



The Eagle

A PUBLICATION OF TOLBERT MOORE MINISTRIES, INC.

Called to Preach the Gospel—Baptist by Conviction

December 2019

Number II

Merry Christmas

For
World
to the
SALVATION HAS COME



Number II—2019

THE EAGLE

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Dear Readers,

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek,” Romans 1:16.

The Gospel is the message of Jesus Christ—the greatest message for time and eternity. Jesus commanded that the Gospel be preached in all the world as a testimony so all of mankind might be saved—born again.

Thank you to all our friends, prayer partners, and supporters who have stood by us, lifted us up in prayer, and helped make it possible for us to help spread the Gospel all over America and around the world.

You have been a blessing to my life!
God bless you.

In His Grip,

Tolbert Moore, Founder/Editor

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Dr. Rex McPherson is retiring from the pastorate. On Saturday, March 14, 2020, Galilean will host a **RETIREMENT PARTY** in honor of his 41 years as an ordained Gospel preacher. Please look at page 13 for more details.

We want to thank all of those who have given toward publishing *The Eagle* magazine. As funds have come in, we have set the support aside, and because of YOU we are able to print and mail out this issue of *The Eagle* as well as post it on the tolbertmoore.com website.



Keeping the Pulpit Alive!

by Dr. Tolbert Moore

In II Timothy, chapter 4, we read, “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts (or strong desires) shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.”

He said, “I charge thee therefore” which points back to the preceding verses, beginning in verse 14 of chapter 3: “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ

Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect (equipped completely), thoroughly furnished unto all good works. I charge thee therefore. . . .” He is saying to Timothy, this young preacher, that he has what he needs in the Scriptures, which are inspired of God. All through this second epistle to Timothy, HE IS TEACHING HIM HOW TO KEEP THE PULPIT ALIVE.

I readily acknowledge that **preaching** sometimes and, in some instances, (especially in Mark) meant giving the Gospel on a one on one basis, but here he is talking about being the preacher, being the overseer, being the leader of a congregation and breathing life and challenge into the congregation by the preached Word of God.

Now, notice, he said for you to “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For (or because) the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers (not just have one or two teachers, but a **heap**, many teachers), *having itching ears.*” They have not desired, will not endure, stay with, or suffer through sound doctrine, so they will start looking for other teachers anywhere they can find them. They will **heap to themselves teachers** because they have **itching ears.**

You cannot satisfy an itch just by scratching it. Before you know it, it will begin itching again! The bacteria or fungus causing the itch has to be removed before you can get any real relief. Now, I never had the “7-year itch,” thank God, but I did catch the itch at school one time, and I’ll tell you, that was a terrible thing to have. Back then old folks would put all kinds of things on it including sulfur to give some kind of relief, but until the bacteria was removed, it wouldn’t be long before it itched again, and it would nearly itch you to death! Now can you imagine having the itch in your ear?

And then, I know what it is to heap up something. If you heap up hay or corn, you have a pile of it! That verse says they would pile up teachers to themselves, because they had the itch in their ears. But, friend, the only remedy is the preached Word of God. Paul emphasized this all through II Timothy. In chapter 1, he gives the way, the program, the plan that God has to keep the pulpit aflame. I want to challenge you with some things which will help keep the pulpits alive in America, in the Bible Belt and overseas.

I want to challenge you with some things which will help keep the pulpits alive in America, in the Bible Belt and overseas.

Most places now do not have time to have revival.

