

REFLECTOR

VOL.60, No.3 "Set thee up waymarks" Jeremiah 31:21 March 2014

ADORATION Prayer ^{as} Worship



J. GORDON HENRY, ED.D.

"You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32)

We are living in a time when many are clamoring for our society (even our homes, schools, and churches—the boy and girl scouts!) to legitimize homosexuality as an acceptable alternative lifestyle. After all, "we have our civil rights." Even some Christians (and this hurts to say it) now declare people have a right to choose their sexual preference. **But the Bible specifically calls homosexual behavior sin.**

As I prepare this material, I wish that I knew the words to use and how to put them together on paper to do two things: (1) clarify an issue that is pressing upon us from all sides by setting down God's teachings so there could be no misunderstanding; and (2) clearly condemn the practice, but not the people. Homosexuality was as widespread in Paul's day as it is in ours. In listing the characteristics of unbelievers who will not inherit the kingdom of God, he includes homosexuals and sodomites along with others: fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners (**1 Corinthians 6:9-10**). Then he said in **verse eleven**, "And such were some of you." Study this verse carefully. Sinners such as those mentioned by Paul can be fully cleansed from sin (**washed**), set apart for God (**sanctified**), and totally accepted in God's sight (**justified**). Some of the Corinthian Christians had known such life-styles in their past. But their conversion was **in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God**. The saving work of Christ is the

"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."

1 Corinthians 6: 9-11

ground on which we stand and the Holy Spirit is the agent through whom salvation is accomplished. Paul ends on a positive note, calling them to live according to who they are.

Every fallen child of Adam has evil tendencies. Some have a weakness in one area, some in another. The sin is not in being tempted, but in yielding to temptation. There is a difference between being a practicing homosexual and having a homosexual tendency. It is the practice that the Bible condemns (**Genesis 19:1-26; Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Romans 1:18-32; I Corinthians 6:9; 1 Timothy 1:9-10**). There are many who have an attraction to their own sex but refuse to give in to it. By the power of the Holy Spirit, they have disciplined themselves to resist the temptation and to live in purity.

Christians should accept gays and lesbians as persons whom God loves without approving their lifestyle. Because they are people for whom Christ died, believers should seek in every possible way to win them to a life of "holiness, without which no one will see the Lord" (**Hebrews 12:14**). A major way to do this is to pray for their salvation. Remember to ask God to bind Satan who blinds the minds of all unbelievers (**2 Corinthians 4:4**). Until this happens, any lost person does not hear the appeal for salvation.

What does the Bible teach about homosexuality? Perhaps the key Bible passage is **Romans 1:18-32**. Within this passage are two key verses: "Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion" (**Romans 1:26-27**).

Just because a person believes something else does not change the truth. The Bible condemns homosexual behavior. **Alongside God's condemnation of sin is His offer of forgiveness.** God is willing to receive anyone who comes to Him in faith and in repentance. Lives can be transformed. Homosexuality is considered an acceptable practice by many in our world today—even by some churches and religious bodies. But society does not set the standard for God's law. Many homosexuals believe that their desires are normal and that they have a right to express them. But God does not obligate

nor encourage us to fulfill all our desires (even normal ones). Those desires that violate His laws must be controlled.

Temptations can be overcome by God's grace. Remember, God can and will forgive sexual sins just as He forgives other sins. Surrender yourself to the grace and mercy of God, asking Him to show you the way out of sin and into the light of His freedom and love. For the believer, the Holy Spirit is our Helper. Rely on Him moment by moment. Bible study and prayer provide strength and insight. Anyone who is already involved in illicit sexual behavior would be wise to seek help from a trustworthy, professional pastoral counselor.

Guidelines in praying for individuals. God has revealed His will in the written Word of God. We are to then pray according to His will with the expectation that He will hear and answer. Is this not what is taught in **1 John 5:14-15**? Once you begin to focus the power of God on an individual, Satan will not like it because he is the one who blinds minds (**2 Corinthians 4:4**). In the name of Jesus, ask the Father to bind Satan so that the mind can receive God's truth. It is wise to pray for conviction, which is the work of the Holy Spirit. Pray for someone to "speak the truth in love" (**Ephesians 4:15**). Pray that the person will receive it and apply it to his/her life. Remember that some types of oppression require both prayer and fasting (**Matthew 17:21**).

