decision by the Mississippi State Supreme Court that an unborn child is a "person" under state law. The ACLU says this troubles them because that means wrongful death claims can be filed in cases where someone causes the death of an unborn baby. However, what is so sad is that this will not apply to abortionists.

**UPROAR OVER MADONNA** – Last issue we reported on the MTV opening performance of Madonna, Britney Spears, and Christina Aguilera. One columnist wrote that it was vulgar, cynical, and desperately pathetic. We have since learned that on stage was

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Madonna's 6-year-old daughter. She was dressed in white, decked out in lace gloves, a crucifix, and a studded belt with the words "BOY TOY." Now this week, the media is promoting Madonna's new book published for "children"?????? [Parents, this is beyond being a "wake-up" call. I trust none of your children buy/listen to this music neither buy/wear the clothing promoted.]

### TODAY'S MEDIA HAVE A ZERO-DEFECT STANDARD

– "The Bush administration should have anticipated every eventuality and made detailed plans for every contingency," says liberal media.

More than 6,000 Iraqi civil affairs units—local governments—have been set up. Hospitals have been reopened. A court system has been set up. Mistakes, inevitable in a chaotic world, are being corrected: A Baathist leader put in charge in Najaf was soon removed.

Reports from soldiers on the ground, circulating widely on the Internet but seldom if ever appearing in old media, indicate that the large majority of Iraqis are friendly and helpful and glad that American troops are there. Put in historic perspective, the good things that are happening in Iraq are impressive, even if old media think they are no more newsworthy than an accident-free day at Disneyland. *US News & World Report 9/22/03*

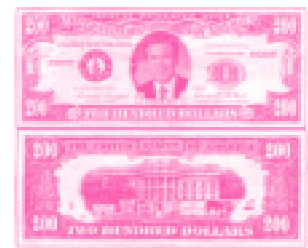
**SCHOOLS DISREGARD PARENTAL AND STUDENT RIGHTS** – Under the thin veil of "diversity" and "tolerance"


education, several middle schools in Elk Grove, California, had sponsored separate showings of a one-man live performance play called "You Don't Know Me...Until You know Me: A Dance With Diversity." The presentations, which uniformly addressed highly controversial and sensitive issues like suicide, rape, and homosexuality, were held at various times on different middle school campuses during the last school year. All students were not only required to attend the play, they were also required to either participate in or listen to an interactive dialogue with the play's performer that delved into the personal beliefs of students. At no time were parents given any prior notice about "You Don't Know Me," nor were parents afforded a reasonable opportunity to opt their children out of the respective assemblies. Brad Dacus of Pacific Justice says, "It is most unfortunate, but perhaps it will take nothing less than a court judgment to finally make this and other school districts realize that just because you classify something as 'diversity education' doesn't mean that you can go ahead and ignore the rights of students and parents." *Pacificjustice.org 10/03* [Parents, please, please, stay informed, stay in touch, read curriculums, be involved in your child's education. Satan is subtle and deceptive as to ways of influencing our most precious gifts from the Lord. You cannot afford to be "too careful," nor can you afford to sit back and think, "My school is an exception."]



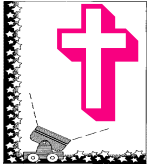
### LIFE EXTENSION

**FOUNDATION** – Ted Williams, Hall of Fame slugger, died July 5, 2002. His body was separated from the head at Alcor Life Extension Foundation in a procedure called *neuroseparation* said *Sports Illustrated*. The head – shaved, drilled with holes and accidentally cracked 10 times by fluctuating storage temperatures – is in a steel can and the body is upright in a 9-foot cylindrical steel tank. Son, John Henry, and daughter, Claudia approved the procedure costing \$136,000. Eight DNA samples among 182 taken are feared missing. Alcor officials declined to comment.



**FUNNY MONEY** – In Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, police searched for a man who paid for \$150 in groceries at a grocery store with a \$200 bill, and even received \$50 back in change. The bogus bill – the U.S. Mint does not print a \$200 bill – bore the image of President George W. Bush on the front and had the White House on the back. It also included signs on the front lawn of the White House with slogans such as "We like broccoli" and "USA deserves a tax cut." On the back of the bogus bill "Moral Reserve Note" was printed. [I wonder whose face is red?] 





# MISSION SPOTLIGHT

## BE A MISSIONARY PRAYER PARTNER

“Dear Lord, bless the missionaries. Meet their needs today. Give and protect and strengthen them to do their work.”

