

# REFLECTOR

VOL. 54, No. 3

“Holding Forth the Word of Life”

March 2008

## I shall know Him



Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

*Born:* March 24, 1820,  
Putnam County, New  
York.

*Died:* February 12, 1915,  
Bridgeport, Connecticut.

*Buried:* Bridgeport, Con-  
necticut.

**Fanny Crosby** was probably the most prolific hymnist in history. Through blinded by an incompetent doctor at six weeks of age, she wrote over 8,000 hymns. After her blindness, she said: “It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things around me.”

In her lifetime, Fanny Crosby was one of the best known women in the United States. To this day, the majority of American hymnals contain her work.

Some of my favorites are the following: **All the Way My Savior Leads Me, Blessed Assurance, Blessed Redeemer, Christ the Lord is Risen Today, He Hideth My Soul, I am Thine O Lord, Jesus is Passing This Way, Living for Jesus, Meet Me There, Near the Cross, No Tears in Heaven, Redeemed How I Love to Proclaim It, Safe in the Arms of Jesus, Saved by Grace, Saved by the Blood, Showers**

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## Mission accomplished

On Monday, January 7, I wrote to the **Doorkeepers** and other friends about the post-election violence in **Kenya** and the devastation in **Eldoret**, the site of **Martin Shikuku**’s church and ministry. I began simply by saying, “My heart is broken.” Just a few weeks before, the folks at Glory Baptist Church had worked hard to host many pastors and other Christians for the November prayer seminar. They did an excellent job on all fronts and the presence of the Holy Spirit was obvious.

A political conflict followed the December 27 election since it appeared that the election had been stolen by the incumbent president’s party. Post-election violence exploded on December 30. The **Rift Valley**, one of the most beautiful sections of Africa, was the epicenter of much of the violence. **Eldoret** was one of the hardest hit cities. Houses and church buildings were burned indiscriminately throughout West **Kenya** with the **Eldoret** area one of the hardest hit. Many were forced from their homes and saw all their worldly possessions go up in flames. Some saw their loved ones killed, some hacked or burned to death, by men who called themselves Christians.



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## Perspectives

*“And Jabez was more honorable than his brethren; and his mother called him Jabez, saying because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh, that Thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that Thine hand might be with me, and that Thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me. And God granted him that which he requested.” I Chronicles 4:9-10*

Surely there are great benefits to be derived from studying the prayers that are recorded in the Bible. We can be sure that there is no greater source to be found to discover God’s patterns for effective prayer than God’s Word.

“Bible Examples of Prayer” is the title of session two in the prayer seminar. I point out that God’s Word abounds with commands, examples, promises, and encouragements to pray. Not counting those in the psalms, there are 650 recorded prayers in the Bible; 450 have recorded answers. When you come across a prayer, ask yourself what you can learn for your own prayer life.

In session two, I use **Jabez** as the Old Testament example of prayer. He illustrates praying for oneself—petition praying. His prayer is one that most of us would do well to emulate. He was marching to another drum-beat as can be seen through a study of his significant meaningful heart-cry. He made a very earnest appeal for a blessing, and it was granted.

None of us knows very much about **Jabez** because his name is only mentioned three times in the Bible. He was from the tribe of Judah and some think that he was **Caleb**’s nephew. Hebrew writers tell us that God did bless **Jabez** indeed. He became a doctor of law and letters and was surrounded by a very important group of scribes who thought so highly of him that they named a city after him (**2 Chronicles 2:55**).

When I wrote the material about Jabez some thirty years ago, I termed the study, “**Jabez ... AN EXAMPLE OF PRAYER. A MAN ALMOSTS NOBODY KNOWS.**” In 2000, **Bruce Wilkinson**, a graduate of the college I

was president of in New Jersey, wrote a small book for what is known as “The Breakthrough Series” entitled **The PRAYER of JABEZ Breaking Through to the Blessed Life**. The book became a **New York Times** best seller and millions of copies have been sold around the world. It is obvious that the prayer of Jabez strikes a chord in the heart of anyone who becomes familiar with it. The story of Jabez is full of interest. There is much to learn. I will highlight material from the Prayer Seminar Workbook study.

**A. INTRODUCTION.** 1. Name tucked away amid 500 names. 2. Compulsion to explain this man above all others. 3. Fewer than eighty words—yet it speaks volumes. 4. Simple facts stated, but no need to further explain. To personalize the account to our lives, I have **THREE QUESTIONS** built into the study. Question #1. If God listed our names, would He need to explain any one of us?

