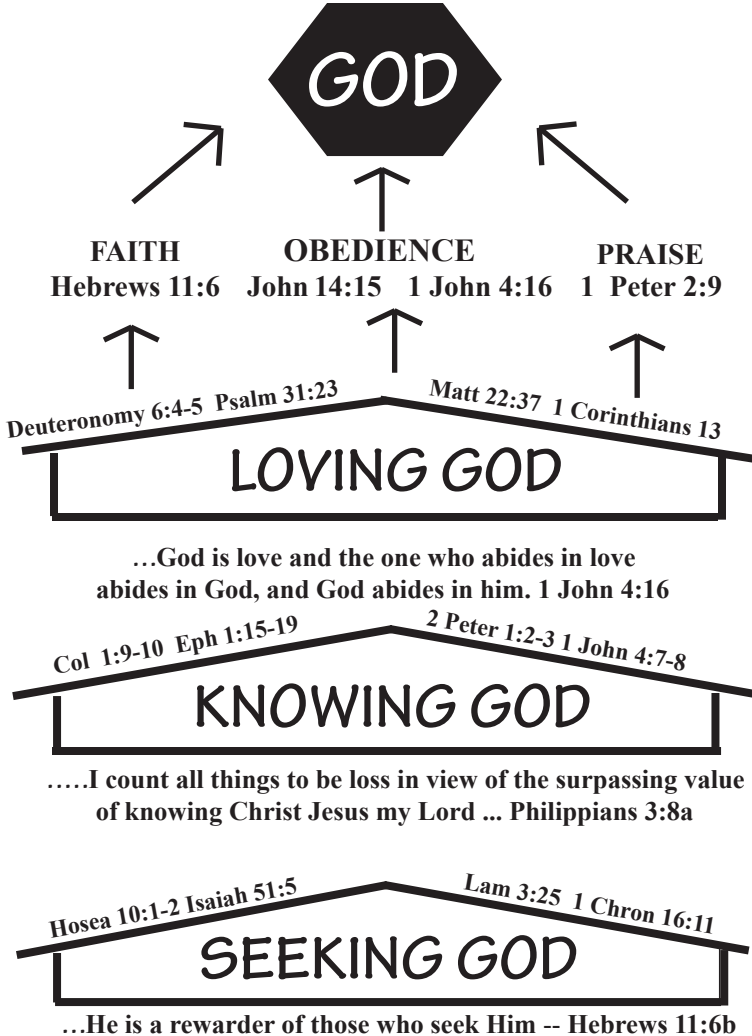


REFLECTOR

VOL. 56, No .4

“*Holding Forth the Word of Life*”

April 2010



We cannot have intimate fellowship with one we do not love, and we cannot love one that we do not know; therefore, we must press on to know Him. The level of love for Him is directly related to our desire to seek Him. The word *love* is the pivotal word in the Bible. Whatever or whomever we love will motivate us. The greater our knowledge of God, the greater will be our love for Him and likewise the greater our love for God, the greater our motivation. --PETER LORD

Perspectives

The story never grows old. When the women came to the place where the body of Jesus had been lain, they found the stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty. An angel informed them that he understood their desire to be near. His thrilling message was simply stated: “Do not be afraid, for I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.’ Now I have told you” (**Matthew 28:5-7**).

Back in 1977, Sue and I made our first visit to the Holy Land. A highlight of walking in the land where Jesus walked was to visit Christ’s empty tomb. When it came my time to enter, I walked in and stood in reverence before the stone slab, carved out from the rock, where Jesus’ body had been placed. You can imagine how it felt to stand there realizing that from that very spot came all the hope, all the assurance, and all the confidence and joy that is ours because of what is called “Easter” on our Christian calendars.

Christ’s resurrection is more than just a cause for celebration on the church calendar. It is the very foundation of our faith. If Jesus did not live today, then we have not been saved and we will not have eternal life. Paul put it this way: “and if Christ has not raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain ... If we have hope in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied” (**1 Corinthians 15:14, 19**). But Jesus did rise from the dead. He is alive, and His resurrection makes all the difference in the world for believers today, and for all eternity.

Because Christ rose from the dead, we can be confident that:

- **God is real.** Because Jesus lives, we have the proof we need that the One we serve is God unlike all the other deities in all the dead religions of the world.

