

The Voice



CONTENDING FOR
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

IN
THE



CONTENDING FOR
AMERICAN FREEDOM

Wilderness

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

November 2007 • Published Monthly • Free Subscription

Special Thanksgiving Edition



*I bow my head and bend the knee
And lift my voice in praise to Thee,*

*On Thine altar I prostrate lay
This heart, this will, my all I pray.*

*My song of thanks with joy I sing
Surrendered heart, my all I bring.*
RLW



**Pastor's Summit - See Full Color
Photo-Journal On Pages 7-10**

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Become a more active prayer partner of *The Voice in the Wilderness* by subscribing to *The Weekly Voice* e-mail edition. Specific weekly prayer requests, “Rejoice with *The Voice*” notes, ministry updates, and a weekly Nugget of Gold are sent in a half-page e-mail message. Send your e-mail address to membersnp@thevoiceinthewilderness.org

The Voice in the Wilderness is a nonprofit, independent incorporation, founded by Rev. Dr. J. Royce Thomason D.P.D. Ph.D., evangelist and medical missionary. The organization is dedicated to the spreading of the whole gospel to the world, especially in foreign lands. The program consists of building mission stations, supporting American missionaries and native pastors by partnering with the local church in various areas of ministry and preaching Christ to the lost. We are supported by the gifts of those who care. Contributions to *The Voice in the Wilderness* for projects or to support the ministry of a missionary will be used as indicated by the donor following approved policies and procedures. Gifts are tax deductible and should be made out to *The Voice in the Wilderness*. *The Voice in the Wilderness* Magazine is a fundamental publication, published each month in behalf of the work of the Lord and preservation of the liberties of our United States. Printed material from other sources does not necessarily imply an endorsement from this ministry. There is no subscription charge; all interested people of good will may have a copy sent regularly to their address simply by requesting it. Address all correspondence to: *The Voice in the Wilderness*, PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802.



MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends:

It has been a joy to sit under Heaven's spout where the honey runs out. Over and over again the Lord has so graciously blessed The Voice in the Wilderness. Praise and thanksgiving is our song unto Him who is truly worthy!

In this special Thanksgiving edition, please suffer me the opportunity to express my gratitude to all our faithful partners in ministry and above all our Lord and Saviour. The \$5,000 gift for the Venezuela project put the total over \$7,000. This is a goal prayed for. We hope to make this a surprise announcement for our dear brother missionary. More in the next report. Then the Voice in the Wilderness received several generous gifts from churches plus an estate settlement. Praise the Lord. Many may remember my Dad went home to be with our Lord on November 1, 2006. Since then, Mom has stayed with us several weeks as well as traveled to New England, West Virginia, Tennessee, and Ohio in meetings with us. In September 2007, she gave to Terry and me a beautiful Gulfstream motor home as an added blessing to our travels. Thank you Mom and

thank you Lord!

It has been an interesting and exciting few weeks. Most of our readers know there have been challenges and, with the passing of Bro. Royce, a difficult transition period. But what a breath of fresh air from Heaven this has been. That is why we must pause in thanksgiving and praise for the great things He has done!

Lord willing, we will close out 2007 with meetings in Ohio, Tennessee, India and possibly Venezuela. Please pray for His continued provision for The Voice

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

Write to us

Dr. Ronnie L. Williamson

**Dr. J. Royce Thomason Memorial
Voice in the Wilderness**

P.O. Box 7037

Asheville, NC 28802

Voice (828) 649-1043

Fax (828) 649-9784

www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

E-mail for address changes only:

visionpartners@thevoiceinthewilderness.org

SERMON OF THE MONTH

Divorce & Remarriage

Part Two of Two The Adulterated Covenant

Who will see Him high and holy, worthy of ones obedience, even ultimate sacrifice? Would this not be the innocent party? If the marriage covenant is violated and the victimized spouse declares innocence, then it is incumbent on the innocent party to remain biblical. Surely God has not left us to emotion, circumstance, and our own way to work through, move on and justify such serious matters! Is there not an anchor for our soul—an authoritative voice we can rely on for answers? Without a doubt, divine direction has been given for holy matrimony. After all, marriage is God’s design. Hear ye Him!

