



# THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD  
Ministries

Vol. 20 No. 12

December 2016



www.voiceofthelordministries.com

## No Room At The Inn

No room that night was left at the Inn,  
No place could be found for a stranger.  
Two weary travelers who turned from its din  
Found rest at last in a manger.  
In the manger that night a baby was born  
to those whom the Inn turned again'  
And the Shepherds afar came there in the morn  
Bringing gifts to the Savior of men.  
No room in the hearts of many today  
No place for His love will they make.  
He knocks at the door, they turn Him away  
And neglect Him for other guests' sake.  
Other guests of ambition of pleasure and pride,  
Of selfishness and the getting of gold.  
Forgetting the cross and the wound in His side,  
And the nail-pierced hands they might hold.  
Oh, Bethlehem Inn, full of music and Light,  
With your guests decked in brightest array,  
Had you given them room, turned into the night  
Your fame had gone forth to this day.  
Oh, soul, fling open your windows and door,  
Let the Bethlehem Stranger come in.  
For the baby 'twas born in the manger of yore,  
Came from God to save you from sin.

by Homer J. Williamson

## Obstacles

Pastor Timothy G. Satryan

Have you ever seen the sea flee? Have you ever seen the mountains skip like rams or the hills run like lambs? That's the vivid description the psalmist gives of the Exodus of Israel from Egypt. Psa 114:1 When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language; "The sea saw it, and fled: Jordan was driven back...The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs. (Psalm 114:1-8). The psalmist mentions the time God opened the Red Sea and the Israelites walked across on dry land. He talks about when the nation entered the Promised Land over the dry bed of the Jordan River. Then he refers to their experience in the wilderness, when they were thirsty and God turned the rock into a fountain of water. What are we to learn from all of these experiences? God helps us in the obstacles of life. When you turn your obstacles over to the Lord, He acts! What will He do? Sometimes He overcomes the obstacles. God is with us in the hopeless places. How hopeless the Israelites were at the Red Sea! The enemy soldiers were behind them; the wilderness was around them; the sea was in front of them. But God opened a way to escape. Sometimes God removes the obstacles - the "hills" and the "mountains." He just makes them skip and run away like animals. Sometimes He makes the mountains a way for us to escape. In Isaiah 49:11, the Lord says "And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted". Sometimes He also can turn the obstacles into blessings. If God doesn't remove your obstacle, let Him turn it into a blessing. Trust God with your obstacles. He can help you in the hopeless places, the high places and the hard places!

*And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible. Mark 10:27*



**Merry Christmas**



WELL HELLO THERE BILL I SEE YOU'VE OVERCOME YOUR FEAR OF CROWDS!



BROTHER ELI NEVER GIVES UP DOES HE...



CHECK OUT

SO NOW YOU CAN COME TO CHURCH SUNDAY!



**The Neighbor**

Little Johnny visited a neighbour's house. "Can I see your trap?" "What trap? I don't know what you mean," said the neighbour. Little Johnny replied, "The one my Dad says you can't keep shut."



**Cousin Leroy**

Highlights of the Dinner Menu for Leroy's Christmas Shindig

Menu

Squirrel & Dumplings, Possum innards with gravy, pork and beans seasoned with hog fatback, mustard greens topped with pickled pigs feet

Appetizers

Vienna Sausage on a stick

Dessert

Lime jello in the Elvis mode

Everyone Welcome! Yall come now ya hear!

**Chocolate Ice Cream Please**

A not-so-bright man goes into an ice cream parlor and says, "I'd like two scoops of chocolate ice cream, please." The girl behind the counter says, "I'm very sorry, sir, but our delivery truck broke down this morning. We're out of chocolate," "In that case," the man says, "I'll have two scoops of chocolate ice cream." "You don't understand, sir," the girl says. "We have no chocolate." "Then just give me some chocolate," he says. Getting angrier by the second, the girl says, "Sir, will you spell VAN, as in vanilla?" The man says, "V-A-N." "Now spell STRAW, as in strawberry." "OK. S-T-R-A-W." "Now," the girl says, "spell STINK, as in chocolate." The man hesitates. Then he says. "There is no stink in chocolate." "THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL YOU!" she screams.

**Bad Greetings Card Ideas**

"Congratulations on your wedding day! Too bad no one likes your wife."

"How could two people as beautiful as you have such an ugly baby? Congrats!!"

"I've always wanted to have someone to hold, someone to love. After having met you, I've changed my mind."

