

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">THE TRUMPET</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">WWW.THETRUMPETONLINE.COM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Voice of the LORD Ministries</p>
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### You're Always There for Me

When the world comes crashing in  
 And chaos rules my mind,  
 I turn my heart to you, Lord,  
 And pure, sweet peace I find.  
 You lift me out of trouble  
 You comfort me in pain;  
 You nourish, heal and cleanse me,  
 Like cool, refreshing rain.  
 In times of joy and bliss,  
 When things are going right,  
 You lift me even higher,  
 And fill me with delight.  
 You listen to my prayers;  
 You hear my every plea;  
 I'm safe because I know  
 You're always there for me.  
 ~Joanna Fuchs~

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Hebrews 13:5-8

### That's What Fathers Do

Linda Buxa

On the way to school one snowy morning, my kids hit a slippery patch and slid off the road. Now, the kids were fine and the car was fine, but they were a little shaken up. They couldn't get out of the ditch by themselves, so they called us. Immediately my husband jumped in the car and went to help, because that's what fathers do.

When we run our lives into a ditch, we aren't fine, but it seems our first reaction isn't to call our heavenly Father. After all, we know he's holy and we're not—and we're afraid of his anger or disappointment. May I reassure you? Your Father is waiting—longing—for you to “call,” to pray, to reach out.

There's a Bible story about a young man who disowned his family and then ran his life into a ditch. Ultimately he realized he needed help and—ashamed—went back home. “And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.” (Luke 15:20,21)

What the son said was true. He had sinned and wasn't worthy, yet the Father still hugged him, welcomed him, and then threw a huge party.

Make the call. Your Father wants to help, because that's what fathers do.

If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? Luke 11:11-13



## Cousin Leroy

### Hey Cousin Leroy, How Poor Were You??

When I was growing up we were so poor that one year all I got for Christmas was a used air guitar! But the kid down the street had it even worse than I did. He was so poor he asked me if he could have my old one!

When I was growing up we were so poor that for breakfast we had ordinary K!

When I was growing up we were so poor that we had to borrow the cup from one neighbor and the sugar from another!

When I was growing up we were so poor that I had to bathe in the spring...when money was good I would bathe in the fall too.

When I was growing up we were so poor that we would have to wait for grandpa to sneeze to get something to hang on the Christmas tree!

When I was growing up we were so poor that the only time we had a good meal is when someone passed away. If we ever caught a whiff of fried chicken our first thought was "Hey maybe somebody's dead"!

When I was growing up we were so poor we couldn't even pay attention!

### Phone Call

A teenage girl had been talking on her phone for about half an hour, and then she hung up. "Wow!" said her father, "That was short. You usually talk for two hours or more. What happened?" "Wrong number..." replied the girl.

### Things You Never Hear At Church

Hey, it's my turn to sit on the front pew!

Personally I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf or fishing!

I've decided to give our church the \$500 a month that I have been sending to the TV preacher!

Since we are all here let's start the service early!

Don't be silly I love it when babies cry during my sermons!

I sure wish the Pastor would preach longer!

### Doctor Visit

A guy goes into the doctor's office. There's a banana stuck in one of his ears, a carrot stuck in one nostril, and a cucumber in the other ear. The man says, "Doc, this is terrible. What's wrong with me?" The doctor says, "Well, first of all, you're not eating right."

### The New Doctor

A woman went to a walk-in clinic, where she was seen by a young, new doctor. After about three minutes in the examination room, the doctor told her she was pregnant. She burst out, screaming as she ran down the hall. An older doctor stopped her and asked what the problem was, and she told him what had happened. After listening, he had her sit down and relax in another exam room. The doctor marched down the hallway back to where the first doctor was and demanded, "What's the matter with you? Mrs. Terry is 59 years old, has four grown children and seven grandchildren, and you told her she was PREGNANT?!" The young doctor continued to write on his clipboard, and without looking up, asked, "Does she still have the hiccups?"

