

I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old, familiar carols play, And wild and sweet The words repeat Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom Had rolled along The unbroken song Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound
The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent,
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said:
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!
The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!"

COVER PHOTO by Jochen Sand.

CONTENTS

DECEMBER 2014 Volume 126 No. 9

FEATURES

The Christmas Blessing by Tom Ward	5
Campus Improvements by Richard Miles and Michael Avery	6
My Christmas Eve by Trooper Bob Welsh	12
The Invitation by David Eslinger	14
God Is Coming To Live With Us by Dorothy Bowen Klass	15
DEPARTMENTS	
The President's Page	3
Letters To The Editor	4
News From The Hilltop	10
Revivalist Family	10
Dear Phil	16
World Pulse	17
Student Focus	17
Revivalist Pulpit	19
The World To Win	21
Alumni News	22
Thoughts For The Quiet Hour	23

STAFF

Ken Farmer, managing editor
Kevin Moser, art director, assistant editor
Shane Muir, assistant graphic designer
Jon Plank, assistant graphic designer, webmaster
Larry Smith, editor

God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate (ISSN 0745-0788) is published monthly except for combined issues in January-February and June-July-August for \$12.00 per year (\$28.00, Canada; \$45.00, other countries) by the Revivalist Press of God's Bible School, College and Missionary Training Home, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Periodical postage paid at Cincinnati, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate, the official organ of God's Bible School, is a magazine founded by Martin Wells Knapp in July of 1888. We seek to proclaim the good news of salvation; to stir a revival spirit among Christians; to stimulate Christian growth and responsible Christian living; to present the happenings and interests of God's Bible School.

Please obtain permission before reprinting any articles from God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate. Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed, but not returned.

God's Bible School and College seeks to glorify God and to serve His Church by providing higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction, thus preparing faithful servants to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world.

God's Bible School and College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or against otherwise qualified handicapped persons in its admission of students or employment of its faculty and staff.

Contact us by telephone at (513) 721-7944 (Revivalist Press, ext. 1351); by fax at (513) 763-6649; by email at revivalist@gbs.edu or gbs.edu. Visit us online at www.gbs.edu or www.gbs.edu



The darkness has used all sorts of political ideologies, human philosophies, and false religions to advance its cause. But the Light always breaks through to enlighten the mind and liberate the hearts of men.

JESUS: THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

by Michael R. Avery, President

ight is one of the great Johannine words that occurs no fewer than twenty-one times in the fourth **∠**gospel. It is one of the two key words upon which John builds his testimony of Jesus. John describes Jesus as a light that has come into the world to light the life of every man (John 1:9).

Another one of John's key words is darkness. John saw a darkness in the world that was very real and very hostile to the Light. This darkness represents evil. Sinning men love the darkness and hate the Light, because the Light exposes their wickedness. John takes these two themes and shows their natural opposition. He portrays a universal battleground where the forces of dark and light are arrayed in an eternal conflict. The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot extinguish it (John 1:5). The darkness seeks to eliminate the Light of Christ—to banish it from life—but the Light will not go out!

This conflict is played out in the pages of sacred history. The Old Testament lets us witness everything from individual struggles with evil for the soul of a man to heavenly warfare for the soul of a nation. In the New Testament, this conflict emerges with intensity around the cradle of the incarnate Christ as the forces of darkness unleash Herod's sword in a futile attempt to eliminate the Light. The ultimate battle, however, would unfold at Calvary. The rulers of this age and the powers of darkness thought if they could only nail Christ to the cross that darkness would win once and for all. They thought the crucifixion of Christ would be the ultimate defeat and their final triumph. In fact, it proved to be just the reverse. Out of the darkness of His death came the blinding light of His resurrection victory. The light of this good news exploded out of the confines of Palestine and across the known world like a quickly spreading flame until, in a few decades, the gospel had impacted every major population center of the Roman world.

The powers of darkness responded with persecution and torture. But wild beasts and boiling oil couldn't put out the Light and the blood of the martyrs only fueled the flame. When persecution from without did not succeed, the forces of darkness turned inward and awful darkness settled down over the church. But out of the heart

of that darkness, reformation fires began to burn and the Light prevailed. Every counter move by the forces of darkness to extinguish the Light only brought revival fires that would break out and save lives, transform nations, and change the course of history.

The darkness has used all sorts of political ideologies, human philoso-

phies, and false religions to advance its cause. But the Light always breaks through to enlighten the mind and liberate the hearts of men. As you gather with friends this Christmas season, light a candle and lift your voice in praise, for Light has come into the world and the darkness has not and will not overcome it!



Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, or emailed to revivalist@gbs.edu. Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.



TRAIN UP A CHILD

I am teaching child psychology at our Bible college this semester and want this issue as one of the supplemental readings for my students. It is an excellent document.

DR. RICHARD BLANK Southern Methodist College Orangeburg, SC

I would like to get that special issue and also pay for a year's subscription. I really want this special issue for my grandchildren and to share with my children. DEBBIE BAKE Middletown, OH

I don't know that I have ever seen such an outstanding compilation of pertinent articles along with suggested additional resources. I would like to order 12 copies to distribute to the young families (and grandparents) of my congregation. A huge thank-you to those who arranged to make this project a reality.

REV. GORDON WARNER

REV. GORDON WARNER Carrollton, OH The September issue—WOW!—a real keeper. Loved the cover, too! Beautiful family!

PHYLLIS ORMAN Indianapolis, IN



HONORING WINGROVE

It was a surprise to learn that God's Bible School and College planned a special edition of the God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate in relation to the forty-four years of my having the privilege of serving as a member of the Board of Trustees.

It is an honor to be so highlighted. It is an added honor to share this issue with Dr. Kenneth Stetler.

DR. A. WINGROVE TAYLOR Carmel, IN

[The October issue] is definitely a keepsake. After reading all the tributes, Dad is sending thank-you letters to all who participated—even us children. Mine was so sweet and something I will keep forever.

MARYGRACE TAYLOR SPALDING Cincinnati, OH





by Tom Ward

Christmas morning 2012 found me thumbing through a used book given as a gift by a layman for Christmas. It was early in the morning and I was drinking coffee. Having just finished my devotions, I had picked up the book on holiness by Dr. Daniel Steele entitled *The Gospel of The Comforter*. It was an old book which appeared as if it might be one of the first editions.