"Congratulations on your promotion. Before you go, would you like to take this knife out of my back. You'll probably need it again."

"Someday I hope to get married, but not to you."

"Happy Birthday! You look great for your age...Almost Lifelike!

"We have been friends for a very long time, what-daya say we call it quits."

"You are such a good friend that if we were on a sinking ship and there was only one life jacket.... I'd miss you heaps and think of you often."

"My tire was thumping. I thought it was flat. When I looked at the tire...I noticed your cat. Sorry!"



**VOTL**  
Voice of the LORD

*From the Pastor's Desk*

Pastor Billy R. Douglas

### The Miracles of Christmas

As Christians we celebrate Christmas as the birth of Jesus the promised Messiah....The Saviour our Redeemer! Jesus came to bring hope to a hopeless world, forgiveness and pardon to those bound by the chains of sin and shame. In the powerful story of Christmas we see many miracles and none of them greater than the change that is made to the heart of one who understands that Jesus came and understands why He came. When we talk about Jesus changing the hearts of people we are not talking about our physical heart. We are talking about spiritual hearts—a change that effects every aspect of our lives. When you understand the true meaning of Christmas it brings about a change in your heart and life like nothing else can. When we realize that it has nothing to do with the gifts that men give BUT the gift that GOD GAVE! It is truly the story of the greatest gift ever given and we see this described by the Prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 9:6..."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." What a powerful and precious promise! A promise that was fulfilled some 700 years later that dark night in Bethlehem where in a lowly stable The Word became flesh and dwelt among men! When one knows that He came and why He came you cannot help but be changed...transformed...born again through faith in what He has done! From the manger to the cross we see God's plan of salvation revealed for all of mankind and faith in that is the only thing that can change the sinful heart of man! In the story of a "Christmas Carol" Ebenezer Scrooge lived a miserable life of greed, but when he awoke from his sobering encounter with Christmas: past, present and future. Scrooge sees his empty, bitter life for what it is. He wants his life to change, so he humbles himself, cries out for mercy and for another chance to make things right: He then vows "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the past, the present, and the future. The Spirit of all three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach." The changes that we see in the life of Scrooge are amazing: instead of taking now he is giving. Instead of being bitter, he is now loving. Instead of being indifferent to the needs of others, now he is caring. Scrooge's life is transformed from humbug to hallelujah. It is no wonder that this story written by Charles Dickens whether knowingly or not is so great a picture of the redemption of man that it mirrors the miraculous change that Jesus brings to the heart and the life of one who turns to Him in faith believing and trusting in His finished work. There were many miracles and prophecies fulfilled surrounding this blessed event...the star that led the wise men...the angelic host that announced the birth to the shepherds...the virgin with child...the birth in a stable and more! The hand of God can be seen in all of this yet throughout the ages the star has never returned...the shepherds and wise men are long past BUT the greatest miracle of all that this wondrous event would bring lives on today more than ever! This child born of a virgin and laid in a manger....this child who wise men would seek to worship...this child whose birth was heralded throughout the Heavens...this child...the Son of God...the Saviour of the world is still changing the hearts and lives of all of those who will put their faith and their trust in Him! I cannot think of a better way of putting it than in the words of the Apostle Paul when he said "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17. That is why He came...that is why Christmas is such a special time of year...oh I know that more than likely the day of His birth was not December 25th or even in the month of December for that matter BUT the truth of the matter is that He was born and that He died on the Cross for you and for me! What other time of year can you go into stores and restaurants and hear them playing songs about Jesus instead of songs about wine and women? What other time of year do we see parades on the main streets of our towns with manger scenes, crosses and songs proclaiming that the SAVIOUR HAS COME! It is our prayer that while we all celebrate this special season that we never lose sight of the real reason for the Season and that like Scrooge of ole that we keep it not just during December or on Christmas day but that we "keep it all the year". That our faith and our trust ever remains steadfast in the baby from Bethlehem...Jesus Christ the only means of hope and salvation for a lost and dying world! From all of us here at VOTL to all of you there...Merry Christmas and may the LORD bless and keep you! Until next time....Pastor Billy R. Douglas



