



THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD
Ministries

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Anna's Prayer

Poet: Greta Zwaan

Anna lived a life of service; Anna's heart was God's alone;
She had rested in His promise, words that were God's very own.
She was certain she would see Him, she would gaze into His eyes,
How that moment would be treasured, precious Saviour, holy, wise.
Many years she prayed and fasted, waiting for this wondrous birth,
Always looking, always waiting, that was her desire on earth.
That's why all those years she tarried in this sacred, holy place,
Just to have one look at Jesus, touch His hand and see His face.
Anna trusted God would honour all He'd said in years now past,
He was true and He was holy, this great love would always last.
Then the dream she'd so long cherished was fulfilled when Christ appeared;
Carried by His mother, Mary, precious Baby, so endeared.
Anna's heart was filled with wonder as she softly touched His cheek,
"This wee child will bring salvation unto all who search and seek."
What a privilege, what an honour, to have seen the promised One,
She was satisfied and happy, all she'd prayed for had been done.
"Now I'm ready to see heaven for I'm weary, getting old,
Take away my earthly shackles, let me join the heavenly fold."



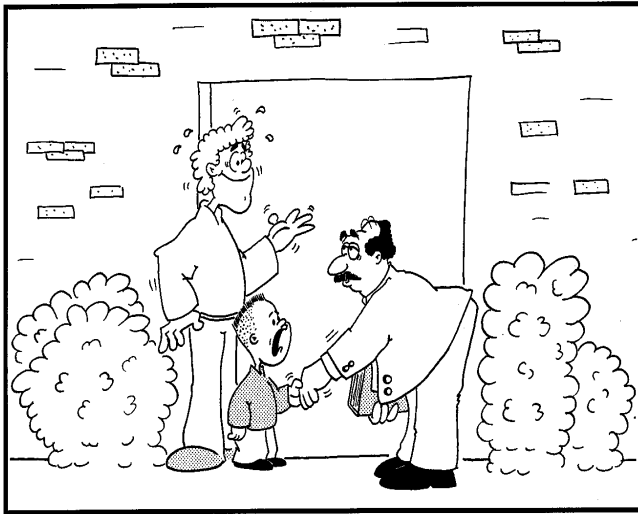
December 14th @ 4 PM

Voice of the LORD Outreach Center 218 Hill Street

Outreach Center doors will be open @ 4 PM

The Livermore Christmas Parade starts @ 5 PM and passes in front of the Outreach Center.

Come join us for hot cocoa, Christmas cookies and the Christmas parade as
we celebrate **Jesus** the reason for the season!



"Dad says if it wasn't for your sermons, he'd never get any sleep."



Cousin Leroy

The city slicker preacher was preaching in a small country town not far from where Leroy lived. He wanted to learn everything "country" so that he could fit in. As he was taking a drive one day, he got lost on the back roads. When he saw Leroy walking into his barn he stopped for directions. Ole Leroy was just beginning to milk his cow but took time out to tell the preacher how to get back to town. "By the way," he asked, "Do you know what time it is?" Leroy leaned in, put his ear next to the udder of the cow and said, "12:30." The preacher started to leave but he just HAD to know. he looked at Leroy with amazement and said, "Hey, I'm from the city and I really want to know the ways of you country people. How could you tell what time it was?" "Sit right here on this stool, son," he did. "Now, grab hold of that udder." He did. (Before this, his closest experience to this was grabbing a milk carton). "Now lean into the cow and lift up on the udder." With excitement on his face He did. Now "Lean over and look right over there on that wall. See that's a clock. When the little hand is on the 12 and that big hand is on that 6 that means it's 12:30"

How to Fail Your Drivers Test

Get in the car, look down at the pedals, and say, "now which one is the gas again?"

When the examiner tells you to stop, pop the hood clutch and say "oops".

Place a whoopee cushion in your seat and theirs and every time one goes off look at them and say "Yuck your gross"

Turn the radio on. When the tester goes to turn it off slap his/her hand.