**Be Still...Slow Down...LISTEN***From the Pastor's Desk*

Pastor Billy R Douglas

Be still, and know that I am God:... Psalms 46:10

A young and successful (very busy) executive was traveling down a neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on the brakes and backed the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown.

The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car shouting, "What was that all about and who are you? Just what are you doing? That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money. Why did you do it?" The young boy was apologetic. "Please, mister...please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do," He pleaded. "I threw the brick because no one else would stop..."

With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car. "It's my brother," he said. "He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up." Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me." Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out a linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay. "Thank you and may God bless you," the grateful child told the stranger.

Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy! push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind him of this message:

What a wonderful lesson and example! None of us should go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at us to get our attention! God whispers to our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes when we don't have time to listen, He may even throw a brick at us. It's our choice to listen or not.

The Bible says in Luke 19:47-48 "And he (Jesus) taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him, And could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him."

The Word "attentive" in this passage of scripture means..."to hang upon the lips of a speaker"! John Gill put it this way..."the people were ready to catch every word that dropped from his lips"! May this be our prayer today...LORD help us to be "attentive" to hear you! May we be ready to catch every Word that drops from your lips!

Until next time, "May the LORD Bless and keep you," is our prayer. Pastor Billy R Douglas

**I Will Restore To You The Years part 01**

Evangelist Mike Heltsley

Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. The Lord Will Pour Out His Spirit And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call. Joel 2:21-32

Money can be restored. Property can be restored—broken-down cars, stripped painting, old houses. Relationships can be restored. But one thing that can never be restored is time. Time flies and it does not return. Years pass and we never get them back. Yet God promises the impossible: “I will restore the years that the locust has eaten” (Joel 2:25). The immediate meaning of this promise is clear. God’s people had suffered the complete destruction of their entire harvest through swarms of locusts that marched like an insect army through the fields, destroying the crops, multiplying their number as they went. For four consecutive years, the harvest was completely wiped out. God’s people were brought to their knees in more ways than one.

Joel 2:18-19 - Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. 19 Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen. In the coming years, God said in Joel 2:24-26 - And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil 25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. 26 And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. This wonderful promise for those people meant that years of abundant harvests would follow the years of desolation brought about by the locusts.

But God has also put this promise in the Bible for us today. Lost Years of Our Lives What do “lost years” look like for us? Lost years (or locust years) are years that you can’t get back, and they come in many varieties. 1. Lost years are fruitless years. A lot of hard work was done in the years the locusts had eaten. After everything was destroyed, the people must have thought, All this work and what do I have to show for it? Some of you know this pain in the world of business—a failed venture, a bad investment, a misguided policy, and all the effort that you put in day-by-day, month-by-month, year-by-year led only to massive disappointment. You think, What has come of all my time and all my effort? 2. Lost years are painful years. I’m thinking of those who have lost a loved one. You had plans for the future, but now you fear the coming years may be empty. I’m thinking also of those who live with illness in the body or the mind. You assumed that you would always be able to do what you used to do. You have to find a way to live with the disappointment that you cannot.



## **Syncretism: Assault on all that is holy**

Pastor Steven Huston

Psalm 12 assures us that "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times." It's vital that we whole-heartedly accept and adhere to the whole counsel of God in its pure, unadulterated form. Syncretism assaults the Word of God, the Christian faith, the Church whose sacred Head is Jesus, and, indirectly, our nation which was founded upon the principles of Biblical Christianity. It's an assault on our soul and upon the souls of our children. It's vital that you understand this war which is being waged and what you can do to protect yourself and those you love.

Syncretism could best be described as spiritual or theological "hash." Most of the older folks who are reading this will recognize hash as being a dish of chopped meat, potatoes, and sometimes vegetables that have been fried together. They may also "fondly" recall that any leftovers might become a main ingredient. I remember hearing one old Baptist preacher jokingly proclaim that many folks didn't like hash because they didn't know what was in it and others refused to eat it because they did know.