## “Cowards in the Pulpit” part 01

By Evangelist Mike Heltsley

Here are some sermon themes that are missing from most American church pulpits. Efforts to be market-driven and the desire to please man have reduced many sermons to the level of “What will keep the people happy and coming to church?” By contrast, take a look at some of what Jesus, John the Baptist and the apostles were not afraid to preach and say... • “Stop sinning!” — Jesus, John 5:14 - Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. • “Flee fornication” — the Apostle Paul, 1st Corinthians 6:18 - Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. • “God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral” — Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge. • “If you owe taxes, pay taxes” — the Apostle Paul, Romans 13:7 - Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. • “Do not be deceived: the Apostle Paul, 1 Corinthians 6:9b-10 - Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. • Crucify the sinful nature — the Apostle Paul, Galatians 5:24 - And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. • Jesus, Matthew 5:28 - But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. • All liars... — the Apostle John, Revelation 21:8 - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. • The apostle Paul, Romans 1:26-27 - For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. • Do not get drunk — the apostle Paul, Ephesians 5:18 - And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; • “Don't be cussing!!! [foul, profane, worthless, vulgar] — the apostle Paul, Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. Now I realize that these topics are not the only truths preached and taught in the Scriptures. But they definitely are preached and taught in the New Testament, along with many other great truths such as grace, salvation in Jesus Christ, the love of God, and much more. In many portions of American Christianity, the topics I have quoted above from the Bible are rarely if ever heard preached from the pulpit....Is that due to the fear of man? A desire to please the hearers? Cowardly preachers afraid of offending people? The speaker's misguided attempts to speak only uplifting things? I leave that to your judgment. I can't speak for other preachers. However, all of us can look to the example of preachers quoted in the New Testament. Let's look at some. You'll notice I said “...in the New Testament.” I have deliberately quoted the challenging verses above from the New Testament, to head off the oft-quoted excuse for carnal living. 1st Timothy 1:8-11 - But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; 9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine; 11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust. 2nd Timothy 4:2-4 - Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. • The inspired writer 20 centuries ago foretold something that we are certainly seeing happen in our day — that is, “to suit their own desires ... [people] will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.” They will not be receptive to sound doctrine. And part of the sound doctrine that they will not put up with is the Scriptures' consistent call to repent, change our ways, and walk a holy walk...to *be continued in next months issue of The Trumpet!*

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### With A Grateful Heart

Pastor Steven Huston

By the time you read this, November 25th will be over. You might STILL be eating turkey sandwiches, but the official Thanksgiving holiday is over. Friends, if you still have breath (even though it may be labored from overeating), God calls you to “thanksgiving”. Every day is to be a holy day of thanksgiving and praise. Each day calls the Christian to give thanks and praise to his Creator, Redeemer, Saviour, and Lord. Psalm 107:1 reads, “O GIVE thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever.” Verse 8 (and frequently throughout the chapter) we’re told “Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!” Each chapter from Psalm 146 to Psalm 150 starts with “Praise ye the LORD,” finally ending the entire book with “Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.” Paul exhorts the Thessalonian church to “Rejoice evermore” (I Thess. 5:16) and that “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (I Thess. 5:18). To rejoice and to give thanks is the DUTY of every believer. When we stop praising God for who He is and neglect to be thankful for His goodness and mercy shown to us, we put ourselves in danger of quenching the Spirit (I Thess. 5:19). We also put ourselves in the very real danger of sinning against God with murmuring or complaining. We cannot praise and complain at the same time, neither do we generally find ourselves in a neutral position. When the believer focuses on God, he cannot help but glorify the King of Splendor. We are often tempted to complain when we have taken our eyes off the Creator and put them upon the creature (ourselves). The true believer is brought to murmuring when he stops looking at his true circumstance (salvation and sanctification) and starts looking upon his happenstance (the earthly things going on in our lives). In our complaining/murmuring God finds ingratitude and a lack of trust in Him. You may believe that you are complaining against a family member, boss, or some political leader, but God considers your complaints to be against Him, the Almighty Himself. In Exodus 16:2, “the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.” At least that’s how they saw it. But how did God see their murmuring? Moses warned, “...your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD” (Ex. 16:8). Later in Numbers, God speaks very plainly; “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmuring of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.” (Numbers 14:27) Each complaint about your circumstances that slips from your lips, each murmur that escapes from your mouth about your daily troubles or how others treat you is a word against the Sovereign of all. You murmur against “him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will. (Eph. 1:11) As one holy man from yesteryear states, “He who complains about the weather complains against He who made the weather.” Let us remember these lessons with fear and trepidation. What would cause God’s chosen people to murmur and complain? The answer for them then is the same for you and me today. Whenever our eyes are no longer upon God and the grace of His salvation, we will be tempted to complain about our perceived needs rather than our true needs which God has promised to meet. Throughout their wilderness wanderings, Israel often took their eyes off their true circumstance (Redemption and Salvation with a Promised Land to come) and focused on their happenstance (hunger, thirst, discontent). If you’ll take the time to read through Exodus and Numbers, you’ll see that it was neither pleasing to God nor pleasant for them. Our trust must be in Christ alone. Let us respond as Moses did in these circumstances, for it is not wrong to speak of our hurts and desires to the LORD. Had Israel cried to God rather than complaining to Moses; if we would but cry out to God and wait on Him rather than complaining to ourselves or others, we would be blessed indeed as we trust He who is sovereign over all things and works things out for good. God desires to use these things for your benefit, your growing and sanctification. How will you choose to respond? If you take the time to read through Psalm 107 (from the start of our article), you will see that God drove them to cry unto Him...and He saved them. He tries us that He may prove us; He is not only with us through it all, but for us as well. He deserves praise not pouting, thanks not temper tantrums. These things are for our ultimate wellbeing; He is working all things together for our good and for His good pleasure. It’s so that He may “do thee good at thy latter end.” (Deut. 6:18) Keeping these things in mind, it’s no wonder that the Apostle Paul calls us to “do all things without murmurings and disputings.” (Phil. 2:14) Look only unto Jesus and remember that even as all sin is actually sin against God, so all murmuring is truly against Him as well. Let us listen to the following words of J.C. Ryle, remembering that we have much more to praise and thank our Creator for than we have to complain about. “Let us rise from our beds every morning with a deep conviction that we are debtors, and that every day we have more mercies than we deserve. Let us look around us every week, as we travel through the world, and see whether we have not much to thank God for.”—J.C. Ryle