I. Creation divine.

Genesis 2:18-23 “And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him an help meet for him. And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to

every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” God’s love and compassion is so obvious. Note the words “alone” and “help meet.” This indeed was a divine creation.

II. Commitment design.

Genesis 2:24-25 “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.” Underscore the words “leave” and “cleave.” This is God’s design of commitment for husband and wife. Here is innocence, beauty and security.

III. Consequence detailed.

Deuteronomy 24:1-4 “When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because

he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife. And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance." Divorce and remarriage defiles and is not God's design. Why did Moses clearly prohibit the woman to return to her first husband when the second husband had died? Obviously, the writing of divorcement had not freed her to remarry.

IV. Covenant divine.

Malachi 2:14-16 "Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously

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against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously." Marriage is not some business contract. Marriage is a God ordained covenant. The Lord is the witness (v. 14 a). The word "treacherously" is used in verses 14 & 15. Companion and covenant describe this union. What does God hate?

V. Clear declaration.

Matthew 19:6-10 "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery. His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry." Look at verses 7-10. Jesus denounced divorce and remarriage based on the bond

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RELIGIOUS NEWS

AND COMMENTS

CHURCH CRITERIA - *The Berean Call* (8/29/07) gives us some of the criteria that people are looking for in a church. The following are 16 questions that are asked:

1. When I enter do I hear laughter?
2. Are people greeting me as a job or a joy?
3. Does the place look like they were expecting me?
4. Are people buzzing as they greet each other?
5. Is there spirited music playing as people gather?
6. Does the music move me?
7. Do the people on stage look real and engaged?
8. Are the announcements short, strategic, and to the point?
9. Is there a printed outline with Scripture already printed on it?
10. Does the pastor smile?
11. Does the message title promise a relevant topic I am interested in?
12. Does the pastor speak with humility and authority?
13. Do I feel the presence of God?
14. Are people listening and engaged?
15. Is the service no more than 71 minutes?
16. Does it pass by fast?



{Editor: Where is the emphasis on the Scripture? If the Spirit of the Lord is moving, why should we put a time limit on Him?}

“COME TO THE MEDICINE WHEEL” - “Many public schools have become pagan religion indoctrination centers. These schools now teach anti-Judeo-Christian beliefs and pagan religions. Here are two examples of how schools now use spirit religions as brainwashing techniques in classrooms across America, from Berit Kjos’s book, *Brave*

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CONTENDING FOR
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

The Pastor's Summit AT Founders Hall



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AMERICAN FREEDOM



The Pastor's Summit was a blessed time of prayer, fellowship and encouragement from God's Word. The main sessions were held in "Founders Hall" at The Voice in the Wilderness headquarters outside Asheville, NC. "Founders Hall" is dedicated to the memory of Dr. J. Royce Thomason, founder of The Voice in the Wilderness.



Bro. Williamson addresses the group with an overview of The Voice in the Wilderness ministries. Behind him is The Voice in the Wilderness display and world map. This is where Voice in the Wilderness supporters who have committed to pray daily for the countries of the world will be listed.

(Continued from page 7)



Sis. Terry is busy in The Voice in the Wilderness kitchen preparing a delicious breakfast for the hungry preachers.



Sis. Terry and Sis. Rebekah serve up Belgian waffles, blueberries and cream to Pastor Pike following the early session of prayer. These small groups of pastors will meet several times each year for prayer and fellowship. May The Voice in the Wilderness be an encouragement to these men and ministries.



2007 has been a year of vision and blessing. Bro. Williamson's mother presents the keys to a 28 foot Gulfstream ultra motor home for the Williamson's travels and preaching ministry. What comfort and convenience this will provide over the many miles and weeks on the road. God bless and we thank you, Mother!



The same week Mom gave Bro. and Sis. Williamson the motor home, Maranatha Church and Pastor Taylor phoned with news of rejoicing. On behalf of this dear church, Bro. and Sis. Ramsey presented The Voice in the Wilderness a check for \$5,000 to complete the Venezuela project. We can now proceed to purchase the much needed automobile for Pastor Estelvio's ministry. Praise the Lord!