As I read the title page and table of contents, I noticed a handwritten note in black ink. Imagine my Christmas delight to discover that it was a personal message from Daniel Steele!

Daniel Steele is a classic holiness author. Many of the works that we have today are based on something that he wrote. He is considered a "primary source" for those who are interested in the subject of holiness. To have this handwritten note—a prayer—is quite a find indeed. To discover it on Christmas day is even better!

I began looking through the book for more notes, but found none. However, in the back of the book, hidden underneath the library card holder, was a handwritten, two page letter from Dr. Steele to a friend. I could hardly contain myself when I found it!

I was so happy to find an original letter from one of the most well-respected holiness authors of all time—and it came on Christmas morning! The letter described his life since his wife passed away, his love for the new hymns, and some personal updates about his children.

I asked my friend if he knew these items were inside the book, and he said he hadn't known. When I offered to return this valuable piece of holiness history to him, he declined and simply requested that I take good care of the book and letter. It was a Merry Christmas indeed!

Now, let me go back to that note in the front of the book. It was a bit of advice which I will share with you. So fantastic is it that I cannot in good conscience keep it a secret. Should we all pray this prayer, there is no telling what God could and might do in and through our lives.

This is now my prayer. Will you make it yours?

You cannot better please the Father than by magnifying the Son. You cannot more perfectly magnify the Son than by asking for the fullest measure of the Holy Spirit possible to mortals.

Dr. Tom Ward has pastored Wesleyan churches in Alabama, Mississippi, and New Brunswick, Canada, for 26 years. Tom, his wife Marilyn, and their two children live in Prattville, AL.

THE
GOSPEL OF THE COMFORTE

I'm cannot belter please the Father than by anagnifying the Son, a you cannot more prespectly magnify the Son than by asking for the Julies measure of the Holy Spirit possible to mostals.

BER 2014





The Board of Trustees Vice President Robbie England not only works for God's Bible School around the conference table, but he also works up in the air trimming the trees on campus. He not only makes the college a better college, he makes it a better looking college. Mr. England is a physician's assistant in Jonestown, PA.

Under the oversight of Director of Marketing Media Shane Muir, the "green room" in the new Media Center improves the quality of our video recordings. Those involved in video production for the college report that recording in this new facility greatly improves the experience. An excellent feature of the new system is the teleprompter that is transparent to the camera lens but displays text for the benefit of the person being recorded.





match the nearby Knapp Memorial Building.

As we leave campus, the new sign calls us to follow our Lord's Great Commission to "go ye into all the world...." This admonition reflects the GBS mission statement: "to glorify God and to serve His Church by providing higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction, thus preparing faithful servants to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world."





DECEMBER 2014









honor of an alumnus and the large gift made by his daughter to make it possible to renovate the building. A set of stairs will be constructed behind the building that will connect its parking lot to the northeast parking lot of the school.

Each apartment has a living room, a kitchen with a place for a small table, a bathroom, and a bedroom. Each apartment also has significant closet and storage space. The top two floors have beautiful refinished hardwood floors. The first floor is all carpeted.

Each kitchen has all new cabinets, new stainless steel appliances, and beautiful ceramic tile floors.

All the bathrooms were completely renovated. The shower units are by Bath Fitters. The bathrooms also have new ceramic tile floors.

The building has a laundry room and a special section of private storage bins.

Rent is quite modest and includes all utilities except electricity.



OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Your financial partnership makes all of this possible. The "Revivalist Family" is made up of faithful "GBS supporters" who have stood behind us and made it possible for us to move ahead for over a century. So many of you have been faithful in giving—and every gift directly or indirectly supports all students on this campus and impacts every future ministry to which God has called them.

A gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or \$500 would mean a great deal to the school right now. A gift of any amount would be so much appreciated and go a long way in meeting the needs that are facing us at this time.

Maybe you would like to give a significant year-end gift that not only helps GBS, but could also benefit you at tax time.

The envelope enclosed in this *Revivalist* will make it convenient for you to contribute today. To donate by credit card or give online, visit www.gbs.edu/givenow; or you may call the school at 1-800-486-4637 and ask for the Advancement Office.

Thank you for standing with us!

God's Bible School
& College



OPEN AIR CAMPAIGN 2014

The Open Air Campaign this year at GBS was a real blessing, both to those who got involved and to those who were touched by the gospel. Lead campaigner Eric Briscoe commented that "The Lord truly orchestrated our week together." He also was very complimentary of the students who were involved. Because of how well the students participate, the events "get better every year!"

Besides pointing out the obvious advantage of GBS being so close to the inner city for ministry's sake, the Open Air Campaigners identified a real opportunity for our students to minister to those at the University of Cincinnati (UC). They said that, compared to other universities that they go to, the students at UC are much more

polite and willing to take tracts. Our team was able to carry on several very good conversations at the university.



Students who took the training do plan to continue to use what they have learned. Possibilities for further ministry in the city and at the university are being explored. Plans have been made to purchase a portable PA system and a Preach-O-Matic (rolling and easily transportable, self-contained podium with various supply drawers and a paint board stand) for future use.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The IT Department recently underwent some restructuring. After losing an outside contract worker when his work demand from other individuals and companies made it hard for him to keep up with our programming and support needs, Steve Harms has now assumed the primary responsibility for the programming work and Brad Bishop has moved into project management. Andrew Blankenship, who has worked as an IT student

REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist Family," and brief news notes from across the Holiness Movement.

MARRIAGE



Bethany Cravens (HS '11; AA '14) to David Lloyd Frederick III (HS '09; AA '11), November 8, 2014, at the Kenwood Baptist Church in Cincinnati, OH, with Rev. Mark Cravens and Rev. Deron Fourman officiating. After GBS, David graduated from

Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science and currently works for the Staley-Strawser Funeral Home. Bethany works in registration at The Christ Hospital. They now reside in the Kenwood area of Cincinnati, OH. The couple's parents all work at GBS: David Frederick (Director of Finance), Charlotte Frederick (college professor), Mark

Cravens (college professor), and Teresa Cravens (Business Manager). (Photo courtesy of Joanna Brown Photography.)