Some of the ingredients in this spiritual hash would include Christianity, paganism, secularism, and humanism, often heated by one's emotions, likes, and lusts. In other words, syncretism is a conglomeration of various beliefs where one has created a hybrid god viewed as more appealing than the one, true God of the Bible. We will get a better understanding of why this is so important for us to recognize as we look at some numbers from George Barna and reflect on God's words through the prophet Jeremiah: "...consider diligently, and see if there be such a thing. Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit. Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid...For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." (2:10-13)

Some of you may be familiar with syncretism as it relates to Chrislam (the melding together of Christianity and Islam); the syncretism of Wicca with Christianity – like "Christian witches" and "Christian tarot cards;" as well as the syncretism of Christianity and communism which has steadily been taking place in China at the behest of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). What you may not be aware of is the overwhelming speed and breadth at which this spiritual "hash" is being flung into American churches and homes.

It's vital that we understand how this issue is affecting our nation and, in particular, our children. We must seriously evaluate the churches we are attending and compare our pastor's preaching with the whole counsel of God, otherwise we could possibly be putting ourselves in grave danger. As one online source stated, "Perhaps our greatest concern shouldn't be empty pulpits, but rather empty pastors standing in them."

The Christian Post reports on a recent Barna survey, stating, "The nationwide study of about 1,000 Christian pastors found that just slightly more than a third (37%) of the U.S. pastors hold a biblical worldview. The majority (62%) possess a hybrid worldview known as Syncretism." They also quote George Barna as saying, "From a worldview perspective, a church's most important ministers are the children's pastor and the youth pastor. Discovering that seven out of every eight of those pastors lack a biblical worldview helps to explain why so few people in the nation's youngest generations are developing a heart and mind for biblical principles and ways of life, and why our society seems to have run wild over the last decade, in particular." With all this, it's easy to understand why Jesus would ask, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

What can we do to battle this corrosive doctrine of demons called syncretism? Faithfully attend a Bible believing church where application is strong and relevant. Live out a life of personal holiness and speak the truth in love, addressing the church, the culture, and our children. Finally, take to heart this admonition by J.C. Ryle: "Walk more closely with God. Get nearer to Christ. Seek to exchange hope for assurance. Seek to feel the witness of the Spirit more closely and distinctly every year. Lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily threatens you. Press towards the mark more earnestly. Fight a better fight, and war a better warfare every year you live. Pray more. Read more. Subdue self more. Love the brethren more. Oh that you may endeavor to grow in grace every year, that the end of your Christian course may be better than the beginning!"

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



# Reesie's Recipes



## Stuffed Mushrooms

2 lbs fresh mushrooms

2 Tbsp butter

1/3 cup onion, diced

1/2 lb sausage

1 small box frozen spinach

1/2 lb Monterey jack cheese, grated

Clean mushrooms, cutting off stems. Dice 1/2 cup mushroom stems. Saute onion and mushroom stems in butter. Cook sausage and drain. In saucepan cook spinach, drain. Mix sauteed onions, mushroom stems, sausage, spinach and cheese. Stuff mushrooms.

Place in shallow greased pan. Bake at 350 for 15 minutes.

## Sausage & Stuffing Appetizers

1/4 cup butter

1/2 cup water

1 box stove top stuffing for pork

1 egg

1/4 lb sausage

1 lb bacon

Melt butter with water. Stir in stuffing mix, add egg and sausage. Blend with hands. Chill for one hour or so. Shape into balls. Cut bacon into thirds. Wrap around balls and insert toothpick. Cook at 375 for 35 minutes.

## White Chocolate Strawberry Pie

### CRUST

1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs

1 stick butter, melted

Dash of salt

### FILLING

12 oz cream cheese, softened

2 cups powdered sugar

1/2 cup white chocolate chips

1 1/2 Tbsp fresh squeezed orange juice

2 cups cool whip

Dash of salt

### TOPPING

1 lb strawberries, sliced

3 Tbsp white chocolate chips

Crush graham crackers. Pour melted butter over crumbs. Pour evenly into pie dish, press along bottom and sides. Pour 1/2 cup white chocolate chips into a small bowl. Melt, stirring every 30 seconds. Set aside to cool a bit. In large mixing bowl beat cream cheese until smooth. Add powdered sugar, mix well. Add cool whip, orange juice, melted chips and salt. Mix well. Mixture should be creamy and smooth. Spoon filling over crust. Wash and slice strawberries. Layer on top of filling. Melt additional white chocolate chips for topping. Drizzle over strawberries. Chill for 1 hour.