- **Your sins are forgiven.** In most religions, forgiveness depends squarely on good works. But as a Christian, you are forgiven the moment you accept Him as your Savior, because He paid the penalty for your sin through His death (His shed blood on the Cross) and then conquered death.
- **He is at work in your life.** The Bible clearly reveals that the Lord Jesus Christ is seated at the Father’s right hand, interceding on our behalf. He is a living God who answers our prayers, and upon His request, the Father has sent His Holy Spirit to teach and guide us, protect and sustain us, until He returns or we are ushered into His presence through death.
- **Your body will be resurrected.** For the Christian, the moment death comes the spirit-soul (the person who lives inside the body) will leave. In fact, the word “death” means separation. The body will be left behind to turn into dust and to await the resurrection. The soul is at home with Jesus. But when He returns, as He will do one day when the last person is saved to make up His bride, He is coming in the air with the redeemed with Him. It is at that point that something will happen on earth. “The dead in Christ shall rise first.” There will be a resurrection of the earthly body. The word “resurrection” basically means **STAND UP STRAIGHT**. Those who are alive will be caught up as well. It is at that time that He will touch us and we will have bodies just like Christ’s body.

You won’t simply be a shapeless, faceless spirit. You will have a recognizable body just as Christ did when He rose again. Paul addressed this reality in **Philippians 3:20-21**: “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble state **into conformity with the body of His glory**, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.” To be resurrected into “conformity with the body of His glory” means that your body will be of the

same substance as His risen body. You'll be visible. You'll be able to eat, walk and move from one place to another yet in a way that will not be limited by space and time as is true now. Certainly, we can rejoice in our good prospects.

- **You will have a home in Heaven.** We receive with joy the words to the disciples that Jesus spoke in the Upper Room prior to His passion: "I go to prepare a place for you . . . that where I am you may be also" (**John 14:3**). Forgiveness of sin, a relationship forever with the living Lord, a new home in Heaven no wonder Easter is a time of intense celebration for those who understand. It's so wonderful that we love to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" and follow the pattern of Queen Victoria long ago standing in awe and adoration, bursting with confidence, assurance and joy.

Easter is a time for us again to "come . . . see . . . go tell" since the joy that we proclaim is so urgently needed in the hearts of every person in the world. Easter is not only time for you and me to spend time in prayer and praise to the One who rose again and has given us eternal life. It is a time to tell others. The hymn writer wrote of our going to meet the Lord in Heaven and asked the question, "Must I go and empty-handed?" One day those we win to Christ will stand in God's presence with you and me and all the company of heaven, praising His holy name. What a day that will be!

Easter is a day of celebration! On Easter Sunday, we are reminded again of our Lord's resurrection from the dead. And what a difference that blessed truth makes! Sins can be forgiven. Hell can be escaped and Heaven gained. Righteousness can be imputed to the believing sinner. Every day of light is bright with hope. The grave holds no fear. Some day we will be like Him. All of that and much more because He lives! It is a day of celebration for every Christian. "The Lord is risen indeed!"

Resurrection's meaning

[The following is adapted from Dr. Henry's message, entitled "The Meaning of the Resurrection," which was delivered thirty-five years ago on Sunday morning, March 30, 1975, at Pleasant View Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia.]

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies"

(**John 11:25**).

Someone has said that the best news that has ever been received came from a burial site outside the city walls of Jerusalem. That is true. In the miracle of the empty tomb is found the power of God in its supreme manifestation. This was the interpretation placed on the resurrection in the early church. Paul wrote that Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God with power . . . by the resurrection from the dead (**Romans 1:4**). The principalities and powers of this world were rendered impotent when Calvary's Victim walked victoriously from the garden of the tomb. Death had been conquered by life, hate overthrown by love, sin defeated through perfect sacrifice.

The word "**resurrection**" means "**stand up straight**" which is exactly what our Lord Jesus Christ did during those early morning hours of the first day of the week when spirit-soul moved back into the crucified body (with the nail prints in his hands, a wound in His side, and tears on His forehead from the crown of thorns that had been placed on His brow). **His resurrection is the keystone in the arch of all Christian doctrine.** For "*if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain*" (**1 Corinthians 15:14**). Paul, the apostle added, ". . . you are yet in your sins" (**v 17**). It was proof that He was everything He claimed to be with His words. Above all, the resurrection provided assurance that His sacrifice on the cross was accepted by God the Father as the complete payment for sin.

The bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is one of the best attested facts in all history. He “*showed Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs*”(Acts 1:3). In the garden, Mary recognized Him by **His word** her own name, uttered with a tenderness none but her Lord could impart (John 20:16). In the upper room, the eleven disciples knew Him by **His wounds** (Luke 24:33-40). In Emmaus, the two disciples recognized Him **by the way He broke the bread** after He had walked with them on the road ((Luke 24:30,35).

What relief and joy were brought to His followers with the tangible manifestations of His new resurrected body. Sorrow was banished from the weeping Mary (John 20:11), fear from the trembling disciples (v 25), and a load of care from despairing apostles (21:3). In each case John records, the appearing of Jesus was sufficient to dismiss the problem and give joy, courage, peace, and contentment in its place!

Although no earthly person witnessed the resurrection that Lord’s Day morning, Christ was **seen** (sense of sight), **heard** (sense of hearing) and **handled** (sense of touch) after He arose. What a change came in the lives of the disciples when they became convinced that Christ had actually burst the bonds of death. The resurrection became the joyous theme of apostolic preaching. Up and down the highways of the Roman Empire, they traveled telling the story of resurrection with earnestness and sincerity. No wonder thousands upon thousands believed!

What does the resurrection mean to the people of the world? It means that the GOSPEL is completed. Do you believe this? Have you acted upon it in a moment of putting personal trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. The way could not be plainer: “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth that Jesus is Lord, and shalt believe in thy heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Romans 10:9). This is the only road to salvation. What is your personal reaction? You must decide.

Paul preached to the folks in Athens, Greece (Acts 17) and the deciding factor in the decision-making process was the resurrection (vv 32,34). Some doubted. Some believed and accept Jesus. What is your attitude? If you believe the resurrection completed the gospel for you and everyone else and you have not accepted Him, why not do it today?.

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry

Why a Prayer Seminar?

A course correction

The prayer seminar has been for me a holy reminder, a gentle nudge, a convicting realization that a “course correction” needs to be made in my spiritual navigation. I have been drifting off course. While not dramatic now, down the road, if no correction is made, I will be way off course. The most important reminder for me is the importance and primacy of God’s Word.

**Captain Vic Toney, Chaplain
U. S. Air Force Academy**



Love ever gives,
 Forgives, outgives,
 And ever stands
 With open hands.
 And while it lives,
 It gives.
 For this is love’s prerogative
 To give, and give, and give.

John Oxenham

Fruitless Christians

Although it is painful to acknowledge, **many believers are fruitless.** Following the principles of horticulture, it is not difficult to understand that the fruit of a Christian is another Christian like kind bearing like kind. Frequently believers mistake the fruit of a Christian with the fruit of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-23**). Consequently, they settle for seeking fruit that can only be produced by the Holy Spirit. Frankly, it would not be surprising in an average Sunday morning congregation to find that 95 out of 100 are fruitless! So, what are we going to do? Close the door of the church or throw in the towel?

In 1983, God showed me clearly from **Luke 13:6-9** what is needed to change the situation. If you want to know what to do, study that passage. The context, along with other references, identify the barren fig tree

as the nation Israel. It could very well be that the three years mentioned in verse seven refer to the length of Jesus' public ministry which was rapidly drawing to a close. However, it was common knowledge that a fig tree normally took three years to bear fruit. But, Israel is not the one expected to bear fruit today; rather, the fig tree is a Christian.

When the owner of the vineyard came the third year and found no fruit, he instructed the keeper of the vineyard to cut it down, asking "Why use up the ground?" But the keeper of the vineyard replied, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. Then if it bears fruit, well; if not, then we can cut it down."

Over and over across the years, we have seen the Holy Spirit dig around roots and put fertilizer in during the six hours of the prayer seminar. We have regularly watched as the Holy Spirit broke up fallow ground as believers experienced an encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. Pastors testify that the spiritual impact of a prayer seminar made a difference in their personal lives, as well as in the lives of their people and recommend that other churches schedule seminars. We have many letters of reference available upon request. **Does your church need renewal? Tell a friend if the prayer seminar has helped you! Many will schedule a seminar when they know!**

Itinerary

"You also helping together in prayer for us."
2 Corinthians 1:11a

April

- 9-10 Prayer Seminars
 (1) Seneca COGOP, South Carolina
 10 (2) Spanish COGOP, Greenville, SC
 11 Evangelism Clinic, Preaching
 24-28 Missions Prayer Seminar
 Glory Baptist Church
 Aitkin, Minnesota
 29 Teen Challenge
 Brainerd, Minnesota

E-mail: jghm84@aol.com.