ADOPTION



To Nancy (Hamer) (BA '12) and Chris Lambeth (BA '00), an adopted daughter, *Kathryn Grace*, born January 31, 2014, in Cincinnati, OH, and adopted October 30, 2014. Grace joins siblings Lauren (14), Michael (12), and Caleb (8). Chris has

worked at GBS for 15 years, the last 12 as registrar.

NOTICES

Justin Singleton (BA '07) has been very busy with editorial work for both the *Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin* and the *Newsletter* for the Institute of



employee in the past, has become a 30-hour student employee, giving us more support, especially when responding to "help desk" tickets.

ANNUAL INTERCOLLEGIATE MINISTERIAL FELLOWSHIP

The Bible Methodist camp ground in Pell City, AL, hosted the Intercollegiate Ministerial Fellowship (IMF) September 26-28. Ministerial students from the various holiness Bible colleges came to learn from special speakers on topics such as

"Church Planting," "Vision Casting," and "Strategic Leadership." From delicious southern food, to the beautiful accommodations and motivated speakers, it was an experience that kept us in fellowship with each other and represented all of our Bible colleges and ministerial groups. Special thanks to Darrell Stetler II, who plans IMF every year. —DeAndrick Smith-Taylor, sophomore, GBS Ministerial Division

ALDERSGATE FORUM

Philip Brown reports the 2014 Aldersgate Forum was one of the best yet, both financially and informationally. New to this year's forum was Nathan Brown, who presented a well-received paper on gender-distinct clothing and discipleship. Steve Oliver's offering, "Union with Christ," was heart-warming and theologically challenging,

while David Fry's presentation on prevenient grace broadened our understanding of Methodist approaches to that subject. The Forum's main topic, "Assessing Cultural Change" was addressed by Philip Brown in his paper "Exegeting a Pauline Approach to Assessing Cultural Change: Idol Sacrifice in 1 Cor. 8-10." Forum members left with a free copy of Kevin Vanhoozer's Everyday Theology (Cultural Exegesis): How to Read Cultural Texts and Interpret Trends.







Archaeology, Andrews University. He will be presenting a poster in San Diego this fall with the information from the 2014 summer's archaeological dig at which he was field director. He is currently studying the chronology of ancient Near Eastern

and Sicilian pottery.

Thomas Reed retired in November from the Wesleyan Missionary Church in Chicago, IL, after 57 years of "filling in while they looked for a pastor." He



has served GBS as campus pastor and as a member of its board of trustees. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from GBS in 2002. President Avery has always valued his friendship: "Tom has been a great elder-statesman, advisor, and a personal

pastor to me. He has prayed not only for GBS, but also for me and my family. He is a great man."



David Fry (BA '02) successfully defended his dissertation and will officially receive a PhD in Systematic Theology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL, on December 19. David and wife, Sarah (Wolf) (HS '95; BA '00), are pastoring the Bible

Holiness Church in Frankfort, IN.

Staff positions are available at Wesleyan Christian Academy, Grand Cayman, for the 2015-16 school year. Needed are two supervisors and a school principal. All must hold valid state licenses, and the principal must have a Masters in Education and/or Administration. Passage, housing, insurance, and pension are provided, with salary commensurate with degree. Present staff will be retiring; this is an excellent opportunity for Christian service. For more information please contact Rev. Genie Dickerson, phone number (toll free) 352-410-6759, or e-mail thepastorladies@gmail.com.

My Christmas Eve

by Trooper Bob

The hour's late—should go to bed— Near midnight, I believe; But memories keep me wide awake This snowy Christmas Eve.

Yes, memories of my kids moved on; Each has their separate life; And how the holidays have changed Since angels took my wife.

The toys, the food, the Christmas cheer, My wife would bear the load Because I work most holidays— State Trooper on the road.

Just sitting in my easy chair So many years retired, I reminisce of times gone by And all that has transpired. Of all the many happenings That seem to come to light, A multitude of them occurred Right on this very night.

A drunken woman in a wreck Died on Christmas eve— Leaves memories of a tragic case Most people won't believe.

I had to drive to where she lived To tell her next of kin, And found the rundown mobile home She had been living in.

The person answering the door I still recall today—
A little girl about four years old. She said, "I'm Sue McKay."

I asked her if her dad was home And felt the longest pause. She said, "My daddy ran away; You must be Santa Claus."

"My mommy said you'd come tonight—
If I just stayed in bed—
And bring a pretty doll for me.
That's what my mommy said."

I broke the law that Christmas Eve— Did not call child's care. They'd merely put her in a room, And that I could not bear.

I picked her up and took her home; My wife tucked her in bed And wrapped a pretty doll for her, Just like her mommy said.

Adopted by a loving home, And soon they moved away. I won't forget that Christmas Eve And little Sue McKay.

Another bitter Christmas Eve— A blizzard to behold— Had left a family in a ditch, Just trapped there in the cold.

By grace of God I spotted them, All cold and gaunt with fright. I drove them to a motel room To safely spend the night.

One Christmas Eve a homeless man, Shivering and wet, Was trying hard to get a ride I'm sure he'd never get.

I picked him up and drove him To a diner on the hill. To warm his bones I left him with a five dollar bill.

Strange how when you're all alone What memories you recall! Your think of everything you've done And "was it worth it all?"

I think about my God, my job, My children, and my wife. Would I do it all the same Could I re-live my life?

Then comes a knock upon my door. This late, who could it be? A neighbor? or has Santa Claus Come to visit me?

The figure standing in the cold Gives me a sudden fright—
A trooper with that solemn look.
Dear God, who has died tonight?

I'm flashing back to bygone years, How I'd often stood On someone's porch to bring them news, And it was never good.

Is this how life gets back at me For misery I've induced? Where pain I've caused some other folks Has now come home to roost?

But looking in the troopers eyes, My mind is in a whirl. I see a pleasant countenance. The trooper is a girl.

She reached and smiled to shake my hand, And silence wasn't broke Until a tear rolled down her cheek. And then she softly spoke:

"I'm sure you don't remember me, But thought I'd stop and say, 'God bless you on this Christmas Eve.' I'm Trooper Sue McKay."

