REFLECTOR

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"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

September 2006

THE BIG QUESTION



Perspective

September is my month—the month of my physical birth (September 30, 1935), my spiritual birth (September 24, 1948), the month that I began my work as a pastor (September 1953), and the month that I conducted the first prayer seminar outside my own pastorates (Madison Baptist Church, Madison NJ September 5-8, 1980).

Once it dawned on me how significant September has been in my life, I have used the month for celebration and for self-examination. My life as an educator and as a minister has been satisfying and fulfilling in every way. I have few regrets and would do few things differently. As I look back over fifty-three years of ministry, I believe that the prayer seminar ministry surpasses all other ministry and work.

Although there have now been 1,225 prayer seminars throughout the world, I find myself more excited about the next seminar than I was the first! I now know from experience to expect the Holy Spirit to move mightily using the Word of God to provide the help needed in the lives of those who attend a seminar. I continue eager to share as often and as widely as possible the message that God has given me on the many facets of the Christian life, majoring on the purpose and power of prayer.

As I look back across over one-half a century of ministry and service, it is with a deep sense of gratitude to the Lord for His faithfulness step by step. "I am satisfied with Jesus, but the question comes to me, as I think of Calvary, Is my Master satisfied with me?" This has been the refrain that the Holy Spirit has brought to my mind and spirit over and over and over since I began to reflect on what to share in the September issue of the **Reflector**. You need to know the source of this refrain.

Legacy of B. B. McKinney

I remember it as though it happened yesterday—when I received word that B. B. McKinney, one of the heroes of my Christian faith, was severely injured in an automobile accident across the mountains in Bryson City, North Carolina. I grieved a few days later when



I heard that he died on September 7, 1952. Songs written by B. B. McKinney and included in the *Broadman Hymnal* (the hymn book he edited that was used in my church and in most Southern Baptist churches) strengthened and challenged my walk with Christ. Among those songs was "Satisfied with Jesus," written in 1926. After becoming a Christian, my life was drastically changed and I constantly asked myself "Is my Master satisfied with me?"

B. B. McKinney, born in Heflin LA July 22, 1886, was the author of the words and music of 149 gospel hymns and songs, and he composed the music for 114 texts by other authors. Some of his best-loved songs in my repertoire of life-changing hymns and gospel songs include "The Nail Scarred Hand" (1924). "Let Others See Jesus in You" (1924), "Speak to My Heart" (1927), "Neath the Old Olive Trees" (1934), "Breathe on Me" (1937), and "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" (1937). Of all his songs, I used the words of the last hymn listed, written when I was two years old, as an affirmation of my commitment to be what God wanted me to be and to do what God wanted me to do.

Contemporary Christian music

One of the mistakes that churches have made during the past few years is to move away from the hymns of the faith to what is known as "contemporary Christian music." This new style of music was introduced into our churches as praise songs, then as contemporary Christian music. Church after church, large and small, have succumbed to the trend. Few worship services include the great hymns of the faith and stirring Gospel music that touches

hearts as the Holy Spirit uses them to probe into our innermost beings.

The role of music

Music is an excellent way to plant God's truths into the hearts of people. God speaks through a sermon. He speaks through sorrow. Most often, He speaks through a song. The first recorded song in Scripture provides a pattern for true worship in singing, for it emphasizes the Lord—who He is and what He has done. It is the song of Moses (Exodus 15:1-24). It is the Lord's people praising through a song entirely about Jehovah.

Too many of the songs (or choruses) characterized as "Contemporary Christian Music" exalt man, not the Lord. The tendency to repeat phrases over and over is one of the most dangerous things that can happen and can easily lead to the sin of using God's name in vain. Regardless of how well-intentioned the worshiper is, his mind will often succumb to singing words when his heart is not in it at all. One can almost hear the Lord say, "I hate your songs." This is a serious dilemma for all of us in today's worship services.

The song of Moses is a pattern for music that evokes true worship for it emphasizes both the Lord's essence and actions. There is an emphasis on redemption (Exodus 15:1-10). How wonderful to sing "Redeemed, and I love to proclaim it, Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb" or "Saved by the Blood of the Crucified One." What a different message is sent to the hearts of both saved and unsaved when God's children, with gusto, sing forth messages that high-light what God has done through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection for our sins. There are many more songs in this category. There is emphasis on guidance (vv 11-12). "He leadeth me, O blessed thought." "God leads His dear children along." Then, there is an emphasis on victory (vv 13-17). We sing, "Victory in Jesus" and that is true. Gene Bartlett penned these words for his father who was lying on his death bed in Oklahoma, Finally, there is an emphasis on things Eternal (v 18). "The Lord shall reign for ever and ever."