Knock over every cone while doing maneuverability. In the middle of it, get out and check to see if you have hit every one.

Come dressed in a suit. Before the examiner gets in the car, ask him/her to put a piece of saran wrap down so he doesn't dirty the seat.

When the examiner tells you to stop, step on the gas. Tell him/her that you thought it was the brake.

After the examiner gets in the car, pop the hood, and get out and check the oil.

The whole time driving, talk about how Aunt Gertrude smells like mothballs.

In the middle of driving, put your arm around the examiner.

When you stop at a light, start revving the engine while looking back and forth between the person next to you and the light.

Beep your horn at every other car and yell WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?.

The Broken Doll

While discussing plans for the Christmas Carol service with the pastor his daughter rushed in, crying her eyes out. "What's wrong, dear?" he asked, bending down to consol her. "Billy broke my doll!" she sobbed. "How did Billy break it, darlin'?" His sweet little child responded, "I hit him over the head with it."

The Storm

One summer evening during a violent thunderstorm a mother was tucking her small boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?" The Mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't, dear," she said. "I have to sleep with Daddy." A long silence was broken at last by his shaky little voice: "The big sissy."



From the Pastor's Desk

The Empty Chair

Pastor Billy R Douglas

I wrote this article a couple of years ago and we have heard from so many people that have been touched by it that I felt lead to share it again this year...I pray that it will be a blessing to you.

And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me. 2 Samuel 12:22-23

The words of King David no doubt strike a chord in the heart of each one of us. He was mourning the death of his child. He had wept, fasted, prayed to God...but the child died anyway. Yet during this hard time in his life David found a truth to hold to...a peace that can only come from the Lord. As we gather with our family and friends for Christmas there will be an empty chair or chairs around the table that serve to remind us of loved ones who have went home to be with the Lord. As I thought on this the Holy Spirit brought something to mind that was a comfort to me and I pray that it in some way will comfort you as well. Just as there are empty chairs around our table as we gather, there are empty chairs around that great table in Heaven...those chairs await you and me. And just as King David said...we cannot bring our loved ones back to us but we can most assuredly go to them! If we keep our faith and our trust in Jesus Christ we can have the comfort of knowing that one day in the portals of Heaven we will once again gather around the table with our loved ones. I want to share a poem that I found recently. I am not sure who wrote it but I knew as soon as I read it that the Lord wanted me to share it with you...

Time cannot heal the emptiness
Or fill the empty chair
The one that's in the family room
I see it empty there
Or the chair that's at the table
Where together we would dine
Although I sit there still
The only hands that pray are mine
Still I give thanks to God each day
I pray this prayer comes true
You save an empty chair for me
When I come home to you

I know that the holidays are hard and bring much grief to so many. I have even heard people say that they "hate the holidays" because of the pain of missing loved ones who have passed on. Trust me when I tell you that those who have gone home to be with the Lord would not want us grieving ourselves to death because of their passing. They are happy with the Lord...happier than they ever were in this old world. And they would want us to be happy as well. Take comfort in the fact today that even though they cannot come to be with us in this world and once again fill their empty chair, we will one day take our place at that great marriage supper in Heaven and fill the empty chair that awaits us there.

Not long after writing this article I preached a sermon at VOTL by the same name "The Empty Chair" you can have a copy on CD free of charge by simply writing us and letting us know.

Merry Christmas and may the LORD Bless and keep you is our prayer. Pastor Billy R Douglas

**"ARE YOU IN FELLOWSHIP WITH DEVILS?" conclusion**

By Evangelist Mike Heltsley

When you aren't in fellowship with God, must I spell it out for you who is your fellowship partner? I want to give you a few characteristics of devils that will help you recognize their work in the areas of worship, the spirit, and the mind.

I. DEVILS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH CONFUSION AND DISORDER 1st Corinthians 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. This was said to the church that was warned about having fellowship with devils!