**B. OBSERVE THE PROMINENCE THAT DESCRIBED HIM.** “More honorable than his brethren.” This means that his brothers were going in one direction while Jabez was going in the opposite direction. His way pleased God. Question #2. What if no one else is interested in prayer, would I be? Prayer warriors often work alone. This is the prayer of an honorable man.

**C. OBSERVE THE PAIN THAT DESIGNATED HIM.** His name means “pain.” For some reason not known, his mother named him **Jabez**. **Jabez** clearly became sensitive to man’s potential to do things that hurt others. His prayer literally is “Keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain.” Question #3. What if there’s pain involved?

**D. THE PRAYING THAT DISTINGUISHED HIM.** 1. “*And Jabez called on the God of Israel.*” A man is known for what he does most. To be recognized, he must do more of what he is known for than others. a. The certainty of his praying. b. The consistency of his praying. c. The content of his praying. 1) “*Oh, that Thou*

wouldest bless me indeed;” (a) Urgent (b) Personal (c) Daring. 2) “*AND ENLARGE MY COAST;*” 3) “*And that Thine hand might be with me;*” 4) “*And that Thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it might not grieve me;*” 2. “*And God granted him that which he requested.*”

**Bless me.** Frequently we, too, punctuate our prayers with the request that God “bless” someone or something. What do we mean when we PRAY FOR A BLESSING? Are we simply wanting God to make something work out right or to do something good? Or is there a deeper significance which, if understood, could add a new perspective to our praying?

In the Biblical sense, a “blessing” is an act of God by which He causes someone or something to produce supernaturally more than would be naturally possible. Isn’t this truth obvious in the life of **Jabez**? He wanted a big blessing, not a little one. God granted him that which he requested. He prayed for, and received, spiritual prosperity. As you and I pray, what kind of blessing do we want?

Often we ask God to bless a service, or a pastor-teacher, which means that we want to see results which cannot be explained on the basis of human logic, or human talents or competencies. When we ask the Lord to bless a certain missionary or a certain mission effort, we are asking God to give the missionary the ability to accomplish more than is humanly possible and we want to see the mission effort produce fruits far beyond what man can bring by his own work. Praying that God bless an offering indicates a desire for God to superintend the use of those funds so that more is accomplished than would be if dispensed on the basis of human cleverness. We need God to bless our spouses, children, and our work. So we pray for God to bless them.

Truly God has blessed the prayer seminar ministry far beyond my own dreams—opening doors, providing traveling grace, and blessing each of the 1,312 prayer seminars with a special unction of the Holy Spirit. How my own heart palpitates with thanksgiving for specific blessings. May the sweet incense of prayers from believers whom He has blessed during

prayer seminars ever minister to Him for His pleasure. How desperately those around us and throughout the world need to see God’s blessing on our work which can only be explained by His hand moving. As we pray for Him to bless, let’s remember the possibilities!

**More responsibility.** **Jabez** wanted more responsibility—“*AND ENLARGE MY COAST.*” If you and I are not careful, we will settle in at a level below what God wants for our lives. It is easy to have the “I taught last year” attitude and not want more responsibility.

**God’s hand.** One of the most revealing things **Jabez** asked was for God’s hand to be upon him. What a difference it is to walk through a day or an experience when you know God’s hand is upon you. We, too, need to seek His hand in a deliberate way. Since God intends for us to order our lives around prayer, we must learn to ask Him to do so. His way in prayer has always been for us to confess to Him specifically what we want Him to do.

**The matter of evil.** Finally, **Jabez** asked that he be kept from evil since he understood the grief that could come. When a Christian succumbs to sin, he will lose the joy of God’s salvation, as did **David**. When the Christian loses his joy, he does not worship well, walk well, work well, witness well, or war well.

**God’s response.** **Jabez** is praying for himself. It is right for us to pray for ourselves. In fact, until a person is praying for himself, he is not in a position to pray for others. Some might look at what this man of God asked and dismiss each request as self-centered. It is important, however, to understand what God felt about what he asked. The conclusion is “*And God granted him that which he requested.*” God is as interested in each of us, and our needs, as He was in **Jabez**. As **Jabez** took his needs directly to God, and obtained an immediate answer of His grace, we need to do the same. His prayer can be our model as we pray earnestly from our hearts.

As you deliberately seek to learn from each prayer recorded in the Bible, you will find none more helpful to guide your praying than the prayer of **Jabez**. We need to learn and make the prayer of this Old Testament’s saint our own

prayer. Each of us is in deep need of fuller blessing, widening horizons of faith, and a more constant emancipation from sin's dominion. Through the prayer of Jabez, we can discover more of God's patterns for effective prayer.