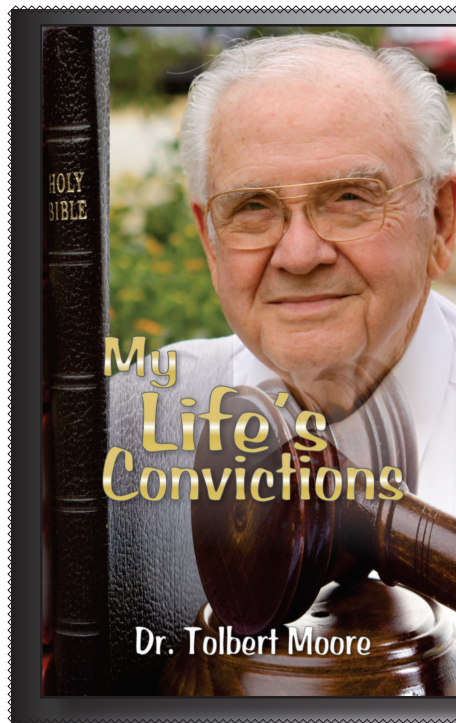
I have been in many pulpits in recent years—some of which were dead. In some cases, it took several times of preaching with all the might and power God would give to liven it up—to bring it back to life. Sometimes one sermon would do it, but many times it would take several sermons.

Most places now do not have time to have revival. We have two night, three night, or five night meetings, but you cannot have revival in that length of time. You can talk about revival, but it takes some real time and power of God to have revival—to bring a church back to life.

He said in verse 6 of chapter 1 of II Timothy: *“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.” Stir up that gift.* God gave the gift when they were having the laying on of hands. And in I Timothy 4:14 he says: *“Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.”* So, **you have a gift.** The question is *whether or not you have it?*

I have discovered, to my dismay, that there are Christian colleges with supposedly well-educated professors who are teaching that you do not have to be called of God to preach—that God is looking for volunteers! Well, I think you should volunteer after you have been called.

Who does have it? He tells us in II Timothy 1:9, *“Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling. . . .”* God **has saved us.** He has saved us by grace through faith. That is the only way God ever saved anyone. That is the only way you could be saved! No one deserves to be saved, because sinners do not deserve anything but Hell—that is justice. *“The wages of sin is death”* and in Revelation 20:14 it says, *“death and hell were cast into the lake of fire.”* Sinners deserve to go to Hell, and **we are all sinners**, but by the grace of God, He has provided Christ Jesus, Who died on the cross of Calvary to pay for our sins, *“that whosoever believeth in him (trusts Him, relies on Him)*



My Life's Convictions

Dr. Moore addresses practical, timely subjects such as DOCTRINE, SERVICE, and FELLOWSHIP in this compilation of his “My Life's Convictions” articles.

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should not perish, but have everlasting life” (will be saved). So, Paul said, He has **saved us.**

A man who is preaching the Gospel of Christ **must be saved.** I am not saying that the Gospel loses all of its effect if a lost person reads it or quotes it or even tries to sermonize it, but that lost man—no matter how gifted he may be as far as his physical ability, or charismatic personality, no matter how well educated he is, no matter how well-crafted his sermon is—will not breathe life, real spiritual life of God into the congregation unless he is saved. He has no witness of the Spirit and is not Christ's.

And, he will not have the ability to breathe life and fire into that congregation from the pulpit unless he is CALLED OF GOD. He **must be called of God.** Whether or not a preacher

is saved is not as controversial today in fundamental circles as whether he has been called. I have discovered, to my dismay, that there are Christian colleges with supposedly well-educated professors who are teaching that you do not have to be called of God to preach—that God is looking for volunteers! Well, I think you should volunteer after you have been called. Volunteer all you want, but you will not be a real preacher if God has not called you, because He will not anoint you. A man who is saved, has the witness of God in himself, and is called of God has a gift. He has a creative gift of God in his spiritual makeup so that he will get sermons, fresh thoughts, and material from God as he reads and studies God's Word. Now, I am not saying he is going



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Timothy McCulley, Pastor
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to get revelation in addition to God's Word, because I do not believe that; but, I believe God will give him new insight, a fresh approach, and fresh thoughts, and (if you please) fresh food from a far country, as Proverbs says, because he has that gift. God gives that gift.

I've heard some preachers preach who have shouted, run the aisle, and jumped benches, and they did not have a bit of the freshness of God on them. Of course, I have heard some who have run the aisle, jumped the pews, and did all kinds of antics who really had the power and touch of God in their lives. So, I am not saying the antics make the difference. I am saying what really makes the difference is the **call** and **anointing** of God.