Pastor Steve Huston 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412



### Texas Tumbleweeds

- 1 cup butterscotch chips
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 can (9 ounces) potato sticks (about 6 cups)

In a microwave or large metal bowl over simmering water, melt chocolate chips and butterscotch chips; stir until smooth. Gently stir in potato sticks. Drop mixture by rounded tablespoonfuls onto waxed paper-lined baking sheets. Refrigerate 10-15 minutes or until set.

### Cherry Chocolate Chip Cheese Ball

- 8oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1/4 cup maraschino cherry juice
- 2 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup chopped maraschino cherries
- 1 cup mini chocolate chips, divided

In a large mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and butter until combined. Add cherry juice and powdered sugar until fully blended. Fold in chopped cherries and 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips. Line a rounded bowl with plastic wrap. Pour mixture into bowl, bringing up sides of plastic wrap to cover the top. Refrigerate overnight. When ready to serve, invert cheeseball onto serving plate and press remaining 1/2 cup mini chips into the cheeseball. Serve with graham crackers, animal cookies, apple slices, pretzels, etc!!

### Jalapeno Cheeseball

- 1 c. mild Cheddar cheese, grated
- 2 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 2 lg. pickled jalapenos, finely chopped
- 3 tbsp. jalapeno pepper juice
- 1 cup chopped pecans

In a medium size mixing bowl, combine cheeses, jalapenos, and pepper juice. Mix into a ball. Roll ball mixture in chopped pecans. Serve with crackers.

### Fruit Cocktail Cake

*by Rennie Furgerson*

- 1 (20oz) can fruit cocktail
- 2 cups self rising flour
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Topping**
- 1 stick butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup evaporated milk

Pre-heat oven to 350. Mix all cake ingredients. Pour into a well greased 9x13 baking dish. Bake for about 25-30 minutes. For Topping: Mix and cook all ingredients for 5 minutes or until thick. Pour over top of cake.

### Share a Recipe! Win a Cookbook?

Have a recipe that you would like to share with our readers? Send your recipes to the address on the back of this newsletter!! Each person that shares a recipe will be entered for a chance to win a FREE cookbook! Drawing will be held January 1st!

or email recipes to [votradio@juno.com](mailto:votradio@juno.com)



# Merry Christmas

## Bacon & Cheddar Green Bean Casserole

2 (10½ oz) cans Condensed Cream  
of Mushroom Soup  
1 cup milk  
½ cup shredded Cheddar cheese  
6 slices bacon, cooked and chopped (about 6 tbsp.)  
½ tsp. ground black pepper  
8 cups cooked green beans or 4 cans  
(14.5 oz. each) any style Green Beans, drained  
2½ cups French Fried Onions

Stir soup, milk, half the cheese, 5 tbsp. bacon, black pepper, beans, and 1½ cups onions in 3-qt. baking dish. Bake at 350°F. for 25 min. or until bean mixture is hot and bubbling. Stir bean mixture. Bake for 5 min. or until onions are golden brown.