**Caution.** While the prayer of Jabez gives us insight about what we can talk to God about, it is important to use his words as a guide, not something to be repeated from rote memory. Even the Model Prayer is not a prayer to be prayed as much as it is a prayer to teach us how to pray. Be sure your heart is in your words. Be sure that you are on praying ground with sins confessed and forsaken (**Psalm 66:18**).

Yours in Calvary love,

*J. Gordon Henry*

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**of Blessing, Tell Me the Story of Jesus, Though Your Sins be as Scarlet, To God be the Glory. To the Work, Trusting Jesus, and Will Jesus Find Us Watching?** These are songs whose words have strengthened my commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and increased my love for the One who died for my sins.

One that I have pondered over more than any other is "I Shall Know Him" by the print of the nails in His hand. At this Easter season, let's reflect on what brought about those nail-prints and determine to give Him our best.

When my life-work is ended,  
And I cross the swelling tide,  
When the bright and glorious morning I shall see;  
I shall know my Redeemer  
When I reach the other side,  
And His smile will be the first to welcome me.

I shall know Him, I shall know Him,  
And redeemed by His side, I shall stand.  
I shall know Him, I shall know Him,  
By the print of the nails in His hand.

### "Understandest thou what thou readeſt?"

As we come close to Easter each year, I am deeply moved and amazed that God would give us such a gift of love and forgiveness in Christ. The death and resurrection of Christ are at the heart of our Easter celebration, and at the heart of the message we preach at home and abroad. **Christ is risen!** We serve a Risen Saviour!

**On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35).** When the two disciples walked on the road to Emmaus, they were discussing Jesus' death. Suddenly Jesus Himself was walking with them, but they didn't recognize Him. When He asked them what they were discussing that made them so sad, they told Him about Jesus of Nazareth, whom they thought was a great prophet and the Messiah. Now their hopes and dreams were dashed. He had been crucified and buried. Some of their group claimed that He had risen from the dead, but they could not believe it.

Jesus then told them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" Then Jesus quoted from the Scriptures beginning with the writings of Moses, explaining what the passages meant and what they said about Himself.

They wanted this stranger to join them for some food in their home. He did. When He took the loaf of bread, broke it and passed it to them, suddenly their eyes were opened. They recognized Him, and then He disappeared. They started telling one another how their hearts felt strangely warmed as they talked with Him. Within the hour, they were hurrying back to Jerusalem, where the other disciples of Jesus were waiting. We would do well to go once again to the Bible and reflect on the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus for our sins, which is the crux of the GOSPEL that we preach (**1 Corinthians 15:1-8**).

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?** Before crucifixion, criminals were

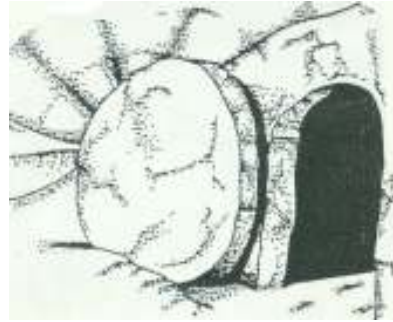
commonly **scourged** with a whip made of leather thongs weighted with pieces of sharp metal until the flesh on their backs was all torn open. The whip was called “the cat of nine tails” and made furrows on the back (**Psalm 129:3**). Sometimes death resulted from scourging alone. After the beating, the victims were led to the place of execution through the city market place. When they arrived at some easily accessible knoll, they were made to lie down while they were bound to the cross-bar and their hands nailed. They were then lifted up by ropes or ladders and the cross-bar was attached firmly to an upright that had been driven into the ground. The feet were nailed to the upright, and the victim left hanging not more than two feet from the ground.

There was great mental anguish in hanging practically face-to-face with the curious and the sadistic that might mock and scorn at the cries of the dying.

Crucifixion was regarded as the most disgraceful, as well as the most excruciating manner of execution. The torture of the cross began with the sagging weight of the body that make breathing difficult, then impossible. The swelling wounds on the hands, feet, and lacerated back, the torn tendons and nerves, and the unsufferable thirst under the hot sun combined to bring torture beyond imagination. Arteries of the head and stomach would become surcharged with blood, causing a terrifying throbbing sensation.

The Lord Jesus Christ suffered one of the most ignominious, savage kinds of death known to man. But He died standing up in symbolic defiance of the powers of sin and Satan, crying with a loud voice, “**It is finished!**” He was made a curse for you and me that we might not have to bear God’s curse on sin ourselves (**Galatians 3:13**).

**Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?** Sue and I have had the privilege to lead tour groups to the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem and enter the tomb and pause before the ledge upon which His body was placed. But **the tomb is empty** and **the stone is rolled away!**



**Were you there when He rose up from the grave?** “And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. **Come, see** the place where the Lord lay. And **go quickly, and tell** His disciples, that He is risen from the death; and behold, He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him; lo, I have told you so” (**Matthew 28:5-7**).

**Up from the grave, He arose.** He lives. Christ is risen indeed. When the glorious sunrise of Easter morning comes, we shout, “**He is risen!**” The resurrection of Jesus Christ is what gives us hope as we look to the future.

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### Plain word for Christian leaders

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“Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring their difficulties to God” (**Exodus 18:19**). “Show them the ways in which they must walk and the work they must do” (v 20). What is this? It is intercessory praying and teaching the Word of God.

### **HALLELUJAH!**

**In the bonds of Death He lay  
Who for our offence was slain;  
But the Lord is risen today,  
Christ has brought us life again,  
Wherefore let us all rejoice,  
Singing loud, with cheerful voice,  
HALLELUJAH!**

—Martin Luther

**PRAYER CALENDAR****MARCH 2008**

"I will give myself to prayer..."

**Psalm 109:4b****SATURDAY, MARCH 1****JOSHUA 1-5 (Lesotho 2M)**

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)  
 Burnace Abrams (OH)  
 Marie Adams (VA)  
 Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)  
 Rosalee Adams (VA)  
 Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)  
 Norma Ailes (FL)  
 Clyde & Kathryn Allen (VA)  
 Lon & Denise Anderkin (FL)  
 Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 2**

Milcie Arnold (VA)  
 Solomon & Kriskna Arrington (MD)  
 Leonor Avila (MD)  
 Kenneth Banks (NC)  
 Carolyn Barkley (NY)  
 Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)  
 John & Joan Bateman (PA)

**MONDAY, MARCH 3****JOSHUA 6-8 (Malaysia 27.5M)**

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)  
 Jean Beasley (TN)  
 Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)  
 Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)  
 Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)  
 Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)  
 Bethesda Ministries  
 Jerry & Joan Crain (SC)  
 Dorothy Spickard Biddle (NC)  
 Stephen & Joyce Bishop (VA)  
 Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)  
 Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4****JOSHUA 9-12 (Mexico 106.5M)**

Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY)  
 William & Debbie Bowden (MD)  
 Gordon & Chloe Ann Bowyer (VA)  
 Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)  
 Emilee & Kimberlee Bradshaw (VA)  
 Nancy Bretz (PA)  
 Von M. Bridges (TX)  
 Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

Henry &amp; Ruby Brown (AZ)

Shirley Brown (VA)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5****JOSH 13-17 (Mozambique 21.4M)**

Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)  
 Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)  
 Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)  
 Janice Bugg (TN)  
 Ruby Burger (TN)  
 Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)  
 Neal & Mary Ann Cabannis (VA)  
 Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)  
 Lew & Mary Campbell (ID)  
 Laura Cannon (NC)  
 Ron & Julia Carlin (AL)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6****JOSHUA 18-21 (Namibia 2M)**

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

**FRIDAY, MARCH 7****JOSH 22-24 (New Zealand 4.3M)**

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

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8****JUDGES 1-5 (Nigeria 148M)**

Delmarva Evangelistic Church (MD)  
 Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor  
 Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)  
 Mary J. Dugans (LA)  
 Walt Edwards (NC)  
 Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)  
 Lynn Elkins (TN)  
 Evalena Enoch (VA)  
 Gene & Shirley Farley (CA)  
 Lynne Farrow (NJ)  
 Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9**

June Fisher (TN)

Josephine Fitzgerald (AL)  
 Claire & Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)  
 Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)  
 Raymond & Estelle Gabbard (KY)  
 Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)  
 Carole B. Garvin (PA)  
 Frank & Doris Geiger (HI)  
 Robert & Sara George (GA)

**MONDAY, MARCH 10****JUDGES 6-8 (N Ireland 1.7M)**

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

**TUESDAY, MARCH 11****JUDGES 9-12 (Okinawa 1M)**

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)  
 Jerry & Sandra Hodges (VA)  
 Joanna Holland (VA)  
 John & Glenda Holland (VA)  
 Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12****JUDGES 13-16 (Pakistan 162.4M)**

Russ & Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)  
 Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)  
 Sam & Linda Hough (VA)  
 Lamar & Cindy Sue Houser (MD)  
 Bonnie Houston (TN)  
 Coy Hunsucker (NC)  
 Joyce Hunt (TN)  
 Wilbert & Almaretta Hupp (PA)  
 Ed Hurlow (IN)  
 H. J. & Paula Hutchins (MS)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 13****JUDGES 17-21 (Peru 27.9M)**