Yours in Calvary love,
J. Gordon Henry

Facing Death with One's Loved One of Many Years

The first time the name "Jack Shelton" registered in my mind was when his sister, **Joyce Warpoole** (secretary-treasurer, JGHM Board of Directors) requested prayer for her brother. One tumor had been found in his lungs and two in his brain. **Jack**, a long-distance trucker, and his wife, **Pat**, lived in Michigan. For the next eight and one-half months, his condition worsened. Early in his illness, his favorite preacher led him to Christ. **Pat**, as do many other wives in similar circumstances, became Jack's care-giver. To help her keep things in perspective, she resorted to journeying, keeping a written account of her experiences and her feelings. What she produced is a masterpiece. I'm encouraging her to publish her writings. Following is an excerpt, a section entitled "The Amazing Brain."

Think about the amazing brain that God gave to humans. No other animal on the planet has a brain like ours. How can people deny Him and say we were an "accident"? How can an accident produce such a miraculous thing?

You don't have to stay awake to tell your heart to beat, or your lungs to breathe in and out. You don't have to tell your eyes to see or your ears to hear. What an amazing thing God has given to us!

Even when the brain "misfires," it is still sending messages to the heart and lungs. As I have been thinking about this, it just is beyond my comprehension.

Even in the "misfiring," there is sense, at least to the person with the issue. Jack has been rambling for the past few nights. It's not gibberish - he makes perfect sense - to himself. It is a bit disjointed but the bits and pieces I do hear (he mumbles), I know he is talking about places he has been and things he has seen. I don't know what they are but they are as clear as day to him. You may think I'm crazy, but I find that amazing. Even though he is not fully aware of the world around him, he is aware of an inner world where he has been.

The brain is better than any computer. And, like a computer, we don't know how

to use it to its fullest potential. When it malfunctions we want to throw it away and get a new one. Well, sorry, can't do that with a brain! It's amazing that with tumors and edema pressing on the brain, it still functions - even though it is misfiring.

I've not posted some of the things we have been through because I don't see the point but I will post about last night because **someone, somewhere might be involved with someone with similar events that happen**. I've found it challenging, but not frightening. I just think it's amazing how the brain works. And, on a side note, why is it that the one animal with "intelligence" is the one animal that fights with, and denies, its Creator? Well, that's another discussion.

Last night I fell asleep on the couch about 8 pm. I woke up to hear Jack moving and talking. Thinking he was trying to get out of bed, I got up to check on him. I was totally discouraged to find it was only 10 pm!! I was sure it was at least 4 am. It was only 2 hours?! I had the whole night to face yet. Knowing people had been praying for me is the only reason I could keep on keeping on.

I got him settled and went back to the couch. I must have drifted off because next thing I knew it was 1:15 a.m. and he

was standing by the bed. I have no idea how he got up. I went over and asked what he wanted. He wanted to sit at the kitchen table. I tried to talk him out of it but he insisted so I helped him the ten steps to the table, which is no easy feat with someone so unsteady and wobbly and trying to turn in different directions.

Finally, I got him settled and he asked where the saw and the blades were. I told him in the barn. He wanted to know why I keep moving his stuff (that, folks is a HUGE issue with us). I told him he is always yelling at Charlie and me to put his tools away so for once we did it and they are put away. He said, "OK".

Then he was pulling at something as though he had a string or something and asked me to take one end and help him tie it around his head to get rid of the headache so I took one end and "tied" it around his head. He said that felt better so I suggested he go back to bed and get comfortable.

That was trickier. He kept trying to sit on the pellet stove, the table and the arm of the chair. Finally I got him to the bed but he fell on it before I could turn him. Since he was kneeling half on the floor, I had to lift his legs and put them on the bed. I took down the side, rolled his legs up and put the side back up, covered him with a sheet and he went back to sleep.

I got back to the couch about 2:30 a.m. I woke up just before 6:30 when he was restless again. I made him comfortable and he is back asleep.

All indications are that Jack won't come out of this maze, except for very short periods of time. It is not how he wanted to be. He said if he ever got to where he didn't know who he was or what he was doing, he wanted to be gone. That is why I am asking for your prayers for God to release him from this place and take him to where he will be whole and pain free! Do you know how hard it is to write that? You will never know until you have to do it yourself.

Thank you for holding us up in prayer for the past eight months. If it were not for that, I would never, ever have been able to make this journey. I cannot find enough words to say thank you and I cannot find the proper words to say how awesome the Lord has been through this whole time. He has been my Sustainer, my Counselor, my Decision Maker, my Friend and my Lord.