A. They cause confusion and disorder in the heart and mind

1. Unclean spirits attack your mind, prompting and promoting doubt, discord, depression, and despair.
2. They cause confusion and disorder in the home

1. Your problem may not be that you are married to an old grouch.

2. It may not be that your wife is a nag.
3. It MAY be that you are under spiritual attack!

C. They cause confusion and disorder in the house of God

1. Division
2. Discord
3. Debate
4. Disagreement

- If a church votes on something (I don't recommend that churches vote on ANY- thing, but rather follow the leadership of the man of God, who was given the oversight by the Holy Ghost), and the vote is split, that doesn't mean they were wrong in even trying. It means that one side of the split is being deceived by unclean spirits! God the Holy Ghost is not confused! Some of the most nervous, high-strung people you will ever meet are Pentecostals, charismatics, and some Baptists who are always drawn to camp meetings. I know independent Baptist preachers who have that "camp meeting spirit," and they have a difficult time of talking calmly or sitting still for five seconds. There are times that we need to be still in His presence. Don't get me wrong I love shouting, dancing and getting stirred up but I need to be still in His presence as well. Isaiah 30:7 - For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose: therefore have I cried concerning this, their strength is to sit still. Isaiah 30:15 For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

II. DEVILS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH CARNALITY IN DRESS Luke 8:27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs.

A. They cause a distraction from holiness

1. David was distracted by the nakedness of Bathsheba.
2. They cause a dissatisfaction with one's spouse or single status
3. They cause a defilement of one's purity
4. They cause a destruction of one's testimony

If you are dressing to entice the opposite sex rather than to glorify God, you are in fellowship with devils. You should dress to honor God, not attract the lustful gaze of others!

III. DEVILS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH COWARDICE AND DISTRESS 2nd Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

A. In salvation

1. They make you afraid to trust Christ.
2. They make you afraid to fight a good fight. Fight for your pastor! Fight for your church! Fight for your God and His cause!

C. In soul-winning

1. They will do their best to stop you from soul-winning. When you choose to stay home, or you choose to just "visit" and not witness, you are in fellowship with devils. They don't mind you visiting people, if you don't try to get them saved.

IV. DEVILS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH A CLOAK OF DARKNESS Mark 5:5 - And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. 1st John 1:6 - If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: Hopefully, you don't like spending time in the dark ... in graveyards ... and other such places. Roaches like darkness; believers should walk in light!!! Satan is the prince of darkness! He wants to hide the gospel. 2nd Corinthians 4:3-4 - But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

A. Beware of hidden areas

1. Watch out for dark places.
2. Does a dark, smoke-filled room remind you of heaven?

B. Beware of hidden affections

C. Beware of hidden activities

1. Proverbs 15:3 - The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. Are you in fellowship with devils? Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord...And get in fellowship with JESUS! Like the beautiful hymnal says..."What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms ...!"

Until next time, let your light shine for Jesus!

Evangelist Mike Heltsley

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Blessing Through Adversity

Pastor Steven Huston

Golden text— “Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.” Psalm 66:12