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

**FRIDAY, MARCH 14****RUTH 1-6 (Philippines 88.7M)**

Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)  
 W I & Eloise Jones (SC)  
 Howard & Suzie Kauffmann (GA)  
 Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)  
 Joyce Kelley (OR)  
 Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)  
 Bruce Kirby, Pastor  
 Alice Kern (NJ)  
 Archie & Mary King (TN)  
 Kenneth & Bonnie Kirby (PA)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15****1 SAMUEL 1-5 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)  
 Rich & Sherry Klutz (WA)  
 Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)  
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)  
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)  
 Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk

David & Cathy Laing (FL)  
 Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ)  
 Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16**

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)  
 Bob Lawrence (MD)  
 Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT)  
 Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)  
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)  
 George & Ginger Locklear (NC)  
 Stacy Logsdon (KY)  
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)

**MONDAY, MARCH 17****1 SAM 4-8 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

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

**TUESDAY, MARCH 18****1 SAM 9-12 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Gary & Anna McElwaine (KY)  
 Sid & Jane McLaughlin (AL)  
 Jim & Lin McLean (TN)  
 John & Egberta McSween (Trinidad)  
 Leonard & Martha Meador (VA)  
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)  
 Memorial Christian Church (VA)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19****1 SAM 13-15 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 20****1 SAM 16-19 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)  
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)  
 Katherine Morgan (VA)  
 New Harvest Christian Ministries (MD)

Marcus Johnson, Pastor  
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)  
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 21****1 SAM 20-23 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Ann Palumbo (NJ)

Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)  
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)  
 Pleasant Hope Baptist Church (KY)  
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)  
 Ben Poplin (VA)  
 Ayers & Nina Porter (TN)  
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)  
 Brandon Jeanne, Maggie Pribble (VA)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22****1 SAM 24-26 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)  
 Cynthia Roach (VA)  
 Windi & Caleb Roach (OK)  
 John & Sandra Roberts (FL)  
 Bo & Betty Robinson (MS)  
 David & Amy Ross (KY)  
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23****1 SAM 26-30 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)  
 Bob & Shirley Rose (MI)  
 Sandra Rumore (VA)  
 John Saint (PA)

Don & Marie Satterwhite (MD)

David & Betty Schaum (NY)  
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)  
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)  
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)

**MONDAY, MARCH 24****1 SAM 27-31 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Philip & Wendy Schrank (WI)  
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)  
 Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH)  
 Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA)  
 Eric Farel, Pastor  
 Nellie F. Shepard (CT)  
 Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)  
 Mary Skiles (KS)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 25****2 SAM 1-4 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Paul & Mary Smith (TX)  
 Doris Snyder (FL/OH)  
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)  
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)  
 Carol Snow Stewart (AZ)  
 Gary/Leta Fern Stillwagon (GA)  
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26****2 SAM 5-7 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)  
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)  
 Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)  
 William Stroman, Pastor  
 Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX)  
 Taylor's Chapel Baptist Church (TN)  
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)  
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 27****2 SAM 8-10 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Temple of Praise (TX)  
 Gilbert Perez, Pastor

Mona Henry Thomas (VA)  
 Mildred V. Thompson (GA)  
 Paula Tipton (TN)  
 Virginia Trask (VA)  
 Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY)  
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)  
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)  
 Malcom Troutman (KY)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 28****2 SAM 11-14 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY)  
 Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA)  
 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)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29****2 SAM 15-18 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Kay Warmerdam (TX)  
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)  
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)  
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)  
 Allan & Judy Whitmore (VA)  
 George & Virginia Whitner (FL)  
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)  
 Edward Williams (NC)  
 Elijah Williams (NJ)  
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 30****2 SAM 19-20 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)  
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)  
 Leslie & Tabitha Motalane (South Africa)  
 Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)

Andrew J. Sakari (Kenya)  
 Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)  
 Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)  
 Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Zambia)  
 Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)

**MONDAY, MARCH 31****2 SAM 21-24 (Venezuela 28.2M)**

Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)  
 Dot Winfield (MD)  
 Amos Wipf (GA)  
 The Word Church (NJ)  
 Buz Offenbacher, Pastor  
 Bert & Teresa Worley (VA)  
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)  
 Todd & Stephanie Wright (KY)  
 Lili Wykle (VA)  
 Robin & Deborah Yohee (PA)

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE**

When the violence came into the Glory Baptist Church community, **Martin** was devastated and fled with his family to a police station in **Eldoret** to seek protection. The political conflict moved over into tribal conflict. **Kenya** was normally seen in Africa as a haven of relative political stability and economic prosperity. The nation had escaped the ethnic hatreds that consumed Rwanda, Congo, and Sudan. It was considered one of the most promising and stable African nations. The economy was flourishing.