www.jgordonhenryministries.org

REFLECTOR
ISSN 0885-8538
J. Gordon Henry Ministries
1127 Lakeview Drive
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502
(434) 239-8837

Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)	R	F
Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)	E	O
Nuhu & Merry Leo (Nigeria)	M	R
John & Elberta McSween (Trinidad)	E	
Enock & Patience Mulomba (Botswana)	M	T
Leslie & Tabitha Motsalane (S Africa)	B	H
Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)	E	E
Andrew J. Sakari (Kenya)	R	
Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)	!	N
Won & Young Mi Sheen (Korea)		A
Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)		T
Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)	P	I
Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)	R	O
KEEP THE WORLD	A	
ON YOUR HEART!	Y	N
PRAY FOR LABORERS!		S

The Glorious Awakening



How enchanting and awe-inspiring is springtime! Then nature awakens from its wintry sleep, thaws its frozen assets, and regales the hills, valleys, woodlands and meadows in garments of dazzling and ineffable beauty!

Long ago, an inspired Solomon joyously depicted the arrival of springtime: "For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land: (**Song of Solomon 2:11-12**).



WORTHLESS UNLESS SEEN

I would not give much for your religion unless it can be seen. Lamps do not talk, but they do shine. A lighthouse sounds no drums, it beats no gong; and yet far over the water its friendly spark is seen by the mariner.

Charles H. Spurgeon

"The Lord repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the LORD GOD of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge."

Ruth 2:12

NOTES from my BIBLE



Note 1161. The bottom line of Christianity is obedience.

Note 1162. Obedience belongs to the Christian; results belong to God.

Note 1163. Anything that is not obedience is disobedience.

Note 1164. Better to pay the price of obedience than the penalty of disobedience.

Note 1165. The meat of the Word is most nourishing when combined with the daily exercise of obedience.

*" . . . I myself will awake early;
I will praise Thee, O Lord,
among the people."
Psalm 57:8b-9*

DOORKEEPER REPORT

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers."

1 Thessalonians 1:2

February 16 - February 23

Regular	16	\$1,285	
South America	21	\$2,160	Total
	37	\$3,445	



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!

In Loving Memory
Doorkeeper Mirle Matheny (Mrs. Bill)
Lynchburg, Virginia
12/2/1933 - 2/23/2010

Welcome! New Doorkeepers!
Larry & Janet King (NC)

PRAYER CALENDAR**April 2010**

“I will give myself to prayer...”

Psalm 109:4b**THURSDAY, APRIL 1****1 KINGS 1-4 (Malaysia 25.4M)**

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)
Burnace Abrams (OH)
Marie Adams (VA)
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
Rosalee Adams (VA)
Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
Norma Ailes (FL)
Clyde & Kathryn Allen (VA)
H. L. & Janie Allen (SC)
Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

FRIDAY, APRIL 2**1 KINGS 5-8 (Mexico 110M)**

Milcie Arnold (VA)
Leonor Avila (MD)
Bill & Karen Baker (VA)
Carolyn Barkley (NY)
Walter & Marilyn Barry (VA)
Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)

SATURDAY, APRIL 3**1 KIN 9-11 (Mozambique 21.#M)**

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)
Jean Beasley (TN)
Frank Bell (TN)
Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)
Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)
Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)
Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)
Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)
Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY)
William & Debbie Bowden (MD)
Gordon & Chloe Ann Bowyer (VA)
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
Emilee & Kim Bradshaw (VA)
Nancy Bretz (PA)
Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)
Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
Mary Ann Brown (GA)
Shirley Brown (VA)

MONDAY, APRIL 5**1 KINGS 12-16 (Namibia 2.1M)**

Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
Joe & Martha Bruno (AL)
Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)
Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
Janice Bugg (TN)
Ruby Burger (TN)
Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Mary Campbell (ID)
Cliff & Laura Cannon (FL)
Joreatha Capers (FL)
John & Patricia Carter (FL)

TUESDAY, APRIL 6**1 Kin 17-19 (New Zealand 4.2M)**

David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Merry J Chandler (MD)
Mary Clarke (VA)
Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)
Margarie Coffee (VA)
Jim & Kathy Connolly (VA)
Joe & Carol Coulter (VA)
Foster & Georgia Covington (VA)
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
Joel & Paula Criz (HI)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7**1 Kings 20-22 (Nigeria 146.3M)**

Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
Dufrene Cummings (NC)
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)
Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
John & Margaret Davis (VA)
Mark & Charmaine Davis (VA)
Lelia Dean (FL)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Nick & Wilma DeGroot (IL)