(Continued from page 9)



Bro. Lilly gives a presentation of the Aquila/Priscilla ministry and the Teaching English as a Second Language outreach. Steve and Rebekah Lilly have finished their certification for TESL and now have an open door to many countries with this unique tool.



Most of our subscribers would be amazed at the process this little publication goes through from beginning to end. Thousands of papers are collated, stapled, tabbed, and sorted for mailing each month.



Steve and Rebekah Lilly have helped save The Voice in the Wilderness several hundred dollars each month by doing the tabbing and preparation for mailing the new booklet size format.

New Schools. ‘Come to the medicine wheel!’ the teacher’s cheery voice beckoned the Iowa fourth graders to a fun Native American ritual. ‘And wear your medicine bags.’ She . . . helped the class start The Medicine Wheel Publishing Company to make writing more fun.” After teaching Jonathan to make a magic pouch, the teacher told him that it would strengthen him in times of need, such as when he was taking tests. Jonathan wanted to show his parents his medicine pouch, but the teacher said no. The class that Jonathan is in sings a song to honor the earth: “The Earth is our Mother. We’re taking care of her . . . Hey younga, ho.” Then they are read a story from a book *Keepers of the Earth* which is popular in classrooms. Rachel Holm visited Mounds Park All-Nations School and “found dream-catchers in every classroom, mystical drawings of a spiritualized earth, and a ring of stones in the schoolyard for medicine wheel ceremonies.” This attitude about mystical things is not contained only to Minnesota. Teachers across this nation are pushing their children in their classrooms toward the mystical experiences and feelings, not the facts and reason that were once taught. www.thebereancall.org 9/26/07 {Editor: The public schools have taken the one Absolute out of the classroom and have replaced Him with chaos.}

PARENTS PREVENTION - The attorneys from Pacific Justice Institute have put together a “Watch List” for parents to be informed of their rights and opportunities when they deal with public schools. It can be remembered by the following acronym PREVENTION:

Participate in school site committees.

Review curricula.

Express faith through homework assignments.

Volunteer in the classroom.

Encourage extra-curricular Bible clubs.

Neutralize pro-homosexual propaganda.

Teach sex education at home.

Immunize children in accordance with religious beliefs.

Object to [inappropriate] textbooks at both the local and state levels.

Never tolerate religious bias.

www.pacificjustice.org 8/29/07 {Editor: Parents of both public and Christian private schools need to be informed of many of these areas. Know what is being taught in your children’s classroom. You trust them to someone else for 8 hours each day.}

NEWS BITS

FROM HERE AND THERE



PINOCCHIO SYNDROME -

Former First Lady Hillary Clinton is the current frontrunner for the Democratic ticket. Mrs. Clinton has a problem - her nose. It seems to be getting longer. She announced that Chelsea, her daughter, was to be jogging in Battery Park near where the two towers were struck on 9/11. While on the other hand, Chelsea said that she spent the day at a friend's house watching the whole thing on TV. Mrs. Clinton has stated that she has "fought hard for armored vehicles" for the soldiers serving in Iraq; but voted against the emergency supplemental bill that would have given \$2.4 billion to help protect

the soldiers and another \$3 billion that would provide for mine-resistant vehicles. In September in reference to the current surge in Iraq, Mrs. Clinton said that she, if elected president, would end our involvement at that level; that contradicts a statement that she made in August when she said that the surge was "working." At the outset of the war on terror, Mrs. Clinton said that she could "Support an action against Saddam Hussein." Now she is claiming that her vote was for "diplomatic efforts" and that President Bush has "misused and abused" his authority that was given to him by Congress. www.newsmax.com 9/26/07 {*The list could go on and on and on, but I think that you get my point.*}