Bob Welsh is an inspirational speaker. This poem, a true story from his 30 years as an Ohio State Highway Patrolman, is from Embers from a Storyteller's Mind (2004, p.205), and is used by permission.



The Invitation by David Eslinger

Who is coming to the manger tonight? It's rather small—so I think only the most important will be asked. Will it be Augustus, the Roman Caesar who can end a life with the wave of his hand? Perhaps it will be Herod, the great king of Judea—the most powerful Jew and the builder of Caesarea and the new temple in Jerusalem. Or will it be a few of the Pharisees? They are so meticulous in their keeping of Moses' law—surely they would be worthy.

Who is coming to the manger tonight? It's rather small—so I think only the most important will be asked.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"Go! Go tell the shepherds!"

The shepherds? They are classless and much too poor to bring gifts.

"Do not delay! Go tell the shepherds!"

Suddenly, a dazzling explosion of light and song unrivaled since creation erupted in the Judean darkness:

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Amazing! Why the lowly shepherds? Why wasn't Augustus, or the great Herod, or the holy Pharisees invited to worship the infant Christ at the manger? You and I, we know why. Caesar would just have ignored Him; threatened, Herod would have tried to kill Him; and the holy—or rather self-righteous—Pharisees would have stoned the Babe's mother as a harlot.

But the shepherds—the shepherds did the unthinkable: they left their flocks unattended in the then silent Judean night and hastened to the village to worship.

lage to worship.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Millennia followed by millennia have changed so much—yet men remain the same. Powerful Caesars still ignore Him; Herods threatened by His holy kingdom still try to rid the world of His Name; and the unholy religious still clutch their filthy, self-righteous robes. But the humble still come and worship.

Leave your hammer! Your plow! Your baking bread! Leave the sheep in the field to come and worship.

God with man is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King.

David Eslinger, a mechanical engineer, resides in Tulsa, OK, with his wife and two sons.

Why wasn't **Augustus, or** the great Herod, or the holy Pharisees invited to worship the infant Christ at the manger?

God is Coming to Live With Us

by Dorothy Bowen Klass

As we think about the Advent journey, looking forward to the birth of baby Jesus, we already know the story. We know that it is God Himself who is coming to live with us. And as incredible as it seems, He is coming as a baby. We see Him every Christmas in a manger, so we know He came as a baby—innocent, helpless, and vulnerable.

And yet who IS this baby? The answer may surprise you. Haven't you heard? Didn't you know?

He left His PLACE.

This baby left a beautiful home to come and live with us. Jesus, being equal with God, left the joy and comfort of that existence to come to earth as a human being.

We often sing and talk about going to heaven. It is our hope that, when this life is over, we will go to our heavenly home—a home of comfort, joy, and peace. There, reunited with our loved ones, we will live forever free from pain and sorrow. We will spend eternity there, and I'm quite certain that once there we will not want to leave that place.

And yet that is the place Jesus left. He left His real home to come to us. He left His home to become a man without a home. He left constant, indescribable joy to experience deepest sorrow. He left heavenly comfort to experience earthly pain. He left perfect peace to experience harsh discord. When He left His PLACE, the brilliance and joy of heaven came to us!

He left His prominent POSITION as Creator of the universe.

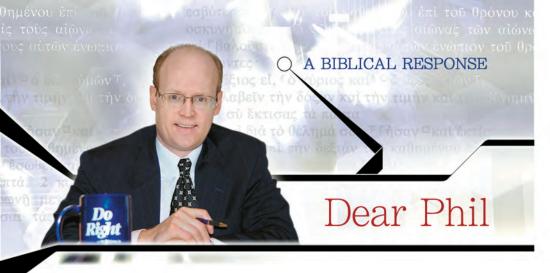
The Creator became part of His creation. As we ponder this baby, we realize that He is a powerful being, that He is God Himself Who created everything. Jesus had been with God from before the beginning of time and was one with God. Everything was created by Him. Every living thing—every animal, every bird, every fish, every tree and blade of grass—every living thing was created by Jesus in His pre-incarnate form.

He not only left His place and position, but He also allowed His POWER to be limited.

Not only did He create everything, but even of more incredible significance, He holds it all together. The entire universe functioned by His power before man was created and continues to function today upheld by His word of power. This baby, now helplessly dependent and vulnerable, is the glue of the universe. In Him all things are held together.

So who IS this baby? The answer will surprise you. Haven't you heard? Didn't you know? It is Jesus. He left His place, left His position, and allowed Himself to be limited in power. How astonishing! Why would He give up all that to come here and live with mere humans?

This year as you pass yet another manger with a baby, I hope you will think about the great sacrifice Jesus made to become one of us. Maybe you could offer an explanation to someone who doesn't know Him. Let them know. (p18)



INERRANCY AND SYNOPTIC HARMONIZATION

Does the inspiration of Scripture mean that it has no errors whatsoever, not even some slight historical inconsistencies? For example, can you harmonize the triumphal entry narratives in Matthew and Mark? —Chris

Dear Chris,

Yes, the inspiration of Scripture means it is without error in all its historical affirmations. Before I harmonize the triumphal entry narratives let me address three foundational issues first.

1. Theology. If God says that Scripture represents what He intended to communicate, then Scripture cannot contain errors, because God cannot lie (Titus 1:2) or err (Psa. 18:30).

God's use of imperfect men would necessitate that Scripture be flawed if and only if humans are unable to communicate a message without error. Normal human experience demonstrates that humans are capable of communicating a message without error. Therefore, it is neither a logical necessity nor a probability that a divine message communicated by humans will contain error.

Since Jesus himself explicitly states that we should believe "all" that the prophets wrote (Luke 24:25), and that Scriptures cannot be broken (John 10:35), the inerrancy of the OT Scripture is not only a logical entailment of God's nature, it is the implicit affirmation of God Himself in the person of the Son.

2. Epistemology. Who is the ultimate arbiter of truth? Should finite, fallible, fallen men claim the right to pronounce as errant what God Himself has said ought to be believed? This is, of course, precisely what we are doing if we assert that Scripture errs historically.