THURSDAY, APRIL 8**2 Kings 1-3 (N. Ireland)**

Delmarva Evangelistic Ch (MD)
Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor
Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)
Emogene Dorsett (TX)
Mary J. Dugans (LA)
Walt Edwards (NC)
Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)
Grace Eldridge (NJ)
Lynn Elkins (TN)
Evalena Enoch (VA)
Lynne Farrow (NJ)
Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

FRIDAY, APRIL 9**2 KINGS 4-8 (Okinawa)**

June Fisher (TN)
Makeva Flowers (VA)
Claire & Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)
Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)
Raymond & Estelle Gabbard (KY)

Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)

Frank Geiger (HI)

Robert & Sara George (GA)

SATURDAY, APRIL 10**2 KINGS 9-12 (Pakistan 172M)**

Frances Glass (AL)
Gloucester Co. Community Church
Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)
Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)
Odether Gray (GA)
Linda Gregory (UT)
Charles Hale (VA)
Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)
Jim & Joyce Hengoed (FL/CT)

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

Bruce & Gina Henry (VA)
Doug Henry (TN)
J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
Jacqueline Henry (VA)
Mark Henry (TN)
Melody Henry (VA)
Roger Henry (OH)
Sean Henry (KS)
Susan & Jamey Henry (TN)
Wendy Henry & Caleb (OK)
Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)
Joanna Holland (VA)
John & Glenda Holland (VA)
Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)

MONDAY, APRIL 12**2 KINGS 13-17 (Paraguay 7M)**

Russ & Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)
Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)
Sam & Linda Hough (VA)
Bonnie Houston (TN)
Coy Hunsucker (NC)
Joyce Hunt (TN)
Wilbert & Almareta Hupp (PA)
Ed Hurlow (IN)

TUESDAY, APRIL 13**2 KINGS 18-21 (Peru 29.2M)**

Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)
Louis & May Jenkins (DC)
Vernelle Jenkins (MD)
Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)
Peter & Millicent John (NY)
Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)
Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)
John & Judy Johnson (FL)
Wilbur & Gwendolyn Johnson (AZ)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14**2 KIN 22-25 (Philippines 96.1M)**

Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)
W I & Eloise Jones (SC)
Jean Jonte (SC)
Mohan Katta (IL)
Howard & Suzie Kauffmann (GA)
Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)
Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)

Bruce Kirby, Pastor
 Larry & Janet King (NC)
 Robert & Rose Klaus (WA)

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

1 CHRON 1-9 (Puerto Rico 3.9M)

Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
 Sherry Klutz (VA)
 Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)
 Thomas Knight Jr (SC)
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
 Korean Branch: Shin Kwang Suk
 Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA)
 David & Cathy Laing (FL)
 Phil Landers (OK)

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

1 CHRON 10-16 (Romania 22.3M)

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Del & Mary Leach (VA)
 Raymond & Janet LeMay (VT)
 Karl & Rebecca Leonard (NC)
 Gaylen & Linda Leverett (VA)
 Liberty University (VA)
 Jerry Falwell, Jr., Chancellor
 Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
 Brian & Stacey Loomis (VA)

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

1 CHRON 17-21 (Russia 140.7M)

Kenneth & Debra Magee (SC)
 Manship Chapel (DE)
 Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY)
 Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA)
 Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 Bill Matheny (VA)
 Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN)

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Dan & Fay McConville (VA)
 Leonard & Martha Meador (WV)
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Memorial Christian Church (VA)
 Virgil & Sue Knipp, Ministers
 Mona Merry (SC)
 Brenda Merritt (SC)

MONDAY, APRIL 19

1 CHRON 22-27 (Rwanda 10.2M)

Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)
 Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)
 Lowry & Marjorie Miller (VA)
 Mike & Cherylann Miller (CO)

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

1 CHRON 28-29 (Scotland)

Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 French & Laura Moore (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
 Katherine Morgan (VA)

Bob & Diane Nichols (VA)
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

2 CHRON 1-5 (Singapore 4.6M)

Ann Palumbo (NJ)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)
 Ben Poplin (VA)
 Ayers Porter (TN)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
 BrandonJeanne, Maggie Pribble (VA)

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

2 CHRON 6-9 (S Africa 48.8M)

Paul & Donna Quetscho (VA)
 James & Jeannette Ralph (VA)
 Alice Riddick (NC)
 Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