Today, God would have us to learn about the importance of powerful, persevering praise. Such persevering praise preserves the heart, soul, and mind of the Christian. Praise in adversity is a part of America’s history that has largely been forgotten—much to our detriment. The land which today is known as the United States of America has known the great pangs of adversity from well before our founding, during our founding era, the Civil War, and even today. Although we are a country of great prosperity, we know the pangs of adversity. It’s part of the human condition and there is no way of escaping it. The question is, how will we deal with adversity? That’s an important question; because, how we deal with adversity will answer the question of “How will adversity deal with us?” This year marks the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim’s Mayflower voyage. Adversity and religious persecution were the motivating factors that brought the Pilgrims to start their voyage. During their voyage and first winter in this new land forty-five of the 102 Mayflower passengers died; those who survived suffered great affliction during their first winter in the New World from lack of shelter, scurvy, and general conditions on board ship. Recounting the many adversities the pilgrims suffered—physical, societal, and political—the leader of this group, William Bradford, ends his narrative, of Plymouth Plantation, with these words: “Let the Lord have the praise, Who is the High Preserver of men.” Regardless the adversity, they looked to God with praise. The Pilgrims had a Biblical view of adversity and affliction; so must we, if we are to handle hardships in a correct way. Let us look at a couple verses just preceding verse 12. Psalms 66:10-12 “For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins. Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.” These verses show some important facts about adversity. 1) God is the author of adversity 2) God is the deliverer out of adversity 3) God has a purpose for adversity in our lives and 4) God uses adversity to help us grow—if we humble ourselves to His perfect will; recognizing that He is sovereign AND He is Good. In short, God brings us TO adversity AND He brings us THROUGH adversity; so He can purify us, better us, and bring us to a place of growth. Verse 12 tells us that God brings us to a “Wealthy place”—“an overflowing place; well irrigated”—in other words, a fertile place. Friends, a fertile place is a place where growth is not only possible but probable. There’s something about opposition and difficulty that awakens the strongest qualities within us. We will either blossom and grow in the fertile soil of affliction (anchored in Christ) or we will wither from the heat of its blast furnace and be brought to nothing. It seems that all the illustrious Bible characters were educated in the school of adversity. It’s there they earned their doctorate—their PHD—Praise Him Diligently (and Daily)! Joseph went to the throne by way of a pit and prison. David’s path to the throne came through a 9 year valley of persecution, oppression, and affliction. Paul preached in Caesar’s house a shackled prisoner. John Bunyan is most well-known because of his faithfulness through affliction in the Bedford jail, where he wrote Pilgrim’s Progress. Tertullian rightly said, “The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church,” as the Roman Coliseum’s arena ran with the lifeblood of Christian martyrs. Think about the churches in Revelation; who were promised the blessings and rewards of Christ? The overcomers! But don’t be discouraged Church. God brings you to affliction, yes; BUT HE—our GOD—brings you THROUGH affliction as well! Trust IN Him with PRAISE! He brings us to a wealthy place—a fertile place of growth—when we water that place with praise. We suffer personal afflictions regardless of where we live because we are part of a fallen world. But there are those who suffer affliction for the sake of Christ all around the world and even in this nation. I am not a prophet but I am a student of history and of the bible. If things continue as they are (and I believe the times are such that they will), unless God moves mightily in our nation we will suffer great affliction. Therefore we must both be prepared for it and help others to become prepared for it as well. As we think of the wealthy (fertile) place the psalmist points to, let us realize some things. The wealth of greater grace is better than gold. The wealth of wisdom is better than the worldliness he may purge from us. The superior sanctification He brings to us is preferable to any bursting savings account, any social standing, or any soft comforts our bodies may long for. He CAN give both to us; but so long as He gives greater grace and better understanding of Himself—I am content to shout and proclaim—JESUS IS ENOUGH!!! O to praise God for His manifold grace in bringing us both to affliction and through it, that we might obtain fertile growth in His grace.

Pastor Steven Huston - 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412



Sugar Cookies

- 1 Cup unsalted butter
- 1 Cup granulated white sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 egg
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups all purpose flour:

Preheat oven to 350° F. In the bowl of your mixer cream butter and sugar until smooth, at least 3 minutes Beat in extracts and egg. In a separate bowl combine baking powder and salt with flour and add a little at a time to the wet ingredients. The dough will be very stiff. If it becomes too stiff for your mixer turn out the dough onto a counter-top surface. Wet your hands and finish off kneading the dough by hand. DO NOT CHILL THE DOUGH. Divide into workable batches, roll out onto a floured surface and cut. You want these cookies to be on the thicker side (closer to 1/4 inch rather than 1/8). Bake at 350 for 6-8 minutes or until lightly browned. Let cool on the cookie sheet until firm enough to transfer to a cooling rack.

Cheesy Spinach Dip

- 1 lb Velveeta Queso Blanco Cheese
- 1 can Rotel
- 10oz box frozen spinach, thawed and drained
- 2 Tablespoons diced mild jalapenos

Melt cheese and rotel over low heat in saucepan. Remove from heat. Add spinach and jalapenos. Serve warm with Tortilla chips.