"LIFE" MOVING UP OR DOWN? -

Kathy Griffin, who won a creative arts award at the recent Emmys for her show "My Life on the D-List", said that her name would now be on the C-list. It was her comments that got her in trouble

that could move her name even further down than D on people's lists. During her acceptance speech, Mrs. Griffin said, "A lot of people come up here and thank Jesus for this award. I want you to know that no one had less to do with this award than Jesus." After making a derogatory remark about Jesus, she continued to say, "This award is my god now!" www.thglobeandmail.com 9/11/07

APPROPRIATE ATTIRE -

Kyla Ebbert, a 23 year old college student, was asked to depart from the airplane that she was taking. Kyla, who is a Hooters waitress, was asked to leave the plane by an employee of Southwest Airlines because of her dress. According to Kyla, the employee said to her, "I'm sorry, but you're going to have to take a later flight. You're dressed inappropriately. This is a family airline. You're dressed too provocative to fly on this flight." Miss Ebbert then asked, "Which part?" To which the employee replied, "The whole thing." Miss Ebbert informed him that she did not have any luggage with her; therefore she could not change clothes. A compromise was finally reached when she said she would pull up her top and "pull down her tiny skirt." "I was humiliated. I was

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embarrassed. They all heard him lecturing me," said Kyla. Kyla and her mother are now trying to decide if they are going to sue the airline now. www.today.msnbc.msn.com 9/07/07



Nuggets of Gold

- Thankfulness could well be the finest sentiment of man - and also the rarest.
- Should we be thankful that we are living in a country where folks can say what they think without thinking?
- The worst possible moment for an atheist is when he feels grateful and has no one to thank.
- Be grateful for what you have, not regretful for what you haven't.
- Gratitude to God should be as regular as our heartbeat.
- Be grateful for the doors of opportunity-and for the friends who oil the hinges.

He Himself established by the covenant of marriage. Only death looses that bond. Clearly Christ gives the grounds for divorce, but the wording and use of words never gave permission for remarriage. What more can be said?

VI. Canceling death.

Romans 7:2-3 “For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.” Death looses the binding of the law.

VII. Christ/Church definition.

Ephesians 5:21-23 “Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.”

VIII. Clean defined.

Hebrews 13:4 “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.” “Who

hath clean hands and a pure heart?” For two people to “leave and cleave” in the covenant of marriage with Christ as Lord of all - what a heavenly truth illustrated here on earth - honourable and pure!

But what if I’m divorced or divorced and remarried? Someone has said, “Jesus is not all you need until Jesus is all you have!” Thank God for His love, grace, mercy, healing and forgiveness. “All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God.” A Christ honouring marriage is beautiful and such a blessing. But remember, in terms of time, marriage here is brief while our relationship with Christ is eternal. He can take the ashes of our life and restore beauty. Are we willing to agree with Him, embrace His love and forgiveness and then walk in the abundant newness of His life. The following is an enlightening illustration:

God uses broken things. It takes broken soil to produce a crop, broken clouds to give rain, broken grain to give bread, broken bread to give strength. It is the broken alabaster box that gives forth perfume. . . it is Peter, weeping bitterly (broken), who returns to greater power than ever.- Author Unknown

Remember, in times of hard decisions, it is not just a matter of moving on, as much as moving up. Take the Bible road - The High Call!

May God help us! Amen.

- RLW



Envelope Enclosed

Each November, The Voice in the Wilderness encloses an envelope for your "Thanksgiving" offering. We deeply appreciate those who give sacrificially to make this missionary ministry possible!

*My Personal Message
(Continued from page 3)*

in the Wilderness ministries. As always, November and December is an opportunity for supporters to help this work finish the year in good stead financially. Your year-end giving is deeply appreciated. In advance, thank you for the generosity and vision you have demonstrated so faithfully. Also, the new booklet size format for *The Voice in the Wilderness* has been well received. Keep in mind this format saves The Voice in the Wilderness \$900 per month in postage and mailing cost. I pray this little printed missionary will continue to be a blessing around the world.

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



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IS GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

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

- A. M. Vollmer

For as (a man) thinketh in his heart, so is he- Proverbs 23:7. Out of (the heart) are the issues of life - Proverbs 4:23."

A bequest in your Will to 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!

Dear *Voice in the Wilderness* Subscriber,

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

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