Music today

Today, let God be your strength, your song, and your salvation (Psalm 118:14, Isaiah 12:2). As the Holy Spirit has used B. B. McKinney's probing question, "Is my Master satisfied with me?" to stir my heart and lead me to deeper commitment, my encouragement to the churches is to get back to the old paths. At least, have a balance between hymns, gospel songs, and contemporary Christian music. The powerful use of music is historically validated. For example, invitation hymns are often the perfect thing to bring people who have heard an excellent message from God's servant to points of decisions. Seldom are there visible results even in Bible-preaching, Biblebelieving churches. One reason is the choice to sing another worship chorus (simply repeating what was done earlier in the service). This approach might stir the hearts of Christians, but the hearts of sinners need to be stirred and challenged as well.

Music in eternity

One day in eternity, we will sing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb when we join the Great Celestial Choir. In my book, Adoration: Prayer as Worship, I have commented on the Songs of Heaven given to us in the book of Revelation.

"Lord, thank you for B. B. McKinney. I am grateful for the role that his music played in my spiritual development as a teen-ager and young adult. Now, I am thankful that You have caused me to reflect on my own ministry as I enter my fifty-fourth year on my knees crying out to You to keep Your hand on the prayer seminar ministry and my life. I plead in Jesus' name. Amen."

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry

SEPTEMBER
IS JGHM'S
LETTER-WRITING MONTH!

Thinking about Israel



DR. HENRY AT GARDEN TOMB IN 2001

I love Israel, the land where Jesus walked and where He will one day return to set up His kingdom on earth. Our first visit to that land was during Christmas 1977. Since then, Sue and I have led a number of tours to Israel. We promised our tour members that they would gain MEMORIES THAT WOULD LAST FOR A LIFE-TIME—and they did

All of us have wondered about what has been happening in Israel during the past few weeks. Palestinians have declared that they are under moral obligation to destroy Israel, but there is a moral outrage when Israel responds when attacked. The volatile religious conflicts that are so incendiary in our day extend all the way back to Ishmael and Isaac.

I do not know what God's timetable is for Israel. We have known for some years that secularism pervades the culture of this land. Sue and I were in a hotel near the Israel Knesset when legislation was passed making it a crime to proselytize (attempt to convert Jews). There are few Christians in Israel. However, Israel ultimately will resume a very special place in God's plan. How do we know? The Bible tells us so.

God chose Israel

From the Scriptures, the fact is that God chose Israel. The nation Israel is unique in the role God chose for it. In the creation there was Adam, and then there was Noah who survived the Flood. From Noah's child, Shem, came a family out of which was born a man named Abram (Abraham). He was called by God to journey to a foreign land. Although there are seven elements in God's promise to Abraham recorded in Genesis 12:2-3, two are significant.

Out of Abraham would come a great nation and all the families of the earth would be blessed through the Jewish people who are his descendants. Thus came forth the Hebrew nation, Israel. God set them apart to be His agents to reach other nations. To this nation was given the revelation of God, His nature, His laws, and His history. Israel was entrusted with the Bible, and because of these people all the nations of the earth have been blessed.

But the greatest blessing by far that was entrusted to Israel was the bringing forth of the Messiah who would die for the sins of mankind, to restore man to the fellowship with God that he lost at the Fall. For two thousand years the children of Abraham were sheltered, set apart from the nations, and instructed in the ways of God. Then in what the Bible calls "the fullness of time," God sent through the Jewish people the Messiah ("Anointed One")—the Lord Jesus Christ. In summary, Israel was the 'gate" that opened to the world the truth about one God (monotheism), the Word of God, and the Son of God.



SUNRISE ON THE SEA OF GALILEE FROM HOTEL IN TIBERIAS--2001

The basis of the choice

God's choice was not based on ordinary human criteria. "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples" (Deuteronomy 7:7). God's sovereign choice of Israel (Deut. 7:6-11) was not based on the size of the nation, but stemmed from His love and faithfulness to His covenant purpose for them. Abraham received the promise while still childless, and Jacob's immediate family consisted on only seventy individuals at the time they went to Egypt. "A special people unto Himself" (v 6) is perhaps the clearest statement of the election of the children of Israel as God's chosen

people, clearly stating that it was not because of human merit, but because of His promises to their fathers.