This is a rather general approach to some very specific needs. Every missionary should have a base camp energized with a team of prayer partners keeping the channel of protection, provision and power open to the throne of Glory. How is that accomplished? What should we pray in relation to the daily needs of the missionary?

### 1. A SWEET HEART FOR JESUS

“Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind” Matt. 22:37. Missionaries are usually overworked and under appreciated. It is easy to work out of duty, rather than serve out of love. Pray that the supreme motivation for obedience to the call of God is love for Jesus. In John 14:15 Jesus said, “If ye love me keep my commandments.” Then, we read in II Corinthians 5:14 the Bible says, “The love of Christ constraineth me.” Pray that your missionaries will keep a sweet, fervent heart of love for the Savior.

### 2. A SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT WITH GOD

The temptation is to skip or skimp on their time alone with the Lord. The only result is failure.

“Study to show thyself approved” – “pray without ceasing.”

### 3. A SPIRIT FILLED LIFE

Be “filled with the Spirit” means every aspect of one’s being—motives, will, emotions, thoughts, actions—is under the control of the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 5:18. In John 3:30 we see the desire of a great servant. Pray that your missionaries will yield to the Spirit’s daily filling and control. Pray that the fullness of the Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit, the very beauty of Jesus, will be evident in the missionary’s life. See Galatians 5:22—the fruit of the Spirit.

### 4. A SERVANT’S HAND FOR OTHERS

“Love thy neighbor as thyself,” Matthew 22:39. A major difficulty for many missionaries is getting along with the other missionaries with whom they serve. One mission board discovered that 80 percent of its missionaries did not return to the mission field because of problems with their co-workers.

Pray also that missionaries have a Christ-like love for nationals. One missionary couple were well instructed in the Scriptures, but nevertheless returned home because they “could not learn to love the nationals.” The hand and heart of the missionary must extend from neighbor even unto the enemy, Matthew 5:43-48. Pray for this servant’s hand and heart.

As you pray for your missionaries’ spiritual walk and spirit filled life, emphasize the following specifics:

1. Spiritual discernment.
2. Divine wisdom.
3. Patience to wait on the Lord.
4. Perseverance and courage.
5. Steady, daily faith.
6. Vision for lost souls.
7. Discipleship for converts.

You too will need the Lord’s leadership in how to pray specifically in these areas.

### 5. A SENSE OF SECURITY IN HIS WILL

Every missionary family will experience times of uneasiness in strange surroundings and circumstances. Homesickness can be a battle for some. Pray for an abiding peace even in uncertain times and hostile conditions. Jesus prayed not that the Father would take them out of the world, but that He would keep them from the evil.

Pray for protection and adjustment.

### 6. A SUPPLY AND STRENGTH BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MATERIALLY

“But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus,” Philippians 4:19.

The Lord has blessed you that you may be a blessing to your missionaries. You are rich both

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has been launched against the origination of scripture. Men who in times past have stood in defense of God's inspired, infallible Word have for whatever reason changed their position. They now say, "The King James Bible has errors." Yet, many of these very same men only preach from the KJV and have not yet been brash enough in their church pulpits or writings to announce their current position. These men may not have gone over wholesale to the modern English translations, but possibly in limbo, hold a more deceptive position. Modern versions are based on manuscripts developed by liberals, rationalists and evolutionists, none of whom believed in the inspired, infallible Word of God. The KJV is based on the Masoretic Text (OT) and the Textus Receptus (NT) through which we have the faithfulness and integrity of God's Holy Word preserved for today. The KJV translators were Bible scholars, accomplished writers, godly men who believed in the authority of God's inspired Word. The faithfulness, accuracy and beauty of the KJV has been miraculously used of God in great revivals and world missions giving to His church today the confidence to know our Lord has preserved His Holy Word for His children today.

Now, that brings us full circle! Those of "private interpretation" by meaning of "idiots" have no platform in public affairs. Therefore, the "private interpretation" has no place in God's church or the believers' affairs. "Know this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of "private (*idios*) interpretation."

RLW



*(Continued from page 9)*

and Pork Chop Hill. Of the people we are and must continue to be. The people who fathered George Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Lee. The people, who first united a continent with roads and railroads, produced the steamship and telephone, the airplane and a great economy.