Ham & Pineapple Cheese Ball

- 8 oz cream cheese softened
- 8 oz crushed pineapple (canned) drained
- 1 Tbs powdered sugar
- 2-3 Tbs green onions chopped
- 1/3 cup ham chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Mix all ingredients together, and form into a ball Chill until firm, then roll in crushed pecans. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Swedish Meatballs

- 3 lbs. ground beef
- 1 pkg. onion soup mix
- 5 oz. can pet milk
- 4 T. Worcestershire sauce

Sauce

- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 cups ketchup
- 4 T. Worcestershire sauce

Mix meatball ingredients in large bowl and let stand for 5 minutes. Shape into balls and broil for 10 minutes. Place in crock pot. Mix sauce ingredients together. Pour over meatballs. Cook until hot. Do not stir.

Honey Glazed Slow Cooker Ham

- 1 fully cooked boneless ham (5 to 6 lb)
- 2 T. honey mustard
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup Coca Cola

Spray 6- to 7-quart oval slow cooker with cooking spray. Make cuts about 1 inch apart and 1/4 inch deep in diamond pattern in top of ham. Place ham in slow cooker. In small bowl, stir together mustard, honey, brown sugar and cola with a whisk until well blended. Pour mixture over ham. Cover; cook on Low heat setting 3 to 4 hours or until meat thermometer inserted in ham reads 140°F. Remove ham from slow cooker. Cover loosely with foil; let stand 10 to 15 minutes. Strain cooking juices. Slice ham; pour strained juices over ham.



A Covenant With God

Pastor Mike Vaughn

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Matthew 10:28

David's relationship with the Lord as a youth prepared him for Goliath. All odds were stacked against David in the natural. Goliath was bigger, more trained in combat and equipped with armor. What was David's Defense? His relationship with God. He believed that God was with Israel because they had a covenant with God and Goliath did not. He called Goliath an uncircumcised Philistine.[1 Samuel 17:1-49] Are the odds stacked against you? Maybe the devil has told you, "You're not smart enough, not talented enough, you're too old or you're too young. Remember this; As a Christian, You have a covenant with God. You have received the circumcision of the heart. Your Covenant includes peace, protection & provision. And remember this; One plus God is a majority. And little is much when God is in it. To quote our New Covenant; Paul says, in Rom. 8:31 "If God is for us, who can be against us?" No place for fear in that; only confidence.

You are loved with an everlasting Love, Mike

Good News Fellowship Tickfaw, LA 70466 - www.mvmgoodnews.com

The BIG News

Charles Swindoll (edited)

The News is noy always THE BIG NEWS! Take the year 1809. The international scene was tumultuous. Napoleon was sweeping through Austria; blood was flowing freely. Nobody then cared about babies. But the world was overlooking some terribly significant births. For example, William Gladstone was born that year. He was destined to become one of England's finest statesman. That same year, Alfred Tennyson was born to an obscure minister and his wife. The child would one day greatly affect the literary world in a marked manner. On the American continent, Oliver Wendell Holmes was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. And that same year produced the cries of a newborn infant in a rugged log cabin in Hardin County, Kentucky. The baby's name? Abraham Lincoln. If there had been news broadcasts at that time, I'm certain these words would have been heard: "The destiny of the world is being shaped on an Austrian battlefield today." But history was actually being shaped in the cradles of England and America. Similarly, everyone thought taxation was the big news--when Jesus was born. But a young Jewish woman cradled the biggest news of all: the birth of the Savior.