We have undeniable evidence for the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus' resurrection is the basis for our acceptance of His claims—to be the Christ, to be God, to be the Savior of the World. As One who spoke only the words that the Father taught Him, Jesus' words have the authority of omniscience behind them. Once we accept Jesus' authority as the Son of God, we have no legitimate basis for questioning the truthfulness of His claims.

In other words, our inability to see how certain detail of Scripture can be harmonized internally or with external data cannot be a basis for rejecting them. To do so is to assert implicitly that we know enough to know that Jesus was wrong about the trustworthiness of Scripture. What our inability should teach us is that we are finite beings with limited knowledge.

3. Hermeneutics. As a rule of thumb for interpreting any author, we assume coherence until we en-

counter a necessary logical contradiction. For example, if an author said, "Jesus is God," and, "Jesus is not God," and meant the same thing by the words he used, he would be guilty of being self-contradictory. When we have reason to believe that an author is trustworthy but have found what appears to be a contradiction, we should always explore possible ways in which the contradiction may be resolved.

Since God is the author of Scripture, contradiction is not possible. So, when I encounter an apparent contradiction in Scripture, I always assume that I am missing some key piece of data that, if I had it, would resolve the contradiction.

The apparent contradiction between Matthew and Mark's account of the triumphal entry dissolves when you understand that Matthew is presenting a theologically motivated thematic account whereas Mark is presenting a chronological account. Topical arrangements show up in multiple places in the gospels (e.g., the temptation narrative, disciples plucking grain, healing of Jairus' daughter). Matthew shifts from a chronological narrative to a thematic treatment in Matthew 22:12, putting the cleansing of the temple before he narrates the cursing of the fig tree. A careful comparison of Matthew 22:12-22 to Mark 11:11-26 shows that Mark gives multiple chronological notes; whereas Matthew uses only general time indicators. For an excellent discussion of the issues involved in harmonizing the gospels, see "The Problem of Apparent Chronological Contradictions in the Synoptics"at http://www.xenos.org/ministries/crossroads /OnlineJournal/issue1/synoprob.htm.

Blessings, Philip

A. Philip Brown II is a member of the faculty in the Division of Ministerial Education at God's Bible School and College.

βύτεροι GOD'S REVIVALIST and BIBLE ADVOCATE

pbrown@gbs.edu



INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IS "DEREGULATED"

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF), an evangelical campus mission serving students and faculty on college and university campuses nationwide, has been "deregulated" by the 23 California State University schools because they require their leaders to follow an agreed upon set of guiding beliefs. This loss of recognition means that IVCF (as well as other student organizations with required belief statements) will lose free access to rooms and access to student activities programs, including the new student fairs where they meet most students. Although they are not banned from campus, they do not have equal access to the university community, like the environmentalist club, the LGBT organization, or the chess club.

THE FUTURE OF ATHEISM

Steve Jones, a geneticist at University College, London, said in a recent speech that while "we atheists sometimes congratulate ourselves that the incidence of religious belief is going down," atheism's future is in doubt. That's because "religious people have more children," especially in the tropics and in Africa where Christianity is growing explosively. He concludes that "the future will involve an increase in religious populations and a decrease in skepticism."

HINDU EXTREMISTS PASS LAWS RESTRICTING CHRISTIANITY

Christians in India are facing threats as Hindu extremists have taken over village councils to pass laws restricting religions other than Hindu. The laws reportedly make Christian prayer, meetings, and literature illegal. At the most extreme, Christians have been denied access to food and water, or evicted from villages. In some places, the passing of the resolution has been followed by attacks on pastors and pulling down of village churches. Although India's constitution guarantees freedom of religion, authorities have not intervened with the new laws.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) VOTES FOR GAY MARRIAGES

The General Assembly of PC (USA) voted to allow pastors to bless same-sex marriages, expanding upon an earlier move to allow the blessing of gay unions. Also approved was an amendment changing their official definition of marriage from one man and one woman to "two people." Although these amendments must be ratified by a majority of the denomination's district governing bodies, most think it will pass, as the marriage amendment passed by a vote of 429 to 175 at the General Assembly. A conservative group within the denomination voiced its opposition to these changes.



student focus

He grew up in Japan—where less than 1% of the population claims Christianity in practice or belief. MOTOO HAMADA was saved at an early age, but living in a culture so disinclined toward Christianity made for difficult situations. Though in a religious minority among peers and friends, he learned to trust God fully and rely on His faithfulness.

From a pastor's home, Motoo enjoyed listening to the music of his church band, particularly one great saxophone player. The player's musicality piqued Motoo's own interest in the saxophone. He started lessons at age 10, and later heard a classical saxophone recording that "broke his heart" by the beauty of the sound. A dream was born, and God later led Motoo to pursue a church music degree at God's Bible School.

In trusting God, Motoo has traded sorrows and burdens for joy and peace. God has called him back to ministry in Japan, to share the gospel with the 99% of non-Christians.

Seventy-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid which enables them to attend GBS. If you would like to support students with financial needs, you may send a gift to:

Student Fund God's Bible School and College 1810 Young Street Cincinnati, OH 45202

or give online anytime at www.gbs.edu/givenow

DECEMBER 2014

GOD IS COMING... continued

(p15) "Haven't you heard? Didn't you know? He left a beautiful home called Heaven to come down and live with us because He loves us. He created the universe, and every living thing in it and He keeps the earth in its orbit and holds all things together. His name is Jesus."

Christmas is coming, ready or not. As Christmas approaches let us remember: A Baby is coming to live with us. And Who is this baby? This baby is God Himself. Yes, God is coming to live with us. Let us worship Him!

Dorothy Bowen Klass (BA '76) taught at GBS from 1976-1980. She currently is the associate pastor at Morehead United Methodist Church in Greensboro, NC. She lives in Thomasville, NC, with her husband Mark.

Give... in the Season of Giving

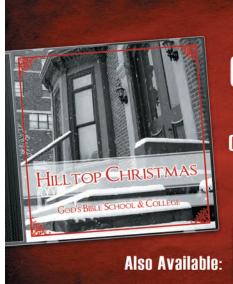
Christmas is traditionally a time of giving. For many, it can be a time to share blessings with organizations through charitable gifts.