## Hashbrown Casserole

2 lbs frozen hash browns  
1/2 cup margarine or 1/2 cup butter, melted  
1 (10 1/4 ounce) can cream of chicken soup  
1 pint sour cream  
1/2 cup onion, peeled and chopped  
2 cups cheddar cheese, grated  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper

Preheat oven to 350°F and spray an 11 x 14 baking dish with cooking spray. Mix the above ingredients together, place in prepared pan and bake for 45 minutes or until brown on top.

## White Chocolate Peanut Butter Krispies

2 cups Rice Krispies cereal  
2 cups dry roasted peanuts  
2 cups miniature marshmallows  
1 cup peanut butter

2 pounds white chocolate chips (2 12-oz packages plus 1 1/3 cup)

In a large bowl, combine cereal, peanuts and marshmallows. In a microwave-safe bowl, melt chocolate and peanut butter on High for 1 minute and then in 30 second intervals until fully melted. Stir chocolate into cereal mixture. Mixture will be slightly runny. Drop by tablespoons onto waxed paper. Let set until firm, 2 hours. Store in an airtight container.

## Strawberry Cheesecake Bites

1 (5 inch) strawberry cheesecake  
8 ounces white chocolate

Use a small cookie scoop. Scoop into the cheesecake, with the crust. Save 2 tablespoons of crust. Place scoops onto parchment or wax paper. Place into freezer for 20 to 30 minutes. Melt white chocolate over a double boil. (Chocolate in a heat safe bowl setting over a pot of hot water. Do not let the water touch the bowl.) Take the scoops of cheesecake out of freezer and form into rolled balls. Dip fork into chocolate. Place a scoop of cheesecake on top of the chocolate covered fork. Dip cheesecake and shake off excess of chocolate. Immediately sprinkle crumbled graham cracker crust on top of chocolate. Repeat process with the rest.

## Christmas Punch

1 (2 liter) 7-up  
46oz. Cranberry Juice  
46oz. Pineapple juice  
1/2 gallon Raspberry Sherbet

Chill all ingredients ahead of time. Combine cranberry & pineapple juice in large punch bowl. Scoop in sherbet. Pour 7-up over sherbet and stir.



## Fear Not

Sister Betty Jean Robinson

I was thinking on this and wanted to share it again. I hope if you are weary and burdened with the things going on around you that you will find strength in our Savior. Faith can move mountains. I know faith can see you through any fears "For the Lord will not forsake His people for His great name's sake: because it hath pleased the Lord to make you His people" (1 Samuel 12:22) There is much talk of fear - fear of the economy, of war, of losing one's home, and so many things we are now facing. However, if you are a child of God, I can share no greater encouragement with you that the promises in God's Word! Romans 8:31 says, "What then shall we say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" So, "Why are thou cast down, O my soul? And what art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise Him who is the health of my countenance" (Psalm 42:5). When everything is falling down around us, we can rest in the Lord knowing as the old song says, "This world is not my home, I'm just passing through." Another old song says, "He's a shelter in time of storm." Praise be to God! Nahum 1:7 says, "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in Him." Thank you Lord! "For we walk by faith and not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). *"Doubt sees the obstacles, Faith sees the way. Doubt sees the blackest night, Faith sees the day; Doubt dreads to take a step, Faith soars on high. Doubt questions, "Who believes?" Faith answers, "I." Author Unknown.* Find yourself a place of prayer. Get in the Secret Place of the Most High God, in Jesus Christ. Find your hope and Faith in Him. Until Next Time, His Handmaiden, Sister Betty Jean Robinson

[www.bettyjeanrobinson.org](http://www.bettyjeanrobinson.org)