2 CHRON 10-12 (Swaziland 1.1M)

Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob Rose (MI)
 David & Amy Ross (KY)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
 Denise Russell (OR)
 John Saint (PA)
 Don & Marie Satterwhite (MD)
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

2 CHR 13-16 (Switzerland 7.6M)

Philip & Wendy Schrank (IL)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)
 Mary Seigner (VA)
 Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH)
 Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA)

Eric Farel, Pastor

Nellie F. Shepard (CT)
 Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)
 His Highest Praise (HI)
 Lori Siri, Pastor

Mary Skiles (KS)
 Paul & Mary Smith (TX)
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)
 Leroy & Suk Hi Standifer (VA)

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Marion J. Stansell (TX)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
 Carol Snow Stewart (CT)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Charles & Irene Stinson (VA)
 Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)
 Clarence/Roselin Stringfield (VA)
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)

MONDAY, APRIL 26

2 CHRON 17-20 (Thailand 65.5M)

Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)
 William Stroman, Pastor
 Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX)
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Temple of Praise (TX)
 Gilbert Perez, Pastor
 Earleen Thigpen (TN)
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

2 CHRON 21-25 (Trinidad 1.2M)

Montez Thompson (CO)
 Mildred V. Thompson (GA)
 Paula Tipton (TN)
 Virginia Trask (VA)
 Carol & Ouida Troutman (KY)
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)
 Malcom Troutman (KY)
 Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

2 CHRON 26-28 (Uganda 31.4M)

Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA)
 Sara Underwood (TN)
 Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN)
 Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)
 George & Jeanette Vernarchik (NY)
 Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)
 Doris Snyder Verrall (FL)

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

2 SAMUEL 29-32 (Ukraine 46M)

Horace & Becky Ward (NC)
 Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)
 Beau Ware (VA)
 Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Allan & Judy Whitmore (VA)

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

2 SAM 33-34 (Uruguay 3.5M)

George & Virginia Whitner (FL)
 Herebert & Kay Wice (TN)
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)
 Edward Williams (NC)
 Elijah Williams (NJ)
 Jeff & Terri Williamson (FL)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)
 Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA)
 Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Dot Winfield (MD)
 The Word Church (NJ)
 Buz Offenbacher, Pastor
 Bert & Teresa Worley (VA)
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 Lili Wykle (VA)

**“The joy of the Lord is my strength”
(Nehemiah 8:10)**

Paul admonished the Ephesian believers to “be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might” (**Ephesians 6:10**). This statement is a reminder that our own strength is inadequate, especially in the light of the spiritual warfare in which we are engaged.

The fruit of the Spirit

Walking in the Spirit is the will of God for each believer. The paraphrase of **Galatians 5:22-23** that follows highlights what happens when a person is Spirit-controlled, not self-controlled: “The fruit of the Spirit is **LOVE**. **JOY** is love smiling. **PEACE** is love resting. **PATIENCE** is love waiting. **KINDNESS** is love showing itself sensitive to the needs of others. **GOODNESS** is love making allowances and sacrifices for others. **FAITHFULNESS** is love proving constant. **GENTLENESS** is love yielding. **SELF-CONTROL** is love triumphing over selfish inclinations.”

The value of joy

David knew the value of the joy of God’s salvation and pleaded, after his time of allowing sin into his life, “Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit; then will I teach transgressors Your ways and sinners shall be converted to You” (**Psalms 51:12-13**).

The expression “then will I” is quite revealing in David’s cry. When a Christian loses the joy of God’s salvation, he does not worship well, walk well, witness well, war well, or work well!

In September 2009, I entered my fifty-seventh year of ministry. To me this is an attestation of the faithfulness of God. For the first twenty-seven years, I seldom missed bringing at least two messages a week,

usually in my own church. An extended ministry took me to other churches for evangelistic/revival-type meetings or church growth seminars. For the last twenty-nine years, my ministry has been to the body of Christ at large through the prayer seminar ministry. Thousands have received the Word of God through the prayer seminars year after year throughout the world.

While I cannot say that I have not grown tired and weary as I have traveled in the way, I can say that I have never grown tired and weary of the way. I can say, “**I don’t regret a mile that I’ve traveled for the Lord.**” The energy to conduct another seminar has been present to meet the needs of the schedule.

The key to strength

The key to having the strength needed is obviously the joy of the Lord. This is an outcome of walking in the Spirit, which only is possible when we deal with our sins and yield to the Holy Spirit. According to social customs in Jesus’ day, once a person had bathed his entire body, he needed only to wash his feet before partaking of a meal. Through the incident with Peter in the Upper Room (**John 13:8-10**), Jesus provided needed insight. Just as those who have bathed need only to wash their feet, so believers who have had a bath (cleansed through the blood of Jesus) need only to wash themselves daily from the filth and defilement they accumulate by their contact with the world. This washing is through His Word.