As the year draws to a close, give now to get your year-end tax donations in before it's too late! Year-end gifts must be postmarked by December 31 to qualify for the 2014 year.

You may give by check or online at www.gbs.edu/givenow. Or you may call (513) 721-7944 during business hours and we'll process your gift for you.

God's Bible School & College Office of Advancement 1810 Young Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 (513) 721-7944, ext. 1221

GOD'S REVIVALIST and BIBLE ADVOCATE



Order Today!

Get GBSC's | \$15

Order online at www.gbs.edu or call 513.721.7944



\$15 ga





Did you know you can get an excellent annuity rate if you establish a God's Bible School and College Charitable Gift Annuity with cash or appreciated securities? For as little as \$10,000, you can ensure a fixed income during your lifetime (or even that of your spouse), a charitable tax deduction during the year in which you make the gift, and the joy of knowing you provide support for future generations of students at God's Bible School and College.



Planned Giving is a wonderful way to give back to GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE and to help YOU at the same time!

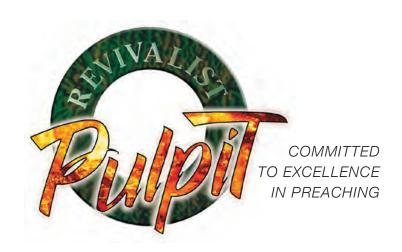
Office of Advancement | God's Bible School & College (513) 721-7944 | www.gbs.edu/giving



Two Life Annuity

AGE RATE
60 & 60 3.9%
65 & 65 4.2%
70 & 70 4.6%
75 & 75 5.0%
80 & 80 5.7%
85 & 85 6.7%
90 & 90 8.2%

Rates as of January 1, 2014; subject to change.



SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND THE CHRISTIAN (PART 3)

by Allan P. Brown, Chair

GBS Division of Ministerial Education

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-20

n our first two messages, we learned that Christians are engaged in spiritual warfare against the forces of darkness and the Prince of the Power of the Air—Satan. However, God provides spiritual "armor" and spiritual "weapons" to ensure success and victory in this warfare. But success is not automatic, for we must "put on" the armor God provides and learn to use it well.

In this message, we conclude this series with the call for each Christian to use the weapon of "all prayer and supplication" (Ephesians 6:18).

I. The variety of prayer.

Ephesians 6:18—"with all prayer and supplication"

Paul speaks of two types of prayer. The term "prayer" (proseuche) is the broadest term for prayer. It includes all kinds of praying such as "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks" (1 Tim. 2:1). This word describes the activity of Jesus when he spent a night praying to God (Luke 6:12). It also describes the apostles after Pentecost, who devoted themselves continually "to prayer" and to the ministry of the word. Prayer (proseuche) is commanded of all Christians: "Devote yourselves to prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving" (Col. 4:2).

The term "supplication" (deesis) is, in some contexts, somewhat narrower in meaning. It focuses on specific requests, such as Zechariah praying that Elizabeth his wife would bear a son (Luke 1:13). It is used of Ana, a prophetess, who served the Lord at the Temple with fastings and "prayers" (deesis) day and night. It appears she was praying specifically for the Messiah to come (Luke 2:38). Paul chooses this word to describe his desire and prayer that the Jewish people would be saved (Rom. 10:1).

II. The frequency of prayer.

Ephesians 6:18—"praying always…and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints"

"To pray at all times is to live in continual God consciousness, where everything we see and experience becomes a kind of prayer, lived in deep awareness of and surrender to our heavenly father. To obey this exhortation means that when we are tempted, we hold the temptation before God and ask for His help. When we experience something good and beautiful, we immediately thank the Lord for it. When we see evil around us, we pray that God will make it right and be willing to be used of Him to that end. When we meet someone who does not know Christ, we pray for God to draw that person to Himself and to use us to be a faithful witness. When we encounter trouble, we turn to God as our Deliverer. In other words, our life becomes a continually ascending prayer, a perpetual communing with our heavenly Father. To pray at all times is to set our minds 'on the things above, not on the things that are on earth' (Col. 3:2)."1

"Praying always" and "pray without ceasing" (1 Thes. 5:17) speaks of the attitude of our heart and focuses our attention on the need to keep the channels of communication open with the Lord. We can pray wherever we are and in whatever situation we find ourselves. For the Christian who wishes to be victorious in this spiritual battle, every place he goes becomes a place of prayer. A Christian must "pray always" because the enemy of his soul is continually seeking to ensnare him and devour him (1 Tim. 3:7; 1 Pet. 5:8). A surprise attack has defeated more than one Christian who failed to "pray without ceasing." Jesus exhorted his disciples, "But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36). There is no time when we do not need to pray and no time when God will not hear our prayers.

III. The role of the Holy Spirit in prayer.

Ephesians 6:18—"in the Spirit"

Christians are to pray "in the Spirit." This phrase reminds us that the prayers of Christian are to be under the guidance and influence of the Holy Spirit (cf. Jude 1:20), since we do not know what to pray for as we ought (Rom. 8:26-27). Because of our lack of understanding, the Holy Spirit, "as the Spirit of grace and of supplication" (Zech. 12:10), seeks to teach us how to pray. He desires that we learn to pray as He prays, to join our petitions to His and our will to His.

God has not only called us to be stalwart Christian soldiers who faithfully stand against all the attacks of the enemy, but He also enables us to stand.

To pray in the Spirit is to seek to line up our minds, wills, and desires with His mind, will, and desires, which are consistent with the will of the Father and the Son.

Without the help of the Holy Spirit, our prayers can be selfish and contrary to the will of God. In fact, it is possible to pray fervently in the flesh and never get through to God. On the other hand, it is also possible to pray quietly in the Spirit and see God's hand do great things. Paul promises that as we seek to align our prayers to God's will, "the Holy Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Rom. 8:26-27). In other words, the Holy Spirit takes the desires of our heart and the substance of our prayers and makes intercession for us, without the use of spoken words. What is crucial is not only that we acknowledge we do not know how to pray as we ought, but we also ask the Holy Spirit to help us to know what to pray for and to cooperate with His prompts and checks as we pray. At all time we must keep our desires and prayer submitted to God's will; therefore we sincerely say at the close of our prayers, as Jesus taught us to say, "Not my will, but thine, be done" (Luke 22:42).