The Unspeakable Gift

(Author Unknown)

Long ago, there ruled in Persia a wise and good king. He loved his people. He wanted to know how they lived. He wanted to know about their hardships. Often he dressed in the clothes of a working man or a beggar, and went to the homes of the poor. No one whom he visited thought that he was their ruler. One time he visited a very poor man who lived in a cellar. He ate the coarse food the poor man ate. He spoke cheerful, kind words to him. Then he left. Later he visited the poor man again and disclosed his identity by saying, "I am your king!" The king thought the man would surely ask for some gift or favor, but he didn't. Instead he said, "You left your palace and your glory to visit me in this dark, dreary place. You ate the course food I ate. You brought gladness to my heart! To others you have given your rich gifts. To me you have given yourself!" The King of glory, the Lord Jesus Christ, gave himself to you and me. The Bible calls Him, "the unspeakable gift!"

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift. 2 Corinthians 9:15



Never Surrender

George Whitten

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 15:57

During World War 2, a staggering 75 million died during those years. In those fateful years, the world fought against the greatest evil it had ever seen, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi regime. In the midst of this war, Winston Churchill said, "We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender." U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "The only thing we have to fear -- is fear itself!" The United States and England stood bold in the face of evil and in time prevailed! But it took resolve, it took fortitude, and tremendous perseverance in the face of evil to finally achieve this great victory! The enemy of our souls, Satan, knows his time is short and he is unleashing an unprecedented war against the saints throughout the world. But we too must resolve to stand face to face against our enemy and claim the victory we already have in the Lord! In the face of any trial and tribulation we're facing today ... the word for you is -- Stand Firm! Let's recognize the truth that the victory is already ours --- and let us continue to walk in it! Greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world!

www.worthydevotions.com

The Gold Wrapping Paper

author unknown

Once upon a time, there was a man who worked very hard just to keep food on the table for his family. This particular year a few days before Christmas, he punished his little 5-year-old daughter after learning that she had used up the family's only roll of gold wrapping paper. As money was tight, he became even more upset when on Christmas Eve he saw that the child had used all of the paper to decorate one shoebox she had put under the Christmas tree. And on top of all of that the wrapped box served only to remind him that he could not afford to buy his family any presents for Christmas. Nevertheless, the next morning the little girl, filled with excitement, brought the gift box to her father and said, "This is for you, Daddy!" As he opened the box, the father was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, now regretting how he had punished her. But when he opened the shoebox, he found it was empty and again his anger flared. "Don't you know, young lady," he said harshly, "when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside the package!" The little girl looked up at him with sad tears rolling from her eyes and whispered: "Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into it until it was all full." The father was crushed. He fell on his knees and put his arms around his precious little girl. He begged her to forgive him for his unnecessary anger. An accident took the life of the child only a short time later. It is told that the father kept this little gold box by his bed for all the years of his life. Whenever he was discouraged or faced difficult problems, he would open the box, take out an imaginary kiss, and remember the love of this beautiful child who had put it there. In a very real sense, each of us has been given an invisible golden box filled with unconditional love and kisses from our children, family, friends and God. What a priceless and precious possession that each one of us should cherish.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Matthew 1:21-23

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14



A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: Proverbs 6:1-2 My son, if thou be surety for thy friend, if thou hast stricken thy hand with a stranger, Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

Additional passages for Today: Proverbs 6:1-11; Deut. 23:21-23; Judges 11:30-39

Thought for Today: Be careful what you say. You may mean well by promising to help a friend only to find that you have been taken advantage of by your own words. Making our self a hero doesn't always work out how we plan and it doesn't give glory to God.