Several factors were involved in God's selection:

- 1. His instructions to mankind were challenged by a rebellion of the people who united against Him at Babel; consequently He confounded their languages and forcibly divided them thereby into distinct nations (Genesis 11:1-9).
- 2. His promise of a coming Redeemer, to reconcile a lost world to Himself, required that God Himself should become man some day, and He would thus have to be born into one particular nation and people.
- 3. Such a nation would have to be specially prepared, both by divine revelation and by national experience, to be the nation through which the Savior would come. The choice, furthermore, would have to be made long before this purpose was accomplished, in order to allow the necessary time for these preparations.
- All of the nations formed as a result of the judgment at Babel were already in rebellion against God and thus unsuitable for this purpose.
- 5. God therefore, in sovereign grace, chose one man, Abraham, a direct descendant of the patriarch Shem, to establish a new nation, through which "all families of the earth would be blessed" (Genesis 12:3).

Abraham's faith in God's Word was subjected to severe testing, again and again. But "he was strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able to perform" (Romans 4:20-21). Consequently, God confirmed to him an unconditional covenant. "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as of many, but as of one, 'And to your Seed,' who is Christ" (Galatians 3:16). See Genesis 12:3,7; 13:15; 24:7).

Furthermore, the promises of Abraham included not only the eventual coming of Christ into his family, but also the permanent

possession of the Promised Land. "On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abraham,



DOORKEEPERS JOYCE WARPOOLE & REG MARTIN REFLECTING AT CAESEREA-PHILIPPI ON 2001 TOUR

saying, 'To your descendants I have given this land from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates' (Genesis 15:18). No condition was attached to this gift, provided by God's grace in response to Abraham's obedient faith. The same promise was confirmed to his son Isaac (Genesis 26:3-5), and his grandson Jacob (Genesis 28:13-15; 35:10-12), both again unconditionally.

All of God's people will one day be reunited in the new Jerusalem, for the tribes of Israel are named (Revelation 21:12-13) and the twelve apostles (v 14). The Apostles were the foundation for the church, for they were the first believers (Ephesians 2:20).

Conclusion

Why did God choose Israel and decide to bless them? Why does God care so much for you and me today? The puzzle is resolved by stating an even greater mystery. Why? "It was because God loved you" (**Deuteronomy 7:7**). God chose Israel because He loved them.

God is sovereign, which means that He has "final say," In His sovereignty, He chose Israel, a nation that He brought into being to be His instrument through which the Lord Jesus would come so that all the world would be blessed. Pray every day for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).



ORTHODOX JEW PRAYING AT WESTERN WALL

DOORKEEPER PRAYER CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2006

"I will give myself to prayer ... " Psalm 109:4b



Basic principles "Ask [and keep on asking]..." Matthew 7:7

1. Be specific (James 4:2b) 2. With right motive to glorify God, not self (James 4:3) 3. Pray for laborers (Luke

10:2)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 Hosea 1-3 (Argentina 39.6M)

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL) Burnace Abrams (OH)

Mae Adams (NC)

Marie Adams (VA)

Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)

Rosalee Adams (VA)

Norma Ailes (FL)

Guillermo Albarron (MD)

Lon & Denise Anderkin (FL)

Ron Anthony (MD)

Tom /Margaret Armstrong (VA)

Milcie Arnold (VA)

Solomon/Kriskna Arrington

(MD)->

David & Jean Babick (NY)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Hosea 4-6 (Australia 20M)

Kenneth Banks (NC)

Carolyn Barkley (NY)

Jack & Mary Barrett (VA)

Steven & Judi Bartelt (NJ)

Steven & Marie Basilici (KS) Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)

John & Joan Bateman (PA)

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)

Russell & Eleanor Beard (FL)

Joe & Jean Beasley (TN)

Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)

Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN) -Ruel & Elizabeth Bennett (NY)

Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

Bethesda Ministries Jerry & Joan Crain (SC)

Dorothy Spickard Biddle (TN)

Stephen & Joyce Bishop (VA)

Bob/Beverly Blankenship (TN)

Paul & Doris Blevins (KY)

Roosevelt/Raye Blizzard (VA)

Edward/Deborah Blount (CA) Everett/Deborah Boston (MD)

Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY) William/Debbie Bowden (MD)

Gordon/Chole A. Bowyer (VA)

Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Hosea 7-8 (Bahamas 301,790)