I have heard men preach who did not get out of their tracks, yet they stood and preached with anointing and the touch of God in their lives, and it would literally burn your spirit and heart and set you afire for the glory of God and the cause of Christ as they preached the Word of God, exercising the gift that God gave them. A man is doing a congregation more good by spending four or five hours in prayer, meditation, and study as he prepares to preach than he would running all over town, talking to everybody he could find, and reading everyone else's sermon books.

Most all of us read sermon books (some do not admit it, and some may be so prejudiced that they would not), and it is good to get other men's ideas. It is good to read other sermons by men inspired of God, but if you have a gift of God, you are going to get some sermons on your own. As you read the Bible, it is going to **just jump out at you** and say, "**Here, Preacher, preach me!**"

So, you must be saved (both sure and knowledgeable

about your salvation), and you need to be called with that gift and anointing of God, and you **must not neglect that gift**. You must stir up that gift of God. You must work at it. You can stir it up in many ways. You can stir it up through prayer. You can stir it up through reading the Bible. You can stir it up sometimes by hearing someone else preach. If the calling is there, the gift is there!

And, you need to **preach the Word**—you need to preach it all the time. You need to preach it in season, and you need to preach it out of season. Now, who doesn't enjoy preaching when the tide is in, and the church is rejoicing, and the Spirit of God is flowing? Everybody who has any preach in him at all enjoys preaching in those times. You can say "Jesus," and they will weep or shout or at least say,

"Amen," at high tide when the season is in and the people are responding and rejoicing.

But what about when it is out of season? Much of our preaching today across this country and in other countries is out of season. That is when that fiery preaching, that move of the Holy Spirit, that freeness of Spirit, that powerful sermon (not necessarily a crafted or organized sermon, but an explosive sermon) is needed most. I learned when I was just a young preacher that I could not depend on my congregation all the time to give me inspiration. I was taught not to think or meditate on what I was going to preach, just read my Bible, study in private, and go to church with nothing particularly on my mind, then get up and preach, and the Holy Spirit would inspire me and give me something to preach

Now, who doesn't enjoy preaching when the tide is in, and the church is rejoicing, and the Spirit of God is flowing?

I learned when I was just a young preacher that I could not depend on my congregation all the time to give me inspiration.



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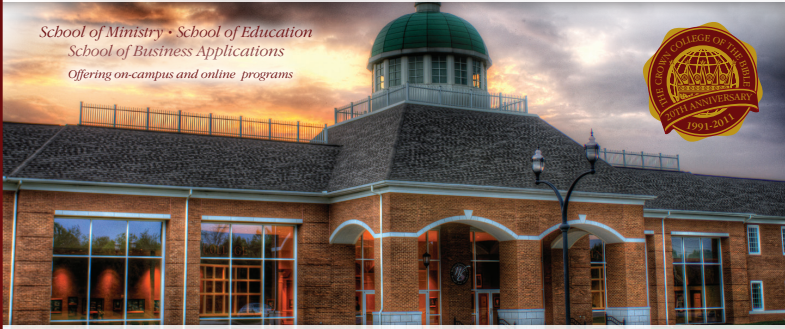



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Bill Hayes, Pastor

He must be prepared, and I would dare say, it takes more preparation, more prayer, and more earnest seeking of God out of season than in season, but I would also say, it is more needful out of season.

Whatever you want to excuse or whatever kind of sinful life you want to live, you can find it justified if you will keep looking for those teachers.

on the spot. I found that would work if it was **in season** and if the Spirit of God was flowing. God would, right on the spot, give me a message or a sermon, or give me a verse of Scripture and a thought, either to exhort, challenge, or even rebuke. But I found out in a hurry, if the **season was out** and the Holy Spirit was not there, then the fire was not there. If I was looking at the pew for inspiration and the pew was looking to me, then, sad to say, there would be no inspiration!

So, the preacher must be ready **out of season**. He must be ready to preach the Word instantly in season (on a moment's notice), but then when it is out of season, he must preach too. He must be prepared, and I would dare say, it takes more preparation, more prayer, and more earnest seeking of God out of season than in season, but I would also say, it is more needful out of season.