As we read His Word, the Holy Spirit uses the Word as a mirror to show us our sins. Once we become conscious of a sin (conviction), we can then repent and confess resulting in forgiveness and cleansing. Then we surrender and yield to the Holy Spirit to walk with Him. A result is having the joy of the Lord. When we have His joy flowing, we have the strength needed for the day’s journey.

**Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet,
you also should wash one another’s feet. John 13:14**

Jesus Has the Keys

At the age of thirty-three, the Lord Jesus was placed on a cross at nine o'clock in the morning outside the city walls of Jerusalem. The site was a rocky hill called **Golgotha**, the place of the skull. Even today, a nose bridge and eye sockets can be seen when one looks at **Calvary**.

During the six hours that He hung there, shedding His life blood as the Lamb slain for our sins, Jesus had seven things to do. He asked the Father to forgive those who were crucifying him, made provision for His mother, showed mercy and made a promise to a thief, said that he thirsted, and expressed feelings of aloneness to His Father. The Father did not take him down from the cross because He was willingly laying down His life; but He did turn out the lights and our Lord hung there in the privacy of darkness until around three o'clock in the afternoon. He then loudly declared that the plan of salvation was finished and submitted Himself to His Father's hands. Then He died.

The word death means "separation" when the person who lives inside the body (spirit-soul) moves out. When the Lord Jesus Christ left His body, He did not go to Heaven where the Father was. Instead, He went down to hell because He had some business to do there.

Before the resurrection, the place of all the dead, saved or unsaved, was in "sheol" (Hebrew), "hades" (Greek) or "hell" (English). Before Christ died, this was divided into two places (call it East Hell and West Hell, if it will help you to see the difference), and between the two there was a great gulf fixed. On one side was torment in hell, and on the other side was paradise in hell, referred to also as "Abraham's Bosom" (**Luke 16:22**). Jesus, as He hung on the cross, said to the repentant thief hanging beside Him, "Today you shall be with me in Paradise," and when He died His soul and spirit descended into hell, the paradise side of hell. Here were all who before the cross had

believed God's Word and obeyed it, saved by bringing a lamb and having its blood shed for their sins.

It is clear that Jesus had business on both sides. It is my personal belief (not something that is found in the Bible, so we will have to wait until we get to heaven to confirm the accuracy of my belief) that Satan had gone down with his cohorts to his side of hades for a victory celebration. The fact that the Lord Jesus Christ was hanging helplessly on the cross in Jerusalem was his proof that Satan had won and it was time to celebrate. Do you see the picture?

During the celebration, however, there was a loud knock (one with obvious authority) on the door of hell. When one of Satan's cohorts went to the door, much to their surprise and consternation, it was Jesus of Nazareth the very One that had been crucified. Satan had come with the keys of death, hell, and the grave! Jesus walked away with the keys. The devil is perfectly defeated! Believers do not have to be defeated. Because of the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ over Satan, we can walk in the Spirit and do not have to walk in the flesh. As a Christian, the choice is yours.

He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might, He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.
Isaiah 40:29-31

*For mailing list renewal:
 Please contact us when
 you have a change of address. Thanks!*



The Cuban Call

September 2010

by Adam Nathanson

Quemada antes Eslavizada
(Burn Before Being Enslaved)

This was **Vincent Garcia's** famous phrase. He was a native Cuban from **Las Tunas**, fighting against the Spanish in the 1800's. The people had a fervent sense of dignity to live free rather than submit to the weight of being colonized and tamed by the Spanish. Las Tunas was attacked three times and to protect their freedom, Garcia burned the city, and then rebuilt it each time after the threat had left. The Tuneros (people from Las Tunas) revealed to us this passion as they received the prayer seminar ministry of Dr. J. Gordon Henry during our last visit to Cuba.

At that time, I was able to return to Cuba in March for three weeks after a two-year absence. For two weeks, I had the privilege of interpreting for Dr. Henry. We arrived in Holquin from Miami, on March 1 and traveled an hour and a half to Las Tunas. The next day began a marathon of fourteen prayer seminars, each lasting seven hours, and one leadership seminar involving fourteen different churches. The churches received us with the same burning hearts of the disciples on the road to Emmaus in **Luke 24**.