Story for Today: Heather, Tom and Benny made their way up the snow covered path. It was a beautiful winter evening with the stars sparkling and the moon lighting their way. Tom and Heather had been married just over seven years and four year old Benny was their pride and joy. Christmas was always tough on the couple as they wanted to lavish gifts on their only child and buy for the nieces and nephews and a few friends. Tom and Heather were both hard workers but their jobs just never seemed adequate to meet the needs and their wants too. Their old beater was giving them trouble again and Tom knew it was only a matter of time before the cost of repairs was greater than the vehicle was worth or that they could afford. Tonight as they walked to their friend's and neighbor's, Bruce and Angela's, house, Heather was grateful that it was close by and that they could still make it without having to wait for Tom to try to figure out what was wrong this time. Last week a co-worker had shown Tom an advertisement for a car that looked really nice. Tom wished he could afford it. It was just a little more than he thought they could handle but as he told Bruce about the vehicle, Bruce could hear his desire and spoke without thinking about it. Quickly he told Tom that he would cover the payments if they were short money. Tom was so excited. He and Heather thanked their friends over and over. Bruce tried to make light of it as if this was really no big deal. The next day Bruce met with Tom and they made their way to the bank where Bruce co-signed for the loan. In short order the transaction was complete and Tom and Heather had a new set of wheels and the old clunker was a thing of the past. The transfer of plates, extra insurance cost and taxes was more than what Tom had ever imagined and as the time rolled around for the payment he found he was short and unable to make the payment. His embarrassment got the best of him. He didn't mention the trouble to Bruce or Angela. He figured they would be able to make up for it out of the next check. However the credit card bill was due the next week. Christmas was quite expensive this year. Before they knew it, the next payment was due and they were in no better shape only having half of what was owed for the first month. Tom was afraid Bruce would be notified and dreaded seeing him. He was grateful for the hard winter that he thought was a good excuse for not seeing his buddy. Bruce was shocked when he received the bill in the mail from the bank. His "friend" hadn't made a payment and now he owed. They would have to cancel their vacation and he would have to work overtime just to make the monthly payment. No wonder Tom wasn't around. Bruce remembered the verse he had read just that morning in Proverbs 6. He now understood it much better. And he realized after talking to Angela that Tom and Heather weren't the only ones at fault in this situation. They had wanted to seem like the hero and in doing so, had urged Tom to make this decision that obviously wasn't the best for their family. Bruce realized things were going to be awkward for a while if Tom wasn't able to make the payments. He hoped that this bad decision didn't ruin their relationship.

Questions for Today: Is it really helping someone develop good character if we help them "get in over their heads?" What would be a better option that would lead a friend to a closer walk with God?

Prayer for Today: Heavenly Father, please forgive us for desiring to be the savior for our friends instead of pointing them to contentment and seeking your guidance and will in these situations. Help us to point others to you and be a real friend. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen



The Constipated Church

by Pastor Billy R. Douglas

Sermon CD Available for a love gift of Any Size!



FOOD BANK

If you or someone you know is in need of help from our Food Bank or if you would like to donate food items.

Call - (270) 313-8753

or (270) 302-9442



MINISTRY PARTNERS NEEDED

Please prayerfully consider becoming a VOTL Ministry partner by sending a love gift of any size each month. We need your help to continue this World-wide Gospel outreach. All of our ministry partners receive our sermon of the month on CD along with their newsletter each month.



Ministry Resources



Worldwide Radio

Listen 24/7 on your computer, laptop, smart phone, Roku and more!

www.VOTLRADIO.com

Video

Watch our latest and archived sermon videos

www.youtube.com/votltabernacle

Podcast

Listen to and download archived sermons and radio broadcasts

www.votlradio.podomatic.com

Newsletter Archives

View and print our latest edition of THE TRUMPET as well as past issues

www.thetrumpetonline.com

Weekly Radio Programs

The Voice of the LORD Broadcast

The Old Gospel Ship

Airing on FM, AM & Internet stations across America

For more information and Ministry resources visit our websites

www.votlradio.com

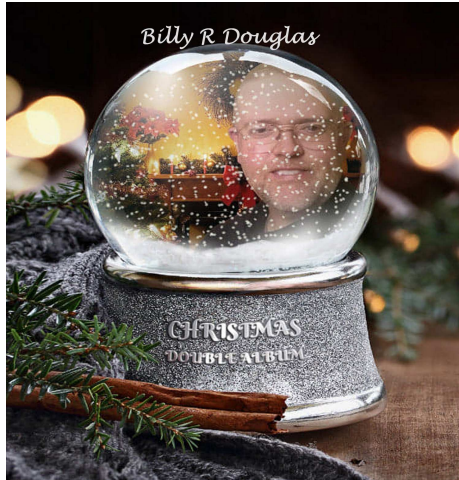
www.voiceofthelordministries.com

www.votlministries.com

www.theoldgospelship.com

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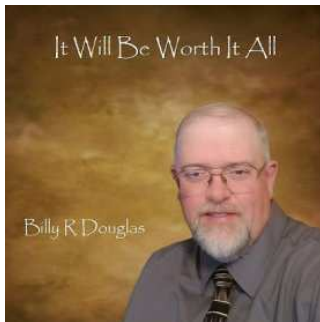