## No Peek Steak Tips

2 lbs stew meat

1 can cream of mushroom soup

1 packet brown gravy

1 envelope beefy onion soup mix

1 can of water.

Place the meat in a 13x9 pan. Mix together the other ingredients in a bowl. Pour over the meat. Cover with foil. Bake at 300 for 3 hours. No peeking! Serve with mashed potatoes or noodles.



## **Silent, YET POWERFUL!!**

George Whitten

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis. Colossians 4:12-13

Epaphras is not a name you hear much of. He was a member of the church in Colosse, and obviously a dear saint in the Lord. We know that he suffered imprisonment with Paul at one time. But the thing that really impresses me about this saint is what Paul wrote about him— he always laboured in prayer!

The intercessory work of the saint through prayer is the work behind the scenes, the silent ministry that the world knows little of, yet more powerful than any weapon on earth unleashing power from above that makes demons tremble! This was a man with whom Paul must have been accustomed to praying, and clearly the apostle knew of his zeal from personal experience. But notice what Epaphras prayed for – that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God! That's my prayer for each one of our readers!

In this day and age, when you can feel the winds of spiritual warfare swirling all around – when faith will be tested to the extreme – my prayer is that you will stand perfect and complete in the will of God! With so much work to be done, and so many of us under severe attack, never neglect the power of prayer – for this silent ministry counts so much more than you may realize, not only here on earth-- but also, where it really counts...in heaven! [www.worthydevotions.com](http://www.worthydevotions.com)

## **THE PROMISE**

Pastor Nikki Corbin - Truth Chapel - Spartanburg, SC

Just a few months before my husband Scott passed away, I had started a notebook where I encouraged everyone that when they were reading the Bible and read something that God promised us, they could write it down in the notebook and we would periodically, read these promises together. Well, when Scott passed away, I stopped. I didn't stop reading my Bible or believing God, I just stopped writing these promises in a notebook. Partly because I stay so busy. Partly because it was something I started with Scott. Partly because.... I don't know why. I just didn't feel like it. Sometimes, I would look at it, but then just decide to leave it laying where it was. Well, this morning, while spending time talking to God, feeling the overwhelming weight of my grief, I finally decided to just look in it and remind myself of the scriptures that we had written. Reading how God is faithful. How he comforts us. How He's there in our time of trouble. How His grace is sufficient. So thankful for His promises! Reminds me of the song "This is the Promise."...

"I never said that I would give you silver or gold Or that you would never feel the fire or shiver in the cold But I did say you'd never walk through this world alone And I did say, don't make this world your home

I never said that fear wouldn't find you in the night Or that loneliness was something you'd never have to fight But I did say I'd be right there by your side And I did say I'll always help you fight

'Cause you know I made a promise that I intend to keep My grace will be sufficient in every time of need My love will be the anchor that you can hold onto This is the promise, this is the promise I made to you

I never said that friends would never turn their backs on you Or that the world around you wouldn't see you as a fool But I did say like me, you'll surely be despised And I did say my ways confound the wise

I didn't say you'd never taste the bitter kiss of death Or have to walk through chilly Jordan to enter into rest But I did say I'd be waiting right on the other side And I did say I'll dry every tear you cry

'Cause you know I made a promise that I've prepared a place And some day sooner than you think you'll see me face to face And you'll sing with the angels and a countless multitude This is the promise, this is the promise I've made to you

So just keep on walkin', don't turn to the left or right And in the midst of darkness, let this be your light That hell can't separate us and you're gonna make it through This is the promise, this is the promise I made to you This is the promise, this is the promise I made to you"