Then, he is to **reprove**—that means prove it again and again. Not only prove it by repetition, but prove it and reprove it by Scripture, by experience, and by illustration.

And then, right after rebuke comes **exhort**. After you rebuke them sharply, abruptly, scolding them, then you exhort them, because they are going to need a pickup after they are rebuked. They are going to need to be built back up.

And then, he said there should be much **longsuffering and doctrine** involved, because the time is going to come when they are not going to endure sound doctrine. They are going to **heap to themselves teachers** (get a big pile of material from teachers, lesson after lesson after lesson from teachers). Oh, how we are seeing that happen today, especially in America! You have everything from the ridiculous to the sublime on

radio and television. You have any kind and every kind of odd ear that you want. Whatever you want to believe, if you will keep searching, you will find it on radio or television. Whatever you want to excuse or whatever kind of sinful life you want to live, you can find it justified if you will keep looking for those teachers. And, because those teachers are there, you are going to have to be ready to **preach the Word**. I mean, preach it! I mean, announce it! I mean, say, "**This is it!**" dogmatically, with conviction, without backing up, without any apology.

On my last trip to Wales, one of the men said to me, "I know, Dr. Moore, why you and your group of preachers are effective."

"Why?" I asked.

"You're dogmatic! When you speak, you speak with authority! You say, the Bible says something, and it is right!"

I said, "Dear Brother, that is exactly the way I feel. That is my conviction."

"When you are preaching with that kind of conviction," he said, "we understand it. We hear it, and it comes our way."

So, when you preach with conviction, using that gift and calling of God, stirring it, it is effective. You will have to preach like that where they have heaped up teachers to

themselves, where they have itching ears. They will just keep scratching and scratching.


I hear people say all the time, "I went to hear this teacher or that teacher, and, boy, did he teach me so and so," but the next day they are just the same sinful person. They are going on in their sinful way. They really need to be rebuked by the power and Spirit of God using the Word of God to tell them that their lifestyle is destroying them, eating them up, but instead they come back happy. They really want someone to scratch their itch but not give them a cure. And, it is much easier to teach a little lesson and be well liked by people—but what about when their lives fall apart?

It is like the newly-elected superintendent of an asylum who was strolling around the grounds one day, and a patient came up to him and said, "We all like you better than the last man, Sir."

"Thank you. Why is that?"

"Well," replied the lunatic, "you seem to be more like one of us!"

People have the idea they can live any way and get someone to tell them how to be happy. This is the kind of teaching they are looking for. They want to believe any kind of twisted doctrine. "I want to be with my crowd



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Dr. Rex McPherson, Pastor

and my group.” “I want to have fellowship with them.”

Brother, the congregation needs to learn that *the breath, fire, and blessing of God in their lives gives them the strength to go against the grain*—not with the grain. It gives them the strength to go against the world. Who said we needed to be at peace with the world? We need to be at sword’s point with the world. Christ said, “*I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.*” They stand against each other in order to make the proper and correct stand.

We need **called** preachers. We need **anointed** preachers. We need preachers who will **preach the Word, instant in season and out of season with longsuffering and doctrine.**

God bless you. ✠

Brother, the congregation needs to learn that the *breath, fire, and blessing of God in their lives gives them the strength to go against the grain*—not with the grain. It gives them the strength to go against the world. Who said we needed to be at peace with the world? We need to be at sword’s point with the world.

Billy Sampson, Missionary Evangelist with *The Gospel Preacher Association*



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HE IS TO ME

by Amelia Petty



He (GOD) is a Bridge over the chasm of everything. His NAMES are small clues to truly knowing Him, yet each glimpse allows us one step farther on the bridge which enhances our relationship with Him.

Growing up, surrounded by and involved in music (at an early age of 5 years old), it has always played a big part in my life. So many special songs, favorites, channel my thoughts toward HIM. Many old hymns and others written in recent years draw me to Him. One of these captured my thoughts as I pondered on a subject for this article—*He Is to Me*.

The words of the chorus are: He is to me my Anchor, He is to me my Rock, He is to me my Savior in whom I place my trust. He is to me my Comfort, He is to me my Joy, He is to me my Master, He is to me my Lord.