IV. Supporting fellow-believers in prayer.

Ephesians 6:19-20—"And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly,

to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."

Paul entreated others to pray for him personally asking, "that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."

Paul's request for personal prayer reminds us that we are not fighting this spiritual battle alone. There are other believers who stand with us in the fight. Each of us are members of Christ's body and together we constitute the church. We need to see ourselves as a militant and triumphant army composed of individual Christian soldiers who need to stand together and fight unitedly against our common foe: the devil and his demonic host. And as fellow soldiers, we need one another's prayer support and encouragement. And as we pray for one another, if our prayers help another believer defeat Satan, then that victory will help us also.

Paul's request for prayer was not selfish. Sadly, some people's entire prayer-life consists of asking God for things for themselves. How different is Paul's prayer request. Rather than asking them to pray for his physical healing, comfort, or safety, he asked prayer for the effectiveness of his witness and ministry. His prayer request was that when opportunity presented itself, God would enable him to have courage to speak boldly and to be able to communicate effectively the gospel message wherever he went.

Conclusion:

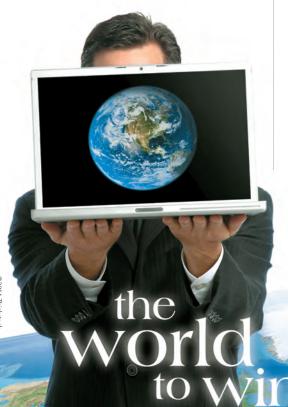
As we conclude this series, let us rejoice that God has not only *called* us to be stalwart Christian soldiers who faithfully stand against all the attacks of the enemy, but He also *enables* us to stand. He supplies all the grace we need and He gives us wonderful spiritual armor. He only asks that we "put on the armor," learn how to use it effectively, and then be faithful "even unto death" (Rev. 2:10). Let us encourage ourselves with the truth: greater is He who is in us than He who is in the world (1 John 4:4). You and I, as Christian soldiers, can be confident that through Jesus Christ we can be more than conquerors in this spiritual warfare (Rom. 8:37). Thanks be unto God who gives us the victory!

¹ John F. MacArthur Jr., Ephesians, *MacArthur New Testament Commentary* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1986), 380.

Following are brief "field reports" from missionaries around the world who are invited to send us their newsletters and other information about their activities. GBS alumni are especially urged to respond, but we also wish to include others who uphold our vision and commitment.

with Church of God (Holiness) Missions reports that the Bolivian mission endeavor of his denomination is a great success story. The number of established churches is now at 128, with another 200 or more daughter churches. During his trip (June 24-July 8), Joe had the honor of speaking at a regional quarterly convention of 23 churches where 1,200 people were gathered for 6 hours in one building, worshiping the Lord.

GHANA. Ashlee
Englund of the Church
of God (Holiness) reports that The
Jesus Film has played an important
part in the establishment of their
five churches in Ghana. After lay-



ing the groundwork through teaching from the OT, the film was shown with great effect. For example, one village had around 800 people watching one of the showings with people choosing to follow Jesus.

GRAND TURK. Rob and Martha Loper, HIM missionaries to the Turks and Caicos Islands, have been having exciting things happening at the Wednesday night Bible studies they hold in their home. Rob characterizes it like this: "These are times we get to drop gospel seeds into people's lives. Many times they have never heard the truth of God's Word." The studies deal with topics such as Christian ethics and dating relationships. Lives are being transformed. Please pray for the Lopers that temporary replacements will be found to fill in for a couple months while they return home to raise funds for their ministry.

and Lee Rickenbach are entering their sixteenth year in ministry to Central America. Rather that doing it all themselves, they seriously work to duplicate themselves, training teachers who can take their place, and, in their turn, duplicate themselves. This process had them mentoring four interns at the Hope Evangelical Bilingual Academy last year and five brand new interns this year.

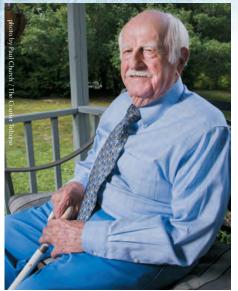
HONDURAS. Eric and Hannah Kuhns hosted several teams of workers who accomplished great things for their HIM work in Honduras. First, a team from God's Missionary

Church (GMC) in Beavertown, PA, held VBS services at a government run orphanage where close to fifty children were presented the gospel through Bible stories, songs, and skits. Then they held a children's rally in Tiloarque with nearly 160 children and visitors. A good group of children came forward to pray at the end of the service. This kind of response was repeated throughout the week as the team visited a school and two separate churches. A second team came from the Millmont GMC to help build a Sunday school room in Las Uvas. This room is a very suitable place, where the children can learn more about God, and has helped boost attendance tremendously.

MALAWI. Sarel and
Lintie Pretorius report a
blessed two months of teaching at
Sola Scriptora Bible School in
Malawi, Africa. They testify to a
real hunger in the hearts of the 75
students there for the scriptures.
They need to sell their property in
South Africa in order to make a
more permanent move to Malawi.
They have a buyer, but it may take
a while for all the legal work to be
settled. Please pray about this.

PHILIPPINES. Due to a generous contribution, the diligent efforts of Sarah Hutchison and her student helpers, and the skilled labor of Ronaldo Comilang, the library on the campus of the Shepherd's College in the Philippines is near completion. New bookshelves have been built to house the newly ordered books. The students can now enjoy an environment much more conducive to learning. Thanks to all who've contributed to this project over the past several years.





KENNETH WALTER BAUER CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY

Ken Bauer celebrated his 100th birthday on October 1, 2014. He came from Burlington, NJ, to the campus of GBS in 1945. He had seen an advertisement for the Christian Workers' Course in a magazine entitled, God's Revivalist. Sensing a call to preach, he felt God's leadership to enroll in the course. His father gave him a hundred dollar bill and wished him well. Even though dating was greatly restricted, Ken managed to meet a student from Michigan. Ken drove the Christian Workers' bus and this young lady decided to sit right in back of the driver. After they completed the ten-week Christian Workers' Course, they married on December 7, 1945. Ken went on to continue his education at Central Wesleyan College. He has served churches in Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. He and his wife have enjoyed a long life and a wonderful family. Mrs. Bauer went home to heaven in 2008. Ken lives with his daughter in Asheboro, NC.