Someday maybe I can find the words to express what it has been like to know I have never been alone. I don't mean family and friends haven't been there - I just mean I have always felt His presence.

There are tears now and will be more when this journey is over. But they are not the tears of those who have no hope.

I know some of you live far away - but consider yourself hugged!! I could not have done this without you.

NOTE: The prayers were answered when Jack was "released" on Sunday, August 11, 2013. "Absent from the body ... present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8). There are many lessons to learn from Pat's contemplation of "The Amazing Brain." What she says is true. One lesson is that whatever we face, we need not despair. Sometimes we don't understand, but that is a time to trust.

God knows about trouble and has promised to be with us. One can only imagine the freedom Jack now feels as he enjoys Heaven, his new home, and waits for his loved ones—one by one—to join him. Pat's journaling manuscript is entitled JOURNEY THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW.

The Form of Prayer

Pray **briefly** (Ecclesiastes 5:2). One stone flung hard is better than a handful of loose gravel. Pray **humbly** (Luke 18:13). "Pride," says McCheyne, "is Satan's wedge for splitting prayer meetings to pieces." Pray **pointedly** (Philippians 4:6). Every prayer should be full of pointed phrases and definite petitions. Pray **Scripturally** (Luke 11:1). To pray Scripture is a safe way to pray according to the will of God. Take pains to avoid a self-made liturgy. Prayers cease to leave the earth when they get caught in ruts.

Pray **believingly and gratefully** (James 1:7). Faith and thankfulness (1 Thessalonians 5:18) are the wings of prayer, which lift readily to the Throne. Pray **intensely** (Deuteronomy 4:29). It has been said that Satan can build walls around us, but no roof overhead; but we may add that lethargy builds a ceiling to its own prayers. The whole man ought to become one burning prayer [JGH: then he will be the needed **Lighthouse of Prayer** penetrating the darkness that prevails in the world, including his own family and community].

D. M. Panton

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"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

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**REMEMBER GOD IS
ONLY A PRAYER AWAY!**

NOTES from my BIBLE*

Note 2201. God's Word will not change; what He said is fixed for all eternity.

Note 2202. The only thing certain about things we can see and touch, they are temporary and will change.

Note 2203. As God's servants we have been assigned the task of showing His love to others.

Note 2204. The God of the Bible created all things--all things material and all things spiritual owe their existence to Him and He is worthy of praise (Revelation 4:11).

Note 2205. The Word of God must always stand above the Word of man.

*Taken from notes written in my 2013 Study Bible.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

January 12-February 3, 2013

| | | |
|--------------|----|------------|
| Regular | 32 | \$2,790.00 |
| South Africa | 45 | \$5,249.00 |
| Total | 92 | \$8,039.00 |



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!
Partners with God 1 Corinthians 3:9

PRAYER CALENDAR**MARCH 2014**

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalm 109:4b

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

JOSH 1-3 (South Africa 48.6M)

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)

Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)

Mae Adams (NC)

Marie Adams (VA)

Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)

Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)

Norma Ailes (FL)

H. L. & Janie Allen (SC)

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

Milcie Arnold (VA)

Leonor Avila (MD)

Bill & Karen Baker (OK)

Consuela Baker (NC)

Mike & Joyce Baker (VA)

Marilyn Barry (VA)

Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)

MONDAY, MARCH 3

JOSH 4-7 (South Africa 48.6M)

Jean Beasley (TN)

Tommy Bell (TN)

Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)

Johnny/Juanita Bernard (FL)

Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

Beverly Blankenship (TN)

Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

JOSH 8-10 (South Africa 48.6M)

Everett/Deborah Boston (MD)

Bob Bouchard (KY)

William/Debbie Bowden (MD)

David & Marna Boyd (OR)

Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)

Ed & Jean Bradshaw (VA)

Emilee & Kim Bradshaw (VA)

Nancy Bretz (PA)

Jim & Judy Britt (GA)

Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

JOSH 11-15 (Virgin Isle 104,737)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)

Arretta Bruce (TN)

Joe & Martha Bruno (CO)

Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE)

Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)

George & Carol Buck (NJ)

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

JOSHUA 16-20 (West Bank 2.7M)

Janice Bugg (TN/Chin)

Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)

Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)

Mary Campbell (ID)