The election aggravated deep-seated resentments that have apparently been festering for years. There are forty-two identified tribes in Kenya and may be as many as fifty, counting the smallest tribes. The United Nations estimates that at least 600,000 have been uprooted. Around 300,000 have gone to camps, police stations, stables and prisons. The living conditions are horrible. One Kenyan newspaper headline was "Now they're eating rats." Over 1,000 have been killed.

**Martin** and his family, along with everyone else, faced terror, suffering, anarchy, exodus, shortage of commodities/food, no shelter, no blankets, appalling sanitary conditions, and fear of disease outbreak.

**Physical description (from February 8 E-mail)**

"About the Glory Baptist Church community which you remember well, along the main highway starting about two kilometers from the hotel where you stayed while in Eldoret, the shops and houses have been burned down after being looted. There are burned vehicles everywhere. On the road to the church from the highway (the rough road beside the church), more than ten homes are totally destroyed. You may hardly meet a person walking there now. Immediately after the railroad crossing over sixty homes are totally destroyed by fire including that orphanage near the church. Of the 200 homes going up the hillside on the right side of the church, only eleven houses remain. There are no intact families remaining."

**Doorkeepers and friends responded**

Hearts were touched. Many sent gifts with messages to **Martin**, his family, and his congregation. "Don't despair. We are standing beside you with prayer and financial support. Over 100 gave over \$13,000. The very moment we heard from **Martin**, JGHM sent \$1,000 immediately. We have continued with weekly support and have provided funds to **Andrew Sakaria** (Misikhu), our other coordinator, and **Fred Indangasi** (Mombasa), our evangelist for the Misikhu crusade.

**My heart is rejoicing**

Now, a short six weeks later, "my heart is rejoicing." There is no doubt that the financial and prayer support have wrought a miracle. Our mission was to help **Martin** get reestablished, having lost everything in his home, which brought him to the point of despair.

**Martin's own words**

No words that I could use could surpass those of **Martin**. I will share highlights of his E-mails.

**January 7.** Praise God that I am still alive and my family. Ran to the police station on 31<sup>st</sup>. Whole village burnt. We have been sleeping outside on ground. No food, clothing, house. Everything looted from my house. My members are totally discouraged, hungry without a home, some with loved ones dead. My children escaped to **Pastor Andrew's** house by the grace of God. I have found a small guest house in town and am trusting God for the money to pay for it for a month. The planned prayer seminars have been postponed. Went to church



on January 6. Thirty-one came for prayers, the lowest since we started on November 3, 1996.

**January 15.** Reported on January 13 services. Forty-one present. Sermon subject: “God Remembers.” Used funds to buy food to distribute to members.

**January 24.** Used some funds to visit camps. Five Baptist churches burned. Thousands in camps. “We encouraged the pastors and people, prayed with them, gave whatever support we had in material and money form. We read God’s Word and then sang “On Christ the Solid Rock we stand. Ministered personally to over 500.”

**January 28.** “My heart prayer is that JGHM will live even if the Lord rests the founding president. As his Timothys, the small elephants, as long as we are still alive, we shall keep the main thing the main thing all over the nations.”

**February 2.** “Nowhere seems safe. We had supper in our house, the first time since December 29.”

**February 4.** “I am always lifted up with your encouraging E-mails to me. I feel not alone anymore. Insecurity is the main challenge/problem on my church field. Police are ineffective. We are now planning a long-term evangelistic project toward the “**Kelenjin**” community, the tribe that has been attacking people and chasing them out of the **Rift Valley**. I really love them and I see Glory Baptist Church as God’s place for changing them through love starting with their children. We must move on in the Lord.”

**February 7.** “Using **Eldoret** as our center, we plan to take the prayer seminars to Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Congo, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Malawi, and Central African Republic . . . I am very sure now that when my children come back to me on Friday, they will now at least see a home where can have a meal, sleep on a mattress covered

with a blanket, put on clothes and shoes—thanks to our Almighty God, JGHM, the **Doorkeepers** who have shown love, mercy and great concern in such times of our great need (**Philippians 4:16-19**). All of us Kenyans have been affected in one way or another. The violence language that is going around is “41/1”—41 tribes against one tribe (Kikuyu tribe).”