Emilee & Kim Bradshaw (VA)

Mark Bradshaw (VA)

Mike Bradshaw (SC)

Nancy Bretz (PA)

Von M. Bridges (TX)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)

Shirley Brown (VA)

Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)

Joe & Martha Bruno (AL) Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE)

Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)

Myron Buchholz (NY)

Janice Bugg (TN)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Hosea 9-11 (Botswana 1.6M)

Caleb & Sará Buna (NC)

Ruby Burger (TN)

Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)

Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)

Lew & Mary Campbell (ID) Cliff & Laura Cannon (NC)

Pat & Cindy Caporossi (MI)

Ron & Julia Carlin (AL)

Allen & Betty Carter (MD)

Marcos Castillo (MD)

Lloyd & Linda CdeBaca (AZ)

David & Martha Cecil (VA)

Central Baptist Church (CA)

Bruce Garner, Pastor

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Hosea 12-14 (Brazil 186,1M)

Merry J Chandler (MD)

Michael & Alice Chapin (WI)

Edith A.Charity (VA)

Mary Clarke (VA) Margarie Coffee (VA)

Quentin/Vernia Coleman (MD)

Ron & Joanne Cottle (GA) Joe & Carol Coulter (VA)

Foster/Georgia Covington (VA)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Joel 1-3 (Canada 32.8M)

Ramona Cook (NC)

Terry & Sonja Craig (TN) Phyllis Cross (NY)

Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)

Johnny & Helen Crudup (NC)

Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)

Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)

Ida J. Davis (GA)

Lelia Dean (FL) Bob & Virginia DeBoer (NE)

Harold & Tama Decker (NY)

Delmarva Evangelistic Ch (MD) Ruth Chamberlain: Pastor

Jude Dike (Canada)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Amos 1-2 (Chile 16M)

Glenn & Joyce Dix (GA)

Pat & Analee Doney (SC)

Willard & Mary Dowd (NC) Mary J. Dugans (LA)

Ronald/Barnedia Durráh (VA)

Ivy Early (NC)

Walt Edwards (NC)

Grace Eldridge (NJ)

Lynn Elkins (TN)

Evalena Enoch (VA)

Gene & Shirley Farley (CA) Lynne Farrow (NJ)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Amos 3:5 (China 1.3B)

June Fisher (TN)

Josephine Fitzgerald (AL)

Claire/Mary A. Fredstrom (NE)

Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)

Raymond/Estelle Gabbard (KY)

James & Patricia Gallo (NC)

Earl & Diane Garner (NY)

Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)

Ben & Colleen Garton (CO).

Frank & Doris Geiger (HI)

Robert & Sara George (GA) Frances Glass (AL)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Gloucester County Community

Church (NJ)

Bruce Sofia, Pastor

Ronald & Maryann Gold (CO)

Cleo Goodman (NC)

Grace Baptist Church (GA) -

Jeff Worley, Pastor

Juanita Granger (VA)

Evelina Graves (VA)

Odether Gray (GA)

Jossie Green (GA)

Terry & Linda Gregory (NJ)

Tim & Merry Gregory (VA)

Gulf Stream Baptist Association (FL) John Fleming, Executive Dir. Sue Hamm (KY) Sam & Donna Hancock (NJ) Elvin & Paula Hardy (GA) Barbara Harmon (NJ) Harris Memorial Church Robert Harris, Pastor MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 Amos 6-7 (Colombia 43M) Sheila Harris (NC) Calvin /Winsome Hayden (CT) Jackie Hayes (VA) Elaine Heistad (CA) Jim & Joyce Hengoed (FL/CT) Doug Henry (TN) J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA) Mark Henry (TN) Melody Henry (VA) Susan & Jamey Henry (TN) Joanna Holland (VA) John & Glenda Holland (VA) TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 Amos 8-9 (Costa Rica 4M) Jennifer Holmes (MD) Russ/Dorothy Hornbaker (MI) Lamar/Cindy Sue Houser (MD) Bonnie Houston (TN) Karen S. Howard (APO) Mark Huggins (GA) Coy Hunsucker (NC) Joyce Hunt (TN) Wilbert & Almaretta Hopp (PA) Ed Hurlow (IN) H. J. & Paula Hutchins (MS) Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY) Elizabeth Jefferson (VA) Jeffrey Jenkins (NY) Louis & April Jenkins (DC) Vernelle Jenkins (MD) -WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 Obadiah 1-3 (Cuba 11.3M) Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN) Peter & Milligent John (NY) Dannie & Jayne Johnson (KY) Erika Johnson (D.C.) Rodney & Tara Johnson (KY) Wilbur & Gwen Johnson (AZ) Paul & Deanna Jones (KY) W I & Eloise Jones (SC) Matthew & Susan Jordan (NY) Deborah Judd (NC) Howard/Suzie Kauffmann (GA) Shem Kaula (Nigeria) Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA) David & Monique Keller (CA) Joyce Kelley (OR) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 Jonah 1-4 (England) Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY) Bruce Kirby, Pastor