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He's The Reason For The Season (2005)

1.Country Christmas 2.Three Wise Men 3.An Old Christmas Card 4.He's The Reason For The Season 5.When Jesus Came 6.Christmas On His Knees 7.Santa Claus Got Saved 8.What Child Is This 9.Mary Did You Know 10.Go Tell It On The Mountain 11.O Come All Ye Faithful 12.Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem 13.C H R I S T M A S 14.Sleep Little Baby 15.O Little Town Of Bethlehem 16.The First Christmas Tree 17.Josephs Song 18.Joy To The World 19.Come On Ring Those Bells 20.The Gift



NEWEST CD (2019)

It Will Be Worth It All

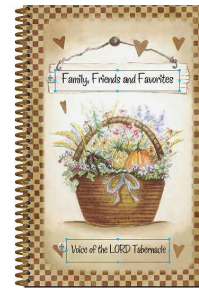
- 1-Against The Tree
- 2-I'm Not Lucky
- 3-That's Why I Call It Grace
- 4-It Will Be Worth It All
- 5-I Don't Deserve A Mansion
- 6-A Touch From You
- 7-Singing Preacher Man
- 8-Somebody Touched Me
- 9-Honor You With Praise
- 10-This Train Is Bound For Glory
- 11-Not The Great I Was



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www.votlradio.com

WXPS FM 92.1 - Spartanburg, SC

91.5 FM McDaniels / Leitchfield /
Central City KY

98.3 FM Rockport Indiana /
Owensboro KY

91.1 FM Hiseville / Glasgow KY

WPAK 1490 AM Farmville, Virginia

www.goodtalkradio.com Mesa, AZ

WOTG Radio - Pinellas Park, FL

The Old Gospel Ship

VOTL Radio
www.votlradio.com

WOTG Radio - Pinellas Park, FL

WXCF-AM 1230 - Covington, VA

WKEY-AM 1340 - Covington, VA

WKEY-FM 103.5 - Covington, VA

WRMV FM 94.5 - Madison Heights, VA

WPAK 1490 AM Farmville, Virginia

Showers of Blessings 104 FM
Pago Pago, American Samoa

WJJT FM 105.9 WJJT AM 1540
Jellico, TN

WYAP-LP 101.7 FM - Clay, WV

WGAA 1340 AM - Cedartown, Georgia

RKP Radio 1710 AM - Washington, PA

WEKT 1070 AM - Elkton, KY

South Wind Radio - Montesano, WA

ASLN Radio - Cordova, Alaska

GCIN Radio - Wiggins, MS

WNY Radio - Youngstown, NY

WHSB Radio - Columbus, OH

Swain County Christian FM
Bryson City, NC

WTRP 1620 AM
Lagrange, GA

CCRG & WUUK 105.7 FM
Erie, PA

WBPS FM 101.9 Cambridge, Ohio

WBLB 107.5 FM 1340 AM
Pulaski, VA

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carry our programs visit our websites

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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 too late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus.



The Gospel in Word & Song 24/7

WWW.VOTLRADIO.COM



VOTL Tabernacle

216 Hill St. Livermore, KY

Services

Sunday Morning Service 11 AM

Everyone Welcome

Voice of the LORD Ministries
P.O. Box 541 - Livermore, KY 42352

Phone: 270-313-8753

Web Site: www.voiceofthelordministries.com

Email: voiceofthelordministries@juno.com