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## Shall Call His Name Jesus

by Pastor Mike Muzzerall

I CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. I don't apologize for saying this. I don't hide my enthusiasm. I celebrate the true meaning of the season. I love true Christian Christmas cards. I love hearing Christmas hymns, especially in businesses that still allow them to be played. I UNDERSTAND THAT JESUS was probably not born on Dec. 25. And...? It matters not the specific day that we choose to honor the birth of Christ. It matters that we celebrate the birth of the Messiah, the Saviour, the Redeemer, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. THE DIVINE ANNOUNCEMENT "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name JESUS" (Lk. 1:30-32). What an announcement! What an honor to be the vessel God uses to bring forth the Messiah! This was the announcement that every young Jewish girl hoped to receive. MARY WAS NOT THE MOTHER OF GOD Jesus used the phrase "the Son of Man" when He spoke of His humanity. Mary was not the "mother of God." She was the mother of the Son of Man (the human body). The distinction is important. Jesus as a human had a beginning. Jesus as God had no beginning. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (Jn. 1:1). The term Word clearly speaks of Jesus. Jesus was in the beginning. He was with God in the beginning. He was God in the beginning. The Greek term ἀρχή (archē) is where we derive the word archaic. Whenever it is that you believe time began, Jesus was already with God and was already God. Mary therefore could not have been the "mother of God" as taught by the Roman Catholic Church; that would mean that she predated God. Mary was the mother of the Son of Man—the physical body Jesus used in His earthly ministry. For that, we honor her as a human vessel who yielded to God's will, but we do not worship her as the mother of God. SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS Jesus is the Greek form of Joshua. Joshua is a shortened version of Jehoshuah (Num. 13:16; 1 Chron. 7:27), signifying in Hebrew, "Jehovah is Salvation" (Brown Driver Briggs). "The name Jesus is the same as Savior. It is derived from the verb signifying to save" (Albert Barnes). Jesus, or Joshua, was a common name, but only He would fulfill the meaning of that name. Only Jesus would save those who place their faith in the completed work of Calvary. NO OTHER NAME BUT JESUS Peter boldly proclaimed after the day of Pentecost, that "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). It is only through the name of Jesus Christ that we can have forgiveness of sins, joy unspeakable, peace in a time of trouble, and, of course, everlasting life. It is in the name of Jesus that we have answered prayers. To a true believer, that name is sweeter than honey yet stronger than tempered steel. He is my Redeemer, my Saviour, my Healer, my Deliverer, my peace, my joy, my help in the time of need, my righteousness. He is King of kings, Lord of lords, the one and only mediator between God and man, and much more. That is why I will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. I hope you do too. Merry Christmas from Ana and me.



# A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

**Verse for Today:** Psalms 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

**Additional Passages to read Today:** Psalm 34:9-10; Matthew 6:31-33; Luke 22:35; Isaiah 1:16-19

**Thought for Today:** What we DO reveals our true faith.

**Story for Today:** "It's not fair!" cried young Candice. Mom and Sandy stopped and waited for Candice to catch up. However, she didn't. She stood fixed in her spot not budging an inch. "It's not fair!" said Candice again, with a huge pout on her 13 year old face. "I don't want to go to that old stinky building again!" Walking down the brick walkway with stores all around, Candice made her displeasure very well known. Mom did not look happy as she took 7 year old Sandy's hand and back tracked to the fountain in the center of the mall. "Candice, You're Dad is in charge of the homeless ministry in this city and our job is to help him." responded Mom quietly. "This may not seem like the nicest job. But, it is the job that God has given us to do. Girls, do you remember the story, in the Bible, of the young man that was hated by his brothers?" asked Mom. "His name was Joseph, and he had 11 brothers. Joseph was his Dad's favorite, because he was born in his Dad's old age. To show that he loved him, his Dad had a special coat made for him. It was very beautiful, but, every time his brothers saw it, their resentment grew. One day Joseph's Dad asked him to go and see how his brothers were doing. Joseph obeyed; but, when his brothers saw him coming in his colorful coat, they plotted to kill him. However, it was decided that instead of killing him they would put him in a pit. Later they sold him as a slave. Joseph continued to trust God even when he was imprisoned because of false accusations. Now, our job here isn't near the same as being thrown into a pit, sold as a slave or even put into prison. However, there is something we can learn from Joseph and his response to all this! Listen to what Joseph said to his brothers after all the trouble they had caused for him," mom continued. "Genesis 45:5 'Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.' See, Joseph understood the providence of God. He was able to see how the trials and difficulties he faced were used to allow him to be where he needed to be to do the biggest job of his entire life for God. Girls, we don't know what the big picture looks like, but if we trust God, we will gladly obey even when things aren't pleasant. What we do reveals our true faith. We can choose to whine and complain as the Israelites did, showing that they really didn't trust God, and never live in the promised land; that land that is flowing with milk and honey, or we can respond with a holy attitude as Joseph did and watch as God continues to provide with blessings we never dreamed possible." As Mom continued to talk, she explained that blessings flow out of obedience and that God has a special plan for each of our lives. We must willingly choose to obey the call if we desire the best here on earth and in our eternal reward in Heaven.