Alice Kern (NJ)

Arleen Kernahan (NY) Archie & Mary King (TN) June King (AL) Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN) Clara Mae Klink (IN) Peter & Rhonda Klug (CO) Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH) Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY) Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI) Edith Kyser (MI) FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 Micah 1-2 (Fiii Isles 893,354) Korean Branch: Dr. Shin Kwang Suk David & Cathy Laing (FL) Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ) Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)-Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI) Stephen Latong (Nigeria) Bob Lawrence (MD) Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT) SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 Micah 3-5 (France 60,7M) Karl & Rebecca Leonard (NC) Glenn & Mary Littlepage (TN) Vincent/Mary Lobisco (MI/FL) Norma P. London (Canada) Ray & Bobbie Long (WV) Tony & Barbara Long (TN) Francis & Deirdre Lyons (ME) Manship Chapel (DE) Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY) Larry & Sue Mason (VA) George/Margaret Massey (NC) Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA) Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH) Deborah Mathais (NY) Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN) George & Sara Mathew (AZ) Sid & Jane McLaughlin (AL) Jim & Lin McLean (MD) Leonard/Martha Meador (VA) SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO) Memorial Christian Ch (VA) Bill & Becky Mentz (FL) Ken & Betsv Miedema (MI) Christine F. Miles (CT) Lewis & Martha Miller (IN) Mike & Cherylann Miller (CO) Randy & Shirley Miller (CO) Earl & Marvel Mills (VA) Ryan & Eren Moore (NY). Katherine Morgan (VA) Mary Louise Morris (CA) William/Annette Mosley (NC) Leslie & Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa) Walter/Millicent Moucha (MI) MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 Micah 6-7 (Germany 82.4M)

Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela) Bill & Carolyn Neeley (OH) Chet & Betty Nichols (WA) Rebekah Norman (TN) Craton & Helen Noves (KY) Umezulike/Sheila Nwaebiem (NC)-Pius & Beatrice Opang (NY) Tom & Ann Palumbo (NJ) Michael Pavy (NY) TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 Nahum 1-3 (India 1.1B)) Skip & Georgia Peters (MD) Jim & Barb Peterson (MI) Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA) Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD) Ben Poplin (VA) Avers & Nina Porter (TN) Greg & LaRue Porter (NC) Marshall & Lois Powell (KY) Brandon, Jeanne Pribble (VA) Maggie Pribble (VA) Maryann Primo (NJ) Phyllis Reed (NH) Brian & Rachel Reynolds (VA) JoAnn Richards (OH) Roscoe/Helen Richmond (GA) Earnest & Lucy Ricks (VA) Cynthia Roach (VA) Windi & Caleb Roach (OK) John & Sandra Roberts (FL) Roy & Patty Roberts (NY) WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 Hab 1-3 (Indonesia 242M) A. K. & Lula Robinson (GA) Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY) David & Cathie Rocke (IA) Clark & Marie Rogers (VA) Lona Rokser (WI) Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN) Bob & Shirley Rose (MI) John Saint (PA) St. Paul Baptist Church (IN) C. L. Adams, Pastor. Gracie Sanford (VA) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 Zephaniah 1-2 (Israel 6.3M) Don & Marie Satterwhite (MD)-Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA) David & Betty Schaum (NY) Dwayne Schmaltz (WI) Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA) Philip & Wendy Schrank (WI) John & Peggy Seibert (AL) FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 Haggai 1-2 (Italy 58.1M) Bill & Ruby Shade (GA) Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH) Steve Sharber (TN)

Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA) Eric Farel, Pastor Nellie F. Shepard (CT) Jasper & Sherilyn Sherrod (NJ) Marvin & Bonnie Shields (VA) Sam & Lola Simpson (NY) SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 Zechariah 1-2 (Jamaica 27M) Alvin & Mary Skiles (KS)-Doris Snyder (FL) John & Helen Sourlis (MD) Wilfred & Merle St. Hillaire (NY) LeRoy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA) Onesimus Sule (Nigeria) Marion J. Stansell (TX) Tim & Pam Steger (ID) SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 Gordon & Carol Stewart (AZ) Gary/Leta Fern Stillwagon (GA) Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA/FL) Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR) Bob & Sandy Swain (VA) Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX) Stephanie Taylor (GA) MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 Zechariah 3-4 (Japan 127.4M) Matthew & Carrie Teyssier (NJ) Mona Henry Thomas (VA) Courtland/Glennie Thompson (VA) David & Montez Thompson (MI) Mildred V. Thompson (GA) Paula Tipton (TN) William & Katie Toney (NC) Norb & Jo Totsky (WI) TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 Zechariah 5-6 (Kenya 34M) Shannon & Jill Toy (NJ)

Virginia Trask (VA)
Malcom Troutman (KY)

Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY) Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA) Jerry & Louann Tuttle (CO)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 Zech 7-8 (S. Korea 48.4M)

Sara Underwood (TN)

Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN) Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI(/FL) George & Jeanette Vernarchik (NY) Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ) Tommy Waddell (TN)

Horace & Becky Ward (NC) Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)

Beau Ware (VA) Kay Warmerdam (TX)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 Zech 9-11 (Lesotho 1,9M)

Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN) Melba Whitehurst (VA)

Alan & Shirley Whitmore (TN) George & Virginia Whitner (FL) Paul & Diane Wieland (PA) Augusta Williams (VA) Edward & Virginia Williams (NC)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 Zech12-14 (Malaysia 24M)

Jack & Dollie Wilson (VA) Julie L. Wilson (PA)

Neil & Melinda Wilson'(VA) Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)

Dot Winfield (MD)

Amos Wipf (GA) Jeff Wiscot (DE)

Barbara Woolard (GA)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 Malachi 1-4 (Mexico 106.2M)

The Word Church (NJ)
Buz Offenbacker, Pastor
World Prayer Network (CA)
Jack McAlister, President

Greg & Lori Worley (GA) Todd & Stephanie Wright (KY) Lili Wykle (VA)

Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria) Clarence & Julie Young (NC)

SEPTEMBED IS 1 FT

SEPTEMBER IS LETTER-WRITING MONTH FOR J. GORDON HENRY MINISTRIES.

If you prefer E-mail, jghm84@ aol.com. We hope to hear from over 100 Doorkeeper families.

A bad idea

When we changed the format for the Reflector, a decision was made to leave out the monthly Doorkeeper Prayer Calendar, which had been a vital part of the Doorkeeper Reports since 1984. A 2006 Doorkeeper Prayer Calendar that did not include nations to pray for or the through-the-Bible-in-a-year reading schedule was prepared and distributed.

This was a very bad idea. Intercession is a time when we focus the power of God upon specific individuals and the circumstances they are facing. Having a list in front of us as we pray makes it much easier to remember.

Please keep the Reflector in a convenient place, perhaps in your Bible, and include the Doorkeepers during your prayer time. Over the years, a number have shared how they experienced unusual peace and provision the very day their names appear on the prayer calendar.

So, let's pray!

"Father, God bless the Doorkeeper in whatever it is that you know he needs this day! May his life be full of Your peace, prosperity, and power as he seeks to have a closer relationship with You. In Jesus' name. Amen."

As you pray for the Doorkeepers listed on the prayer calendar, don't be surprised if the Holy Spirit brings to your mind Scriptures or special thoughts that you need to pray. Remember there are ongoing life experiences in any large group, and we have over—three—hundred Doorkeepers, that call for prayer support.

The itinerary

Although the itinerary will not be included in the prayer calendar, we need special prayer that we will use each opportunity carefully to touch lives maximally. This includes praying for traveling grace, for health, and for a special unction from the Holy Spirit upon the words spoken.

Pray for open doors for the prayer seminar ministry. I am eager and ready to share.

Need-Prayer's Foundation

Is prayer new? The very first verse we use in Session One in the prayer seminar is Genesis 4:26b: "Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord." The context of this declaration is the birth of Seth's son who was given the name Enos, which means "weakness." With the coming of Enos, men became conscious of their weakness and the need to call on the Lord. Matthew Henry believed that the "then" was in the sense of seeing the effects of sin in Cain and Lamech that brought judgment. Thus, descendants of Seth wished to be distinguised as men who feared the Lord and who desired to do His will. Thus, prayer history began when need for God was acknowledged!