**February 8.** “Three major questions about violence in my country. #1. What is the nature of the conflict? Everything is a result of struggle for power/resources. #2. What are the causes? Election, tribalism, injustices, political differences, unresolved disputes, failed institutions that cannot be trusted. #3. What are the effects? Truly hurting, deaths, hate, psychological trauma, revived widened tribal hatreds, mistrust, suspicion, exploitation of resources, family separations, displaced people, lawlessness, environmental confusion, forced migrations to ancestral lands, and education.

As a result of the above, I feel much challenged that now I can start helping my people through a healing process beginning with myself, my family, my church, and then my society. I have fully agreed that as Kenyans we are deeply wounded. What we are now expecting is first scars as a result of our restored health after healing.

What has helped my church is that I have always been against tribalism from the very beginning in 1996. I have loved and valued all the Kenyan tribes and have involved them in church leadership which includes thirteen different tribes. This includes the Kalenjins who reside on my church field and have been responsible for much violence. In fact, I married into a different tribe. My children are more identified as Kenyans more than any one tribal identification.”

**February 11.** “The Lord is still taking care of us in all situations. We retrieved our four children, **Lydia** (8), **Shalom** (5), **Becky** (3) and **Josiah** (1) from **Andrew**’s house. All were missing parental care and love and had colds and malaria. With the financial support, I took them to the hospital for medicine and have been

able to buy for them good meals. Now we are must get them settled into schools and are able to pay fees, buy uniforms, shoes, books, and school supplies. Everything in shops for basic needs has doubled in price. I am grateful knowing that over 100,000 children are suffering in makeshift camps. I am full of God's peace in all these atrocities. We are preaching and teaching forgiveness everywhere standing against any attempts for revenge."

**February 15.** "We have had a good time with **Pastor Andrew** visiting us in our new house. Friends in the **Eldoret** immigration office are helping us with an international passport for Andrew, which is necessary as we take the prayer seminar to other nations.

**February 17.** "Yesterday was indeed a great day at the meeting house at Glory Baptist Church. As you saw it, it was full. I gave your greetings and words to the congregation asking each person to hug one another on behalf of **Dr. Henry, Sue** and **JGHM**. I tell you, it was lovely to see all those tribes that have been fighting present. I have my tribe, the **Luhya**; the current president's tribe **Kikuyu**; the **Rift Valley** fighting men **Kalenjins**; the so-called opposition leaders' group, the **Luos**; the **Kisiis**; the **Mijikendas** from the south coast of **Mombasa**; and the **Turkanas** from the northern sides of Kenya towards Sudan. Together we sang "Yes, God is good, He's good to me" in our diverse dialects reminding my people that our diversity is part of what makes us different, unique, and beautiful before God, and other men."

**Conclusion:** Although things are not back to normal—not by a long shot—**Martin is reestablished**. I firmly believe that what he, his family, and his congregation have gone through is boot training for a significant work among many African nations as he, along with his good friend and colleague, **Andrew**, carry the prayer seminar to many nations. You have made a tremendous difference. On behalf of so many in West Africa and Mombasa, the seacoast city, thank you for caring, praying, and giving.



## NOTES from my BIBLE

*Note 1136.* There is absolutely no point in putting your best foot forward if you are going to drag the other one.

*Note 1137.* If Jesus Christ be God, and He died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him. --C. T. Studd

*Note 1138.* Purpose-driven or Spirit-driven? Don't be confused as to what the Word of God teaches. We are to be Spirit-driven.

*Note 1139.* Right is a bigger word than either success or failure.

*Note 1140.* The man who wins all his arguments will likely lose most of his friends.

## DOORKEEPER REPORT

January 18-February 18

Regular	40	\$3,615.00
Venezuela	14	830.00
Kenya-Martin	51	5,698.87
Total	105	\$10,143.87



## A special thank you

Generally, we do not ask **Doorkeepers** for anything beyond prayer seminar support. We count on our **Doorkeepers** for regular support. Some give monthly. Others give bi-annually or annually. God gave us the **Doorkeeper concept** at the outset of our ministry and it has made the prayer seminars possible for over twenty-five years. Then we ask for help to go to other nations.

Upon learning of **Martin's** distress, it was clear that you would want to know. In response, there were 108 contributions totally \$13,662.92. Thank you for your generous support.

## **A divine opportunity**

When we received an invitation to conduct a series of prayer seminars in Pakistan in the fall of 2003, I thought “what an extraordinary opportunity. As I prepared, I prayed in this light and shared the invitation with our **Doorkeepers**. Soon I had an E-mail from **Doorkeeper Silas Yashim** in Nigeria: “We shall be praying for the Pakistani prayer seminars. It has been our desire for the Muslims in Islamic nations to hear the gospel. May this be a **divine opportunity** for the Muslims to hear the gospel as the result of the outcome of renewed, vital praying from those who attend the prayer seminars.” From that point onward, I think of each seminar as a **divine opportunity**. Knowing the importance of Venezuela, the seminars scheduled March 16-30 are **divine opportunities**.