ROANNA THAWLEY INTERNS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Roanna Thawley (AA '12) had the opportunity this summer to intern with Students for Life of America, a national group that works to establish pro-life groups on college campuses. In addition to being a SFLA intern, she also interned for three weeks in the office of Rep. Steve Stockman and for three weeks in the Washington office of the Susan B. Anthony List, an organization that seeks to elect pro-life women. She is pictured



with interns and Ohio Governor John Kasich.

TOM SPROLES RECEIVES APPOINTMENT BY GOVERNOR

Tom Sproles (GBS 1987-88), funeral director and co-owner of Sproles Family Funeral Home, was appointed by Indiana Governor Mike



Pence to serve a four year term on the State Board of Funeral and Cemetery Service (SBFCS). On the SBFCS, he will serve as the

Administrative Law Judge, in the capacity of liaison between the state board and the attorney general's office. In addition to managing the standards, licensing, rules and regulations of funeral service, the 10-member SBFCS also oversees the enforcement of these rules. Tom says, "I feel very honored and look forward to serving Gov. Pence and my fellow funeral directors and cemetery colleagues in this capacity." Tom has been in funeral service for 25 years.

EZRA BYER HELPS PLANT NEW CHURCH

Ezra Byer was born and reared approximately 700 miles north of Toronto, Ontario, in the small town of Cochrane. At 15 years of age, Ezra moved to GBS when his mother accepted a position as head cook. He subsequently received a BA in ministerial studies in 2011 and took his first pastoral position as an associate pastor at Eastlake Community Church in Moneta, VA.

In 2012, Ezra married his lovely wife Janan, and they both poured themselves into the ministry of the church. The fact that Eastlake had a vision to plant 20 churches by the year 2020 meshed with the desire burning within Ezra since reading Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire by Jim Cymbala as a teen. By 2005, God placed a specific call on his heart for the people of Toronto. So, commissioned by Eastlake Community Church, the Byers, Darnell Wilson (GBS since '07), and Joel (BA '11) and Amber Chopp moved to Toronto to be part of the new church plant.

In September, Discovery Pointe had its first leadership meeting and its first services. Currently, they are in the process of developing six small groups of between 8-15 people. In 2015, the plan is to assimilate the small groups to meet together on a weekly basis and form a local church congregation in the central Scarborough region. Pray for Discovery Pointe!

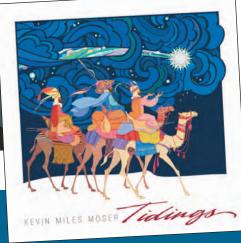


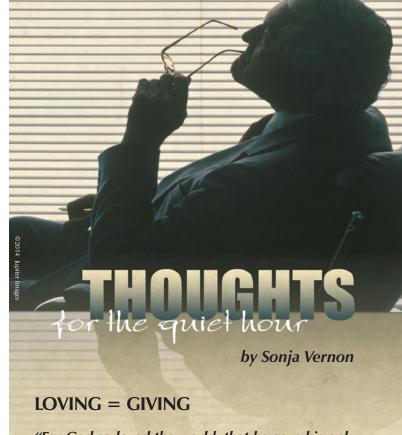
Ezra is the founder of Powerline Kingdom Ministries, and he works with several others to send out a free daily one- to two-minute devotional email to several hundred subscribers. He is active in Christian radio and has authored a book, What Kind of God do I Serve? A Six Week Study of Who God Is and How I Can Relate to Him, (available at Amazon.com in digital format or paperback).

KEVIN MOSER RELEASES NEW RECORDING

After more than 25 years of producing and arranging various music projects for others, Kevin Moser (HS '82; BA '90) has released his first personal recording project on CD. Tidings is an instrumental Christmas project consisting of an eclectic mixture of world ethnic and folk instrument sounds combined with purely synthesized sounds and those of traditional Western orchestral instruments. Featuring carols from the 1400s to the present, the 11 songs include standards, like "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen," as well as lesser known songs, like the Renaissance motet "Sons of Eve, Reward My Tidings." Ending the compilation is an original composition. The CD or individually downloaded songs can be purchased at Kevin's personal website, <u>kevinmilesmoser.com</u>, or other online outlets. Personal inquiries can be sent to kmoser@gbs.edu and orders can be mailed to him at 1810 Young St., Cincinnati, OH 45202. Please include \$15 per CD plus a flat rate of \$3 for postage and handling (regardless of quantity purchased).







"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son..." —John 3:16a

The Christmas I was three years old stands out to me as a defining moment in my life. My father and I had gone shopping to buy a present for my mother, and upon returning, I excitedly rushed up to her. "Mommy, you'll never guess what Daddy and I got you for Christmas! It's a purse!" "Sonja," my mother cautioned, "don't tell Mommy what it is." "Oh, I won't, Mommy," I continued. "It's going to be a surprise! When you open it on Christmas, you're going to be so happy. You're going to say, 'Oh, Sonja, a purse!'" My mother was smiling now. "Make sure you don't tell Mommy the surprise. Why don't you go and tell Uncle Steve about it." "OK, Mommy," I said. And then I whispered, "Can I tell him it's a purse?"

Christmas finally came, and with it the grand unveiling. My excitement knew no bounds. When my mother finally opened her gift, I was the happiest one in the place. I hugged and hugged her and then ran in laps around the room, stopping only to hug her again and then continue my running. "Oh, Mommy, don't you love it?! Weren't you surprised?!"

That Christmas I learned about the joy of giving and the heart of Christmas. I learned that when we truly love, we give; and giving brings unspeakable joy. Our kind and good Heavenly Father modeled that love for us when He gave us the greatest gift of all time.

This Christmas, why don't we recapture that joy by giving freely out of hearts of love.

Sonja Vernon is Dean of Women at God's Bible School and College

DECEMBER 2014