Laura Cannon (FL)

Joeretha Capers (FL)

Robert & Anne Carroll (VA)

Bob & Evelyn Casey (FL)

David & Martha Cecil (VA)

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

JOSHUA 21-24 (Yemen 25.1M)

Gus/Janice Christofield (VA)

Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)

Vernia Coleman (MD)

Mary Columbus (VA)

Kathie Connolly (VA)

Larry & Sue Cooper (DE)

Foster/Georgia Covington (VA)

Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)

Dan Cravey (VA)

Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)

Dufrene/Peggy Cummings (NC)

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

JUDGES 1-4 (Zambia 14.2M)

Ida J. Davis (GA)

John Davis (VA)

Harold & Tama Decker (NY)

Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)

Mary J. Dugans (LA)

Ivy Early (NC)

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)

Lynn Elkins (TN)

Gene & Shirley Farley (CA)

Fellowship Baptist Ch (FL)

William & Virginia Green

Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

James & Ruth Flanagan (GA)

MONDAY, MARCH 10

JUDGES 5-8 (Zimbabwe 13.2M)

Claire/Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)

Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)

Estelle Gabbard (KY)

John & Kim Gaines (DE)

Mike & Lerlyne Garcia (VA)

Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)

Frank Geiger (HI)

Sara George (GA)

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

JUDGES 9-12 (World 7.1B)

Gloucester Co. Community Ch

(NJ) Bruce Sofia, Pastor

Ron & Carol Godwin (VA)

Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)

Chad & Wendy Goodner (OK)

Sam/Michele Graisbury (NJ)

Velma Graven (KY)

Dale & Mary Gray (IL)

Odether Gray (GA)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH**12**JUDGES 13-16 (Afghan 31.1M)

Linda Gregory (UT)

Charles Hale (VA)

George & Joy Harper (VA)

Bruce & Vivian Harris (TN)

Jim Hengoeck (FL/CT)

Gina Henry (VA)

J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

JUDGES 17-21 (Albania 3M)

Jacqueline Henry (VA)

Jack Henry (TN)

James & Kathryn Henry (MS)

Mark Henry (TN)

Melody Henry (VA)

Roger & Sara Henry (OH)

Sean & Bethany Henry (VA)

Steve & Donna Hensel (MN)

Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)

Joanna Holland (VA)

John & Glenda Holland (VA)

Russ/Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)

Anita Horton (VA)

Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)

Sam & Linda Hough (VA)

Coy Hunsucker (NC)

Joyce Hunt (TN)

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

RUTH 1-4 (Algeria 38M)

Wilbert/Almaretta Hupp (PA)

Ed Hurlow (IN)

Jide & Bunmi Iware (MD)

Betty Jackson (OH)

Gerald/Tanny Jackson (WA)

Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)

Gene/Rose Marie Jeffries (AR)

Vernelle Jenkins (MD)

Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)

William/Marsha Jester (DE)

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

1 SAM 1-3 (Am Samoa 54,719)

Millicent John (NY)

Bob & Rhonda Johnson (FL)

Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)

Gwen Johnson (AZ)

Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)

Dave & Debbie Jones (VA)

James Jones (FL)

W I & Eloise Jones (SC)

Mohan Katta (IL)

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

1 SAMUEL 4-8 (Andorra 85,293)

Howard/Suzie Kauffmann (GA)

Harper/Shelia Keebaugh (PA)

Kerby Knob Baptist Church

(KY) Bruce Kirby, Pastor

Larry & Janet King (NC)

Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
 Robert & Rose Klous (VA)
 Sherry Klutz (WA)
 Quintin & Mary Knauer (OH)
 Mark & Lois Knolls (DE)
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)

MONDAY, MARCH 17

1 SAMUEL 9-12 (Angola 18.6M)
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
 Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk

Joel & Jackie Kramer (VA)
 Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE)
 Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ)
 Phil & Edra Landers (OK)
 Charles/Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Del & Mary Leach (VA)
 Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT)

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

1 SAMUEL 13-15 (Antigua 90.156)

Gaylen & Linda Leverett (VA)
 Liberty University (VA)

Jerry Falwell Jr., President

Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)
 Vincent/Mary Lobisco (MI)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
 Don & Betty Lowry (SC)
 Rachel Mann (NC)
 Manship Chapel (DE)
 Bruce & Vickie Tribbett
 Wilma Marcum (KY)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