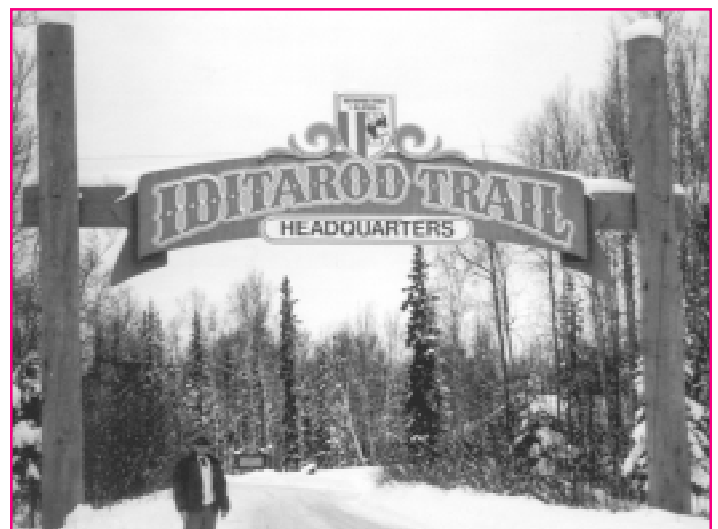
Yes, let us remember who we are for a little pride is the wellspring of courage. Let us endure unflinchingly whatever sacrifices we are called upon to make in order to defend our free institutions from any power, foreign or domestic, that would seek to change our culture, lessen our freedoms, or destroy our sovereignty. Let us not rely only in the gold in our vaults, but the iron in our blood. And, let us cling like ivy to the faith of our fathers until, in God's good time, all men are free.

Even though Bro. Royce wrote the above message several years ago, the relevance of God's blessings and mercy to each one of us is so apparent today. On behalf of Bro. Royce, Sis. Terry, and myself, we would like to give all the praise and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the many wonderful things He has done through The Voice in the Wilderness over these many years.



*This photo of Bro. Williamson is over twenty years old. The messenger has aged a bit, but the message is as relevant today as it was then. What a privilege to "Go into all the world preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ!"*

*Brother Williamson stands at the entrance to the Iditarod Trail Headquarters in Alaska years before joining The Voice in the Wilderness. Known by many as "The Last Great Race on Earth" the yearly "Iditarod" commemorates an incredibly true story. Read about it in this edition.*



*(Continued from page 25)*

spiritually and materially as a child of the King. Pray for the Lord's leadership in how He would use you to meet the needs of His missionaries.

This may come as a shock, but missionaries need money; and we must not make them beggars or fund raisers. Enough said! Then pray for strong healthy bodies. Disease and sickness is a constant concern. Pray the Lord will grant the greatest measure of strength and health that His glory be established, as well as His good be accomplished in and through the missionaries.

### 7. A SPIRITUALLY STRONG AND STEADFAST FAMILY

The final point is not least in importance. Husband, wife, and parent-child relationships are under extreme attack by the enemy. Missionary families are no exception. Pray, pray, pray for the missionaries' home. Record their names; birthdays, anniversaries, specific likes, hobbies, books they enjoy, etc. Send them cards, emails, and even a special gift from time to time. Keep your missionaries' family in your heart, on your mind, and close at hand to reach out in an expression of love on a regular basis. Be a missionary to your missionaries' family. Take this personal.

Paul said of the Philippians "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy.... I have you in my heart..."

A part of your mission is to support your missionaries through consistent prayer and personal involvement. The reward is eternal.

-RLW



## YEAR-END NEEDS

Please pray with The Voice in the Wilderness about the special "Needs List" below. These are areas we pray will be met before year-end.

1. Office Copier – Bro. Royce had a small Canon copier when Terry and I started working with him in 1996. After about seven plus years, it has now been repaired, reworked, and finally in need of replacing.
2. Computer Upgrade – We are presently still running Windows 95 and other programs that need to be updated.
3. The Voice in the Wilderness has several "special" printing projects that we would like to start in January 2004.
4. Because of God's blessing in the month of September, we are now on our way to the needed funds for the Venezuela trip to help in a Bible Institute. Pray that the remainder of the funds will come in for this missionary effort.
5. Lord willing, I will be returning from India when you receive this edition. Pray that the funds will come in to cover this expense. Presently, I do not have the money for such a trip, but it is a much-needed trip. One Indian pastor just phoned the U.S. to speak with me about the needs in that local church. I assured him that I would come in November. One of our churches in India had been closed for about a year or so due to the lack of a pastor and some internal problems. We moved one of our pastors from a church in southern India to this work in the north. His son is now pastoring the church in the south. However, there is presently no support for the church in the south, and we are praying for this need.



## OUR CHRISTIAN HERITAGE



Two identical bronzes: (1) Longworth House Office Building, main lobby, east wall; (2) Dirksen Office Building, southwest entrance, west wall, in the Capitol Complex of Washington, D.C.