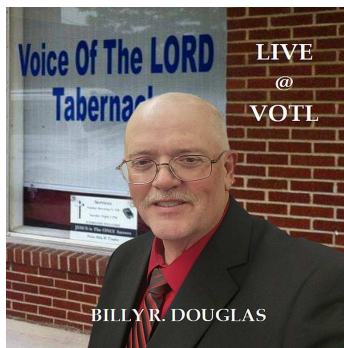


## Samuel Logan Brengle

Old-time Salvationist Samuel Logan Brengle, in Helps to Holiness shares, "The Lord has been allowing me to pass through a series of the most troublesome little times, just calculated to annoy me to the uttermost. But while waiting on Him in prayer, He showed me that if I had more confidence in Him in my difficulties, I would keep on rejoicing ... and so I proved it to be. Bless His holy name! I did rejoice, and one trial after another vanished away. Only the sweetness of my Lord's presence and blessing remained, and my heart has been kept in perfect peace since."

Can we, like Brother Brengle, have more confidence in our Lord, even as he did? Draw near to the Lord with rejoicing in the midst of your trials, trusting Him to bring you through, and I believe you, too, will find your trials vanishing as the sweetness and peace of Jesus is left in their place. He IS faithful, desiring to help you be faithful and growing.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. Hebrews 10:35



01. Lost In The Presence\*
02. If The Rapture Was Yesterday\*
03. This Valley Is For Me\*
04. Pray For Me\*
05. Miracle Business\*
06. Walk A Little Farther\*
07. Too Much To Gain To Lose
08. To Be Like Jesus\*
09. Winner Either Way
10. I Believe He's Coming Back\* (with Rosie Douglas)
11. Go Ahead And Throw\*
12. Did It Ever Just Occur To You\* (with Tyler Willis)
13. The Beggar And The King\*
14. When He Was On The Cross\*
15. The Only Real Peace\*
16. Invitation\*

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## **The Message Of The Cross**

Pastor David Starnes

Some may wonder why when I preach or mention Jesus I usually and the phrase "and Him crucified." Or why I use the phrase "Message of the Cross" instead of simply saying the "Gospel." I will explain by first saying that the Gospel and the Message of the Cross are synonyms. They refer to the same thing. The issue is that in our day and age I feel we have to further clarify which "Gospel" we are preaching. You see, there are so many preaching a false Gospel these days, that it is necessary to define which Gospel I preach. So I clarify it by saying "the Jesus of Scripture" or "Jesus Christ and Him Crucified."

There are many preaching a false Jesus... either adding things to or removing something from the Plan of Salvation. Sometimes this is done in ignorance, sometimes in malice, and often in pride. There are many false gospels being taught. So many in fact, that to simply say the word "Gospel" many times means different things to different people. But when I say "The message of the Cross," "The Jesus of Scripture," and "Jesus Christ, and Him Crucified," I am further defining the Gospel I am preaching.

See, the Virgin Birth, the Healing Ministry of Jesus, What He accomplished at Calvary, His Resurrection, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit... these and many more biblical concepts are defined and given relevance by the Message of the Cross. my Faith in this Biblical Jesus and what He accomplished at Calvary gives me not only cleansing from the penalty of my sin, but also progressively sanctifies me and grants me victory over sin in my life, as I become more like Him and less like me. I am not ashamed of the Jesus Christ of Scripture! The world has little problem with the vague mention of God, or the preaching of an incomplete Jesus who did some good deeds. But when you say I serve Jesus Christ, the Crucified One, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David, the Bright and Morning Star...

That One who was WORTHY to open the Book and loose the seals...The One who scourged the temple with a whip He braided Himself...The Jesus whose Fan is in His Hand...The Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley...The Alpha and Omega... My advocate with the Father...Whose blood has bought me, freed me from sin... The world will hate you for preaching this Jesus. But I must tell them about Him. I am compelled by His love. The Blood of this Jesus, this Crucified One, is still the only thing that has ever given man victory over sin, That is why I preach this message, because it is truth.