1 SAM 16-19 (Argentina 42.65M)

Reg & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 Deborah Mathias (NY)
 Murray/Loretta Mathis (TN)
 Dan & Fay McConville (VA)
 R. O. & June McHaney (VA)
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Memorial Christian Ch (VA)
 Virgil & Sue Knipp, Pastors
 Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

1 SAMUEL 20-23 (Armenia 2.9M)

Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Gwen Miller (VA)
 Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 Roger Minney (VA)
 Ted & Natalie Monroe (KY)
 Bill & Sharon Moody (VA)
 French & Laura Moore (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
 Joseph & Doris Moos (NJ)

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

1 SAMUEL 24-26 (Aruba 109.153)

Elaine Moser (MN)

Bob & Diane Nichols (VA)
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Ann Palumbo (PA)
 Raleigh & Janet Parker (VA)
 Roger & Kay Pede (VA)
 Sandy Pederson (MN)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Mildred Pittman (NC)

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

1 SAM 27-31 (Australia 22.3M)

Ben Poplin (VA)
 Ayers Porter (TN)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
 Jeanne & Maggie Pribble (VA)
 Dave & Marilyn Rainey (VA)
 Jeannette Ralph (VA)
 Marjorie Randall (TX)
 John Reed (NH)
 Dave Ricker (ME)
 Alice Riddick (NC)
 Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)
 Calvin & Valerie Ritchey (VA)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Bo & Betty Robinson (MS)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Fred/Jeanette Rolater (TN)
 Bob & Marlene Rose (MI)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
 John Saint (PA)
 Don/Marie Satterwhite (FL)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)

MONDAY, MARCH 24

2 SAMUEL 1-4 (Austria 8.2M)

Phil/Wendy/Steve Schrank (WI)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)
 Dennis/Monica Shannon (OH)
 Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch
 (VA) Gene Jones, Pastor
 Nellie F. Shepard (CT)
 Walter & Pearl Shields (VA)
 Charlie & Liz Sill (VA)

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

2 SAMUEL 5-7 (Azerbaijan 9.6M)

Faye Skaggs (KY)
 Mary Skiles (KS)
 Paul & Mary Smith (TX)
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)
 Leroy/Suk Hi Standifer (WA)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

2 SAM 8-10 (Bahamas 319,031)

Carol Snow Stewart (CT)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Charles & Irene Stinson (VA)

Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)
 William Suttles (NC)
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)
 Tabernacle Baptist Ch (DC)
 William Stroman, Pastor

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

2 SAMUEL 11-14 (Bahrain 1.3M)

Brian/Janice Tarraferro (TX)
 Billy & Sharon Taylor (PA)
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Rose Tengstrand (VA)
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)
 W. D./Jackie Thomason (TN)
 Montez Thompson (CO)
 William & Katie Toney (NC)
 Virginia Trask (VA)

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

2 SAM 15-18 (Bangladesh 163.7M)

Carrol/Ouida Troutman (KY)
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)
 Joe & Benita Troutman (KY)
 Malcom Troutman (KY)
 Marshall/Mary Troutman (KY)
 Willie/Diane Troutman (KY)

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

2 SAM 19-20 (Barbados 288,725)

Tommy/Frances Turpin (VA)
 Sara Underwood (TN)
 Patrick/Patricia Vaden (TN)
 Harris/Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)
 George/Jeanette Vernarchik (NJ)
 Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)
 Keith/Doris Snyder Verrall (FL)
 Walter/Mary Ann Voss (DE)
 Horace & Becky Ward (NC)
 Michael/Sandra Ward (IN)
 Beau/Ashley/Willow/Will Ware (VA)

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don/Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)
 Frank & Nell Weer (KY)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Kay Wice (TN)

Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)

MONDAY, MARCH 31

2 SAMUEL 23-24 (Belgium 10.4M)

Reg/Mary Ann Wilburn (VA)
 Jeff & Terri Williamson
 Ken & Carol Willis (VA)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)
 Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA)+
 Amos & Celia Wipf (GA)
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 David & Lili Wykle (VA)
 Fred & Susan Zeller (MD)

DAILY INTERCESSION

CONTACT INFORMATION:

You do not have to bear your burden alone. We are eager to pray with you and then supply needed prayer support daily. Keep us updated.

Call or text: (434) 239-8837 (JGH: office) or (434) 239-8836 (STH: residence).

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Mailing address: 1127 Lakeview Drive, Lynchburg VA 24502.