In my judgment, every element of prayer emanates from need. A number of years ago, in a prayer seminar conducted for Mennonites in Pennsylvania, I taught how to use A-C-T-S as an acronym that can be a memory device to keep in mind the five elements of prayer. Adoration, C-onfession, T-hanksgiving, Seeking for self (petition) and for others (intercession). When I pointed out that all prayer comes from need, a lady raised her hand for a question. "Sir," she said, "Are you sure that all prayer comes from need?" "Tell us what you are thinking," was my reply. She said that she was thinking of the times when she went to God not to ask Him for anything, but just to be with Him. I said, "I am not going to answer your question. I want you to think about it and answer your question yourself." In a moment, her countenance changed and she said, "Oh! I see what you are saying. I need to go be with God just to be with Him, don't I?"

We need to adore Him, to confess our sins, to thank Him for everything, and to pray for ourselves and others. Prayer is bringing our needs to worship, to be forgiven, to give thanks, to seek for ourselves and for others to God. As long as a believer is going to strut like the proverbial peacock, he will not have a prayer life.

During our seven-year ministry in the late sixties and early seventies in the mountains of Kentucky, a favorite song that was often sung had the refrain, "I don't know about tomorrow, but I know Who holds tomorrow and I know He holds my hand." What better way to start each new day acknowledging this truth.

Long ago, I learned 1 Peter 5:6-7: "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time. Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." "Humble" means to acknowledge that God is working in our lives. There is a promise that if we will do this. He will exalt us in "due time." . Most of us would like the exaltation to come today-or at least by tomorrow at this time. But it is up to God to set the parameters for the "due time" and it may be an extended period of time. Since God is good and merciful and remembers that we are dust, He has told us what to do during the interim while we wait for Him to exalt us; we are cast all our care upon Him, because He cares for us. This is how we are to live.

Itinerary: 2006

"Finally, brethren, pray for us that the Word of the Lord may have free course,"

2 Thessalonians 3:1

August

26 Wedding: McDonald/Simpson Smith Mountain Lake VA

 Consulting, Tacoma Bible College Tacoma, Washington

September

Consulting, Tacoma Bible College

2 Prayer Seminar: – Living Grace Church, Tacoma WA

11-13 Beacon University: IOM Annual Conference, Atlanta GA

21-23 Beacon University: IOM Shady Grove Baptist Church Cornelia GA*

24 Prayer Seminar:

Unity Reformed Church, Kentwood MI

30 Liberty Avenue Reunion, Berea KY

October

Prayer Seminar:

Bethel Baptist Church, Berea KY

3-14 Sue Henry: THAILAND

*Video prayer seminar (10 hours)

Review/Reflect

"Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good . . . "

Genesis 1:31a

God reviewed His work of creation. He saw all that He had made and reflected upon the products of His wisdom and power. He still does; all the works of His hand are under His eye. Omniscience cannot be separated from omnipotence.

God has set us an example of reviewing our works. When we have finished a day's work, and are entering the rest of the night, we should commune with our hearts about the day's labors.

When William Carey, the father of modern missions, reviewed his life and reflected on his ministry, he concluded: "I see more and more of my own insufficiency for the great work I am called to do. The truths of God are amazingly profound, the souls of men infinitely precious, my own ignorance very great and all that I do is for God who knows my motives and my ends."

One of God's giants was Matthew Henry and his works are still used diligently by many around the world. He examined his life and concluded: "I have no sufficiency of my own, but by the grace of God I am what I am, and that grace will be sufficient for me."

"I want my Lord to be satisfied with me; I want my life to be what He wants it to be." I have used September as my month to review and reflect on my life and ministry. I encourage each of our readers to do the same. Do you have a special day or a special month that can be the beacon for you and a point of reminder? By marking and utilizing such a day or month, you will be wiser indeed because you can see yourself as God sees you. It is then that you can make any needed changes. This is what happened in the life of David, the sweet singer of Israel, "I thought on my ways and turned my feet according to Your testimonies" (Psalm 119:59).



NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 1041. Every tub must set on its own bottom; each person is responsible for his own actions. Destiny is based upon choice, not chance.

Note 1042. Prayer is your own private line to God.

Note 1043. If you are not as close to God as you once were, you moved; God didn't.

Note 1044. No child of God has ever gone so fair in rebellion that he cannot return and find forgiveness, and rededicate himself afresh to God's plan for his life.