Many of the churches are not registered with the Cuban government, but are allowed to worship with restrictions. Some are not able to build buildings or even bathrooms. One church, called Brothers in Christ, built a bathroom but because the congregation is not registered, it is possible that the government will tear it down. We noticed that a handful of churches met in homes of pastors. Although they had little of this world's goods, they willingly give all to the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ. What a joy to know that their eyes are not on this world, but on a city and building of another kingdom! The response and testimonies from pastors and members of

the churches were fabulous. Many have a new perspective and desire to know God in a more intimate life of prayer. We are so appreciative of Dr. Henry's worldwide ministry and the love he has for the Word and the teaching of the Word on the subject of prayer.

After fifty years

My first overseas ministry came in January 1960 when I traveled to **Placetas, Cuba**, to preach the gospel. Around seventy people were saved during evangelistic services at First Baptist Church. Shortly, thereafter, **Cuba** was closed to such endeavors. Christians underwent intense, unbelievable persecution. Churches were closed and pastors arrested. Amazingly, as the years passed, the church continued to grow

Now, **Cuba** is once again open. Sue and I returned in 2000, 2003, and 2004 for seminars in Holquin. In 2003, **Adam Nathanson** and I returned to conduct seminars in **Los Tunas**.

Plans are to return the last two weeks of September 2010 for more seminars. Our dream is to include First Baptist Church, Placetas, in the venue. Pray that our license will be renewed by the U.S. Treasury Department and that we will be able to obtain a Cuban visa.

After fifty years, returning will allow us to celebrate the goodness of our God.



CUBAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CONTINUE TO TEACH PRAYER SEMINARS USING THE SPANISH PRAYER SEMINAR WORKBOOK

God at work



DR. HENRY WITH CHEROKEES

Folks from several states gathered at **Lake Junaluska, North Carolina**, for the three-day Annual Ministers' and Laity Retreat February 18-20. Termed as "A Native American Christian Gathering," **SEJANAM** (Southeastern Jurisdictional Association for Native American Ministries) serves nine states. From the outset, the Holy Spirit began to work to bring the Word alive. The theme chosen was "A World in Need of Prayer!"

From the outset until the closing circle of prayer that featured an anointing-with-oil service for me in preparation for the South American seminars, there was a spirit of expectancy. Prior to the first session of the prayer seminar, **Dr. William W. Morris**, UM Bishop, Tennessee, brought a powerful message based on the Lord's Prayer. As the Holy Spirit stirred my heart, I knew at the outset that being with God's servants at this event was going to strengthen my own heart and prayer life. It did.

Darlene Jacobs, **SEJANAM's** director, and **Myles Pierson**, **SEJANAM's** president, were perfect hosts. The prayer seminar was well received and there was a spirit of renewal and revival that fell upon us all, an attestation that God is not dead; rather He continues able, willing, and waiting for us to call upon Him. A number of pastors indicated they were going back home to schedule a prayer seminar for their own people.

One of the participants came to me privately to teach me how to present myself as a Native America: "I am Cherokee with a great-grandmother who was Cherokee." My response was "Amen. So be it!"

PRAYER is . . .

- ◆ THE TALKING PART OF A RELATIONSHIP
- ◆ COMMUNICATION
- ◆ SPENDING TIME WITH GOD.

"The people who know their God shall be strong and do exploits"
Daniel 11:32

Someone has said that in the beginning God made man in His own image; now man has returned the favor. Man has created God in his own image and does not have a good perspective of the God who is!

God reveals Himself in His written Word, the Bible. It is in the Scriptures that you will see who God is if you seek for Him there. You will learn about the triune God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As you learn, jot down notes to guide your reflection on who God is. Then, learn to spend time in your prayer just being with Him not asking Him for anything. It won't be long until you will stand amazed in His presence. You will look forward to the special time of day you have set aside to be with Him. **R. A. Torrey** testified that it was when He learned to go to God just to be with Him without asking for anything that his life changed.

To help you get started, I have devoted the front cover of the **Reflector** to a schematic by **Peter Lord (A-C-T-S Prayer Dairy)** that will guide your pursuit of God. After twenty-three years serving as a pastor-educator, I realized that I really did not know God very well. I was so busy working for Him that I did not spend time in His presence through reading the Word of God for my food. It was when I changed my daily pattern to begin each day in the Word that my life changed. You will do well to master **Peter Lord's** guide until you internalize its truths for yourself. Begin now; do not wait.