FOR GOOD HEALTH

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)

Margarie Coffee (VA)

Kathie Connolly (VA)

Lin Custalow [Barbara] (VA)

Uel Hartless [Hazel] (VA)

Deanna Jones [Paul] (KY)

Lowry Miller [Marjorie] (VA)

Katherine Morgan (VA)

Dudley Robotham [Isabell] (NY)

Sam Simpson [Lola] (NY)

Jean Smith [Jim] (KY)

Virginia Whitner (FL)

Eva Winebarger (VA)

International

Shem & Deborah Kamla (Nigeria)

Mulumba Placide Kituta (DR Congo)

Nuhu & Mercy Leo (Nigeria)

Jonathan/Holly Leslie (S. Sudan)

Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)

Enock & Patience Mulomba (Botswana)

Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)

Andrew & Celestine Sakari (Kenya)

Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)

Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)

Paula Tipton (Thailand)

Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)

Silas Yashim (Nigeria)

MARIJUANA

Here we go again! The Department of Justice, under the instruction of President Obama, decided to cease defending the Defense of Marriage Act. Then his views "evolved" and he came out for same-sex marriages. Some would call this "disgraceful" because Congress had passed the Defense of Marriage Act by a wide margin. Further, thirty-seven states had faced the issue on their ballots and defined marriage as between a male and a female, many by large margins. In several states, federal judges have now declared these votes "unconstitutional" and thereby nullified them.

Another bombshell that parents, families, friends, and communities will have to deal with is Obama's statement that he does not think that the use of marijuana (which has been recently legalized in two states, Colorado and Washington) is more dangerous than alcohol. His point of reference was his own life experience: "As has been well documented, I smoked pot as a kid, and I view it as a bad habit and a vice, not very different from the cigarettes that I smoked as a young person up through a big chunk of my adult life."

Certainly, his statements are sending mixed signals to young people as did the behavior of former President Bill Clinton in the Lewinski affair. Their response was "the President does it." That act, by the way, might be one of the major causes of the swift and profound drop in morality these past few years. Remember when a civilization sows to the wind, it will reap a whirlwind (Hosea 8:7). The web continues to be woven to enslave men, women, young people, boys and girls.

DON'T FORGET TO PRAY!

A wonderful sequel

Some of you who were on our mailing list in the 1980s are likely to remember the feature article from the Newport News Virginia's **Daily Press** (Sunday, March 20, 1988): "Funeral home's philosophy lasts 134 years" that we shared in the monthly **Doorkeeper Report** (Vol. V, No. 9, September 1988, pp 9-10). The business was established on February 7, 1854 by R. T. Smith.

When the article was written, the management of the W. J. Smith & Son Funeral Home was under the leadership of **Doorkeeper Martha Smith Cecil** (Mrs. David) and her two sons, **David Jr.** & **Doral**. The article was inspiring and included a clear-cut witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, "I believe the Lord has put me here and prepared me for this role" was the testimony of Martha, the daughter of W. J. Smith, Jr. "It really is a ministry," echoed David following the sentiments of his grandfather who said, "funeral procession is a sacred calling."

Martha invited me to come and pray that God's hand of blessing would rest upon the business. I remember that time as though it were yesterday. It was easy to sense the unction of the Holy Spirit as we walked around the property and through the buildings praying. Martha and her sons (joined by **Walter**, a third son) worked hard and God answered prayer. Although Martha has been long-retired, God is still blessing one of the earliest businesses on the Peninsula.

Doorkeeper John Holland recently shared a wonderful sequel: "W J Smith & Sons, the Cecil

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ESPECIALLY
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FOR SUE AND ME.**

brothers, had a remarkable service on Saturday 1-4-14. The mother of a local physician passed away and her memorial service was on Saturday. A pastor friend of the family from Houston, TX was in charge of the service, which lasted about 2 hrs. The Word of God was presented in a very powerful message. Eight people confessed faith in Christ and prayed to receive HIM as Savior. One of the eight was her son the local physician. The deceased, her family and many of those present were from Nigeria. Thought you would like to know. Happy New Year! John Holland."

Fulfill in us Thy Purpose

O Lord Jesus Christ, our Maker and Redeemer, Thy providence hast made us what we are: Thou hast a purpose for us; Do Thou, O Lord, in Thy mercy, fulfill in us Thy purpose. Thou alone are wisdom; Thou knowest what may benefit sinners such as we are; Do Thou, in Thy mercy, direct our future according to Thy will, as seemeth best in the eyes of Thy majesty, O Jesus Christ, our Lord.