**Questions for Today:** How about you? Do you remember to praise God and trust that what you are facing is for God's glory or do you whine and complain when things don't go as we think they should? Do you practice praise or pouting? By your actions, how much faith do you have?

**Song for Today:** Trust and Obey—When we walk with the Lord In the light of His Word, What a glory He sheds on our way; While we do His good will, He abides with us still, And with all who will trust and obey. Trust and obey, For there's no other way To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

**Take some time today to pray:** Heavenly Father, Thank you for knowing all things! Thank you for being sovereign and for knowing what needs to happen and when! Thank you for going with us every step of the way as you did Joseph. Please help us to have right attitudes and help us to respond correctly showing we trust in you and in your hand of providence! In Jesus' Name, AMEN



Have a friend that you think might enjoy receiving THE TRUMPET? Send us their mailing address and we will send them a copy of the latest issue of THE TRUMPET along with a sign up card so that they can sign up if they wish to continue receiving them!

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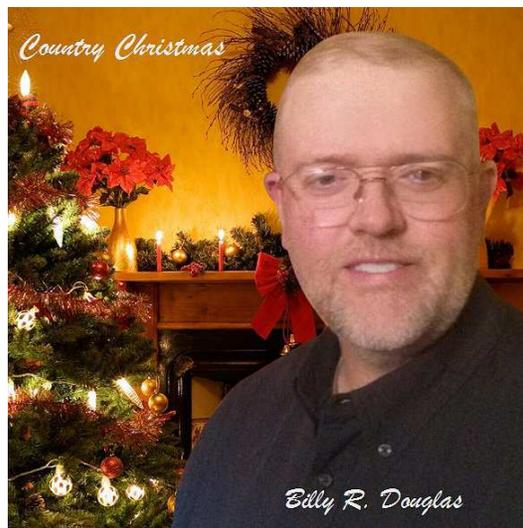
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### **PRAYER LIST**

If you would like to send a picture of a loved one, a special prayer request or when you send a name to be added to our prayer list we will place it in our Prayer Box. Our Prayer Box sits on the altar at VOTL Tabernacle and your prayer requests are prayed over daily and in our services.