Pastor David Starnes - Old Union Crosslife Church Hwy 67 Simms, TX 75574

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## **Open Our Spiritual Eyes!**

Pastor Mike Vaughn

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. 2 Kings 6:15-17

The Aramean army was advancing. Enemy horses, troops, and chariots were everywhere, surrounding the city with the purpose of seizing Elisha. Elisha's servant was petrified at the sight of the massive army. When the servant cried out to his master, Elisha shared how he perceived in spirit the might of the Lord, which was far greater than the forces opposing them. When Elisha prayed for God to open his servants eyes so that he, too, could see what Elisha was seeing, Immediately he saw the horses and chariots of fire protecting them. The Lord is ready to open our eyes afresh for each new situation and to show us his His vast resources. His strength and might are far greater than the enemy, but we like the servant see "through a glass darkly", and we need God to open our spiritual eyes.



### **The Just Shall Live By Faith**

by Pastor Billy R. Douglas

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# A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

**Verse for Today:** Proverbs 23:4 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

**Additional passages for Today:** 1Timothy 6:9-10; James 1:9-12; Col 3:1 & 2

**Thought for Today:** God wants us to focus on eternal things, things that can't be bought with money or other material possessions. Labour for the kingdom, not for selfish riches.

**Story for Today:** Levi had some tough decisions to make, and soon. The pressure to decide what he would do with his future as he chose a college was nothing compared to the overwhelming choices he faced as he struggled to decide what he would major in and the courses needed. He had been looking at many different recommendations about what this college had to offer and when they recommended the classes be taken. He also had spoken to several men in his life, asking them for guidance. His Dad was a quiet man that really didn't want to sway his son one way or the other and left the decision up to him. Several of his teachers were more than willing to encourage him to focus on a specific field. He even had one man try to convince him that he should only focus on the fields that had the most potential for financial success. Levi was still unsettled as he thought about a lifetime of work and what he should do. He was grateful that most of his classes this first year were basic classes and were required prerequisites for all of the fields he was considering. Levi and his roommate Jim headed out the door to attend the campus worship night. It was his one hour that he could relax and just enjoy singing praises to God. As the group gathered, a slim, somewhat tall man stepped forward to the microphone. He thanked everyone for joining them and shared his life verse. Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Proverbs 23:4. Sharing about a time in his life, Mr. Rich, explained that he had once been a plastic surgeon. The money was good. The benefits were awesome and he was able to do and buy almost anything that he wanted. He had every reason to be happy with his life. He was a decent guy. He often attended church and gave regularly to charities. But the lack of peace was so strong that he never could fully enjoy all the entertainment that filled his days. Loneliness and desperation caused him many sleepless nights. Seeking to find contentment, Mr. Rich explained that he registered for a conference for men where he learned about Jesus in a way he never had before. He learned that what we do here on earth is a launch pad for the way we will spend our future. Levi listened intently and began to realize why he was struggling so much. He knew that he wanted to focus his future life work on things that would help people for eternity not just work away each day to fill his pockets and heart with the things the world had to offer. Recognizing that worldly riches are fleeting, Levi praised God for showing him that His wisdom is for all who ask and is much better than our own wisdom that leads us astray. Peace flowed through the college student as he joined the others in worship knowing that God had a plan and purpose for his life. The monetary payment received for daily work never compares to the eternal wages we receive when living the life God has ordained for us. Money is a tool we can use for God not the means to care for ourselves.

**Questions for Today:** How do you choose what you will do with your day? As you decide what your life work will be, do you focus on how you can please God and lead others to know the One True God or do you get concerned about the money needed to pay the bills and which job will get you the ability to have the most toys? Are your motives pure as you work each day?

**Prayer for Today:** Heavenly Father, Thank You for creating each one of us with a special purpose. Thank You for putting an ability to do things that will draw others to You within each of us. Please help us to remember that worldly riches are fleeting and may deceive us into thinking we don't need to rely on You. Please forgive us for the times when we fail to keep eternity in mind and miss opportunities. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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



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**Everyone Welcome**

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