**1992.** Our first ministry in Venezuela was in Puerto Ordaz in 1992. In fact, I conducted prayer seminars # 500 and #501 on that visit. Although the churches were small, several pastors attended. This was the first time that we were able to give each pastor attending ten Spanish workbooks. Each promised to return to their churches and share what they had learned. Only eternity will reveal the results of this effort sixteen years ago.

Although we shared a number of testimonies in the **Doorkeeper Report**, these two are reflective of what was said. “I have learned in a short time many things that will help me from now on. I learned a more precise way of praying. The seminar was needed in my life. I am grateful and will teach my people what I have learned using the workbooks.” “God has touched me so that I learned many things I did not know. He has shown me how essential Bible study and prayer are to having a victorious Christian life.”

**2007.** Thanks to **Adam Nathanson**, missionary in Caracas and our long-time Spanish and Portuguese interpreter in many Latin nations, and the Evangelical Ministers’

Association, the 2007 seminars could not have gone better. The interest was unusually high. There were six prayer seminars, 2,633 in attendance (including pastors from all states in Venezuela), and 250 professions of faith.

**2008.** The Holy Spirit anointed each seminar in 2007 to the point that at the end of the first week, there was a firm invitation to return in 2008. The dates are March 16-30. The first week will be in Caracas, the capital city, and the second week in Meriba, a smaller, resort-type city in the mountains that is the home of many universities. Amazingly, I have received an invitation from the faculty of one of the universities to lecture on human development and higher education administration with around 200 students expected. The venue is full each day. We need your prayer support more than ever before.

One thing that is reflective of the building interest is the number of Spanish prayer seminar workbooks requested. Initially, the number was set at 2,000. As invitations came in from the churches, the number was raised to 3,000. A few days ago, we learned that we will need at least 4,000. Wonderful!

**Help needed.** The budget is \$5,400 to take care of travel, lodging, food, and the 4,000 workbooks. From previous experience, we have found that when one hundred **Doorkeepers** and **friends** become financial and prayer partners with us, the budget is met, and usually surpassed. Your help is vital to enable us to share the prayer seminar in other nations.

## **My blog**

Check out **My Blog** each day on our web site: [www.jgordonhenryministries.org](http://www.jgordonhenryministries.org). A new feature will be an **update on Kenya**. I plan to share the sermons that **Martin** has preached Sunday by Sunday since the post-election violence destroyed most homes on his church field.

Have you listened to some of my favorite songs on the website? You will be blessed.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PRAY FOR A MIGHTY MOVING OF GOD  
DURING THE PRAYER SEMINARS  
VENEZUELA MARCH 16-30.  
PRAY THAT GOD WILL GET GLORY!

## God answers prayer

For the past six weeks, many of you have interceded for **Martin Shikuku**, his family, his congregation, and his beloved Kenya. Further, when you learned of the dire straits, with all material possessions gone, you gave that his ministry might be re-established and that his life could return to a semblance of normality.

God heard and has answered our prayers. For the thrilling story, I encourage you to set aside some quality time and read **Martin's** words in the article entitled "Mission accomplished" (pages 1, 8-10). Many of the prayers of **David** that are recorded in the Scriptures are his expression of thanksgiving for God's deliverance when he called upon Him. Certainly, it is time for us to give thanks for hearing our cries, touching our hearts to do something tangible, and seeing the results in a very short time—under unbelievably difficult circumstances. We have called upon Him and He has shown us "great and mighty things" beyond anything we have ever seen (**Jeremiah 33:3**). But we must keep confessing to God that we are walking in dependence upon Him in every circumstance (**Philippians 4:6**).

## Count on it

God is 100% faithful even when we are not faithful. "If we are faithless, He remains faithful" (**2 Timothy 2:13**). He never forgets. He is completely trustworthy. He is never late with His blessings, never errant with His guidance, never in short supply with His provision, and never fickle with His love. God never becomes weary and needs no assistance. Through the blood of Jesus, His children can come boldly to His throne to find mercy and grace to help in time of need (**Hebrews 4:16; 10:19**). You can come to Him at any hour of the day or night. He does not keep office hours. He not only invites you to come, you can stay as long as you want to say when you get there. Prayer is not bringing God down to earth; prayer is going into His presence in the Throne Room in Heaven.