Note 1045. God can never use a nation or an individual who ignores His pronouncements concerning moral and spiritual issues.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers" 1 Thessalonians 1:2

July 23-August 22, 2006

\$300 \$600 \$250 \$250 \$100 \$600 \$75 \$75 \$50 \$400 \$40 \$40 \$35 \$70 \$30 \$90 3 \$25 12 \$300 \$20 \$120 \$15 \$15 \$10 \$90 \$2,615

Thank you for giving to the Lord!

Welcome, New Doorkeeper! Norma P. London, Canada

Eye-openers

What was called "a wakeup call" to Southern Baptists was given at the 2006 Sunday School conference at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center near Asheville NC by the LifeWay president, Thom S. Rainer: Quoting from Zechariah, he said that God's one instruction to the remnant that had returned to Jerusalem was to rebuild the house of God. Rainer declared that the text speaks to believers across America because "it's time to rebuild the house of God."

"Do you know that over half of Southern Baptist pastors have not talked to anyone about Jesus in the last six months? The majority of Southern Baptists will go to glory without ever having shared their faith one time." This should certainly be an eye-opener, not only to Southern Baptists where the baptism rate as reflected in 2005 statistics has dropped to the lowest total since 1993, but to all evangelicals across the nation. Generally, the church is losing ground on almost every church field.

Rainer pointed out that growth comes when God's people become burdened about lost people and begin inviting them to Sunday school. This is my personal experience during twenty-seven years as a Southern Baptist pastor. "It's easy to play church instead of having a passion for those who are out there," he concluded. It very well may be that we have played church so long that the Holy Spirit has removed Himself while we continue business as usual.

Prayer is the work that must come before all other work. God has not changed. He is able, He is willing, and He is waiting for His people to get on praying ground and call upon Him to do great and mighty things above anything we have even contemplated. When man works, man works; when man prays, God works.

THE PARSON SAYS: "The will of God will not lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you. Where God guides, He provides."

September Letter-Writing Month

Friendship means identity in thought, heart, and spirit. Communicating with one another helps friendships grow. I am thankful to call you "friend" and appreciate your allowing me to come into your life each month through the **Reflector**. As Paul said to the church at Philippi, you are in my mind, my heart, and often in my prayers (**Philippians 1**).

Each September, we encourage our readers, especially our **Doorkeepers**, to write to us. Give us an update about your life, your family, your church. Often we hear from someone who was blessed by an article in the Reflector or by a prayer seminar. **Doorkeeper Wayne Belt**, Murfreesboro, TN, wrote to express appreciation for the **Bertha Smith** article in the August issue.

Usually, we enclose a response form for your message. Due to the new **Reflector** format, we will not include one this year. Your message need not be long, but it will encourage our hearts. We have had as many as one hundred **Doorkeepers** to write to us. Perhaps this year, we could have 106, two for each year of our ministry. Will you be one of the 106?

Kindness

Kindness is a master key to all locks on barred hearts. Kindness is the chief foreman in the shop of good works. It is the patch for every puncture and blowout. Kindness is the eraser on the pencil of endeavor gone wrong. Kindness is the mother of confidence and happiness, a jewel from the mines of Heaven.

Kindness is the cup of cold water of the Bible. Kindness widens the circle of friendship and has "thank you" written over its face. Kindness fans the sparks of worthy motives and smothers out flames of evil desires. Kindness places a sun in somebody's sky and stations a full moon for the blackness of their night.

"Lord, please make me kind. And thank you for your kindness toward me day by day."

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Exceeding Abundantly

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

Beware, in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do. Expect unexpected things "above all that we ask or think."

Each time you intercede, be quiet first, and worship God in His glory. Think of what He can do, and how He delights to hear the prayers of His redeemed people. Think of your place and privilege in Christ, and expect great things.

-Andrew Murray

Plain talk

There is a point where God and man must meet, either in grace or judgment, and at that point both are revealed as they are.

Dr. George W. Truitt

THE BIG QUESTION: Are YOU ready for your meeting with God? "What do you think of Christ? Whose Son is He?" Jesus, alone, is the way. Get a Bible. Read Romans 10:8-13. OPEN YOUR HEART. DO WHAT IT SAYS! BE SAVED, TODAY! If you need help in understanding what to do to be saved, call (434) 239-8837, write (1127 Lakeview Drive, Lynchburg VA 24502, or send an E-mail: jghm84@aol.com. Do it today!

SOWING AND REAPING



"We are laborers together with God."

1 Corinthians 3:9