Ruth & Betty Slinker	Jane Whitehouse	Loretta Murphy	Daniel Huff
Rodney Howell	Johnny Ford	Judy Hillard	Amanda & Jeremy Edgell
Ann Hinton	Danny & Janet Willis	Mike & Laurie Heltsley	Lisa Kluck
Jamey Howell	Terry & Phyllis Dickenson	Pennie & Logan Heltsley	Amy Kluck
Harvey & Betty Willis	Nathan Walls	Rachel Brown	April & Jeremy Chenault
Bill Johnson	Billy & Reesie Douglas	Timmy Ford	Tiffany Young
Kelly & Carolyn Ralph	Scott Sheriff	Irene Baker	Thomas Kidd
Bill & Kathy Willis	Tommy Willis & family	Anthony Stevens	Becky Fleming
Samantha Ashby & family	Eric & Cassie Dickenson	David Peters	Anna Sue Kluck
Jeff Dickenson	Shane Sheriff	Inez Rickard	Spencer & Crystal Brown
Tonya Shocklee	Eddie St. Clair	Christine Vaughn	Fred & Brenda Love
Judy Frizzell	Chasity Miiler	Larry Mayfield	Jean Litherland
Letha Baize & family	Jeff Carter & family	Deborah Sweeney	Suzanne Kluck
Betty Butterworth	Brandy & Dylon Capps	Gary Rose	Stevie Roberson
Bruce Taylor	Scott & Cindy Heads	Rick Howard	Elvie Roberson
Bobby Grove	Leon & Kathy Hardison	Brian Druin	Liz Simpson
Winfred & Linda Burden	Robert & Virginia Dunn	Don & Elaine Denton	Misty Lindsey
Ray & Mary Owens	Colin Allred	Jill Steffes	Don & Kathy Suhan
Rock & Joni Varble	Willy Douglas & family	Linda & Bubby Smith	Sophia Sargent
Wanda & Oscar Walls	Amy Dunn	Betty Embry	Blane & Darla Richards
James Coates & family	Ella Earl	Diane Rogier	Courtney Richards
America & our leaders	Brad Litherland	Eddie Dame	Brycen Chenault
Israel	Theresa Litherland	Barbara Dame	Destiny Weedman
James & Teresa Daugherty	David Fentress	Bill Krambeer	Margie Howell
Myrtle Douglas	Vickie Gipp	Barbara Allgood	Harold Howell
Verna Beasley	Andre Gipp	Art Coker	Dave Jackson
Wayne & Nora Carter	Daniel & Gary Terry	Joe Johnson	Stephen Jackson
Chet Daugherty & family	Deanna Linkugel	Larry Demer & family	Reggie Heltsley
Joyce Douglas	Tim Gilbert	Adrian Demer	Ashlynn Groves
Charles McLaughlin	Larry Garza	Lula Chancellor	Lajuana Cobb
Barak Obama	Marcie Eidsmoe	Larry Richards	Brenda Gowen
Keisha Thurman	Estellene Shaver	Juanita Shroader	Dena Alvey
Nannie Crabtree	Randy Rash	Barbara Henderson	Christopher Kluck
Jonathon Flink	Linda Dunning	Debra Graham	Dustin Cotton
Paula Gilliam	Jason Ford	Marsha Miller	Nathan Kluck
Kathryn Lee	Whitney Ford	Roger Patton	Nathan & Debora Sullivan
	Osella Clabaugh	Roger Fella	Alma Cook
	Misty Graham	Nicole Watson	Tim & Olivia Dunlavey
	Lana Albin	Matt Chapman	Bruce & Danielle Hutchinson
	Charles & Sandy Davis	Jarrold Scarboro	Robert Coates
	Deborah Reick	Lynda Purinton	Rick & Rita Wedding
	Annie Gentry	Karen Frigon	Lela & Gene Swift
	Ella Weatherford	Kimberly Crofton	Jean & Conrad Emery
	Jason Chambers	Sheila Bruce	Jerry G. Lucas
	Tyler Willis	Donna Palmertree	Tonya Clark
	Jim Bliss	Vicky Weedman	Frank & Judy Petrock
	Leroy Scaff	Ricky & Janie Huff	Ed Young
	Barbara Reckmann	Odie & Debby St.Clair	Blane Richards
	Mary Pat Gray	Kim Rich	Janie Kluck
	Mike Wilkins	Ester Manninen	Tom Gutierrez
	Patricia Threlkeld	Mark Chapman	Veronika Lewis
	Wendy Threlkeld	Linda Roach family	Jordan Lewis
	Danny Baize	Angela & David Smith	Kimberly Richardson
	Anita Smith	Ronny Dame	Michelle Taylor
	Roy Cronin	Rodney Miller	Anna Leach
	G.O. Wade	Gary King	John Severs
	David Smith	Kathy & Jerry Whitehouse	Regina Woolsey
	Jason Fagan	Weston Whitehouse	Junior Slinker
	Ashton Henderson	Dillen Whitehouse	Ricky Slinker
	Marie Pitts	Gary Parker	Nancy Slinker
	Dwayne Pitts & family	Justin Brooks	John & Lucy Vega
	Wanda Kellems	Cleta Camplin	Donald Hines
	Royel Clark	Devis Awaleh	Don & Doris Swarhout
	Lyle & Helen Helm		

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WKEY-AM 1340 - Covington, VA

WKEY-FM 103.5 - Covington, VA

WRMV FM 94.5 - Madison Heights, VA

WRMV FM 100.9—Madison Heights, VA

Showers of Blessings 104 FM  
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## God's Simple Plan of Salvation

My Friend: we are about to ask you the most important question of your life. Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer. The question is: Are you saved? Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal LORD and Saviour? It is not a question of how good you are, nor if you are a church member, but have you put your faith in Jesus? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die? The Bible makes the plan of salvation plain and simple. *Romans 10:13* says *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Call on Jesus today. Put your faith and trust in him and ask him to forgive you of your sins and to be your LORD and savior and you will be born again...SAVED!! Do this today, tomorrow may be to late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus. We would love to send you some material to help you with your new life with the LORD.



## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

No service at VOTL Tabernacle on  
Sunday December 25th



### **VOTL Tabernacle**

**216 Hill St. Livermore, KY**

*Services*

Sunday Morning Service 11 AM

**Everyone Welcome**

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