—Henry VI

The Life-Changing Booklet: Seven Wonders of Prayer

Often someone asks me to explain my interest in prayer and the Word. Actually, the Lord prepared my heart and mind several weeks before the life-changing event. It was 1976. At that time, I was serving as the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Liberty Baptist College (now Liberty University) and as pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia. To say that I loved my work in both positions would be an understatement.

At PVBC, I was teaching a pastor's Sunday school class in the auditorium. It was open to anyone wishing to attend. One participant was Peggy Scruggs who had been attending the Dale City Baptist Church in Northern Virginia under the remarkable ministry of Pastor James Duncan (now in Heaven). As I taught the Word, Peggy shared materials prepared by Pastor Duncan on the deeper Christian life. When our daughter, Mona, who served as organist matriculated at Converse College, Spartanburg SC, we invited Ruth Elmer (Mrs. Richard) to be our organist. We had employed Mr. Elmer to be Director of Library Services at LBC. Both had a Wesleyan background. They noted that I seldom spoke of the Holy Spirit and began to pray that I would develop an interest in His role in the lives of believers. They did not say anything about this to me or anyone; they just prayed. It was not long until I begin to prepare messages on the work of the Holy Spirit. It was at this point that I began to sense that I really did not know God very well, a shocking discovery. My heart was hungry.

A small booklet came across my

desk at LBC entitled **Seven Wonders of Prayer** written by Armin Gesswein (who later became a close friend and mentor until his death on Saturday, March 10, 2001 when he was 93 and in his 70th year in the ministry). His personal letters from 1982 and his monthly newsletters strengthened my spiritual life beyond words. Actually, the life-changing part of the booklet for me was Wonder One: Prayer is Worship. My understanding of prayer was basically telling God what to do, when to do it, and how to do it. I never knew that prayer was not bringing God down to earth, but prayer is going into His presence in the Throne Room. This understanding contributed to a complete change in my approach to prayer and was a factor in the beginning of the prayer seminar ministry.

In memory of Armin and his dear wife, Reidun, I often share Armin's work in the **Reflector**. Anyone who masters the content of the first "wonder" is likely to desire to become a prayer warrior and a student of the Word. My book, **Adoration: Prayer as Worship**, had its genesis from this long-ago experience.

As we study the times in which we are living, it is clear that **intercessory praying** is the greatest need of the church today. The church becomes a praying church when members become praying members.

SINCE A STUDY OF ADORATION SERVED AS THE FOUNDATION OF MY COMMITMENT TO PRAYER, THE APRIL ISSUE OF THE REFLECTOR WILL BE DEVOTED TO THAT SUBJECT.

The Seven Wonders of Prayer

Armin R. Gesswein

I. Prayer Is WORSHIP

By prayer we enter into God's holy temple, and penetrate at once to the throne of His grace. Prayer is not only the shortest distance to God's mighty throne; it is the only way in. To think that this supreme wonder could take place so suddenly with one bold blood-bought step! There we see the Lord Jesus, ever ready to pray for us, and ready to give us of His own praying, by His Spirit. Glorious discovery: He is only a prayer away! The veil of sense and space that hides Him within His temple-universe is suddenly removed as we pray. We enter silently into His temple, and lo, suddenly, we are before His throne. Priests, before our great High Priest. There, too, we are suddenly in the presence of angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven we worship and adore Him. Only there do we discover the wonder of worship, that worship is before work, and that all His works are done in the spirit of worship. There are many churchgoers, but few worshipers, because there are few pray-ers.

Scriptures

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name:" (Psalm 100:4). "And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever" (Revelation 5:13). "God is Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). **GOD IS SEEKING WORSHIPERS TODAY!**

SENTENCE SERMON: PRAYER OPENS HEAVEN EVEN NOW.
THEREFORE, LET US PRAY!



A Favorite Picture

ChongJu, South Korea
Tuesday, May 27, 1986

Sue and I join (L-R) Dr. Young Min Pee (interpreter; now pastor, Central Baptist Church, Seoul); Joshua Kim (host pastor; now principal, Pearl Bible College, Capetown, South Africa) in street evangelism during the prayer seminar/evangelistic crusade. 106 Buddhist adults came to Christ. "Precious memories flood my soul."