In an old book of poetry which I have, the poet expresses these thoughts that He (GOD) is a Bridge over the chasm of everything. His NAMES are small clues to truly knowing Him, yet each glimpse allows us one step farther on the bridge which enhances our relationship with Him, the One Who created us and loves us eternally.

I ask this question, “What WORDS would YOU use to express WHO He is to you?” There is a vast, unending supply to describe our God when we begin to make a list.

He is to me *Everlasting Life* (John 10:28). This life will always be. It is never ending. He is to me an *Intimate Companion*, One in whom we can confide. He is to me my *Deliverer* (Ps. 18:16-19). It matters not what has us bound. He is to me a *Rock of Safety* (Ps. 31:2) which is my steadfast foundation, my stabilizer. He is to me my *Doctor*. Not in the sense of healing of body, although He is that, but by giving me spiritual medication, vitamins of grace, a renewed strength to face life’s problems, to love others, remedies for my lack of enthusiasm. He is to me the *Sending One* (Is. 6:1-8) Am I ready and willing to be sent? He is to me my *Hiding Place* (Ps. 32:7), a place where

stillness can be found, hope restored, and joy awaits. He is to me a *Listener*. His ear is pressed to my heart, aware of the smallest vibration of fear, the rhythms of my very soul, attentive to my smallest need. He is to me my *Protector* (Ps. 12:7) He guards me and has my best interests at heart. He is to me *the First and Last* (Rev. 1:8), Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. He is the bookends of my existence. This is just a tiny drop in the bucket of WHO He is to me! What about YOU? Are you at peace within the Bookends?

So many songs express Who He is. Think of *Jesus Is the Sweetest Name I Know*; *There’s Something About That Name*; *Gentle Shepherd*; *Jesus Is All the World to Me*, and on and on—

We are so blessed, so loved. There is no ending to WHO He is to me—to Who He desires to be to YOU. ✠

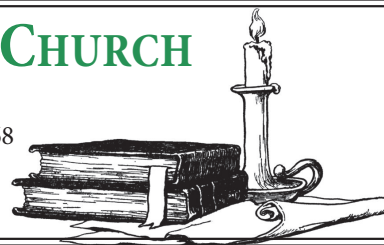
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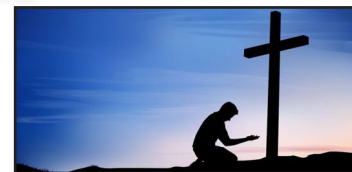
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The Supreme Pattern

1 Peter 2:21, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."

by **Dr. Dennis Petty**, Missions & Evangelism, Co-General Director



We are to imitate Christ, to love as He did, to have His meekness, His gentleness, His patience, to be conformed to His image, to make Him the example of our lives. He is to be our pattern in—

I. His suffering, 1 Peter 2:21.

He is a model that has imitative value. He has left us an *example* which signifies a model of conduct intended for reproduction. Just as God has called His people out of darkness into His marvelous light and to His eternal glory, so God calls His people to the patient bearing of a suffering which they may have done nothing to deserve. In this suffering, they are to remember and reproduce the conduct of their Savior.

The example He set was that of—

- (1) Undeserved suffering. "Who did no sin; neither was guile found in his mouth."
- (2) Unembittered suffering. "When he was reviled, he reviled not again."
- (3) Unretaliating suffering. "When he suffered, he threatened not."
- (4) Unfrustrated suffering. "... but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." Literally, He handed Himself over with unshakable confidence into the keeping of the Father Who judges with perfect equity.

Secondly, He is to be our pattern in—

II. His service, Luke 22:27, "... I am among you as he that serveth." John 8:29, "... for I do always those things that please him."

I and *always* are emphatic. On every occasion, I did what pleased Him. The perfection of His servant character was exhibited in perfect service.

He is our example. What a sublime example of humble service He set. In John 13, He took a towel, girded Himself, and washed the disciples' feet. When He had finished, He said, "... I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." The force of these words of Christ is "I have just showed you how spiritual love operates." Luke 10:37, "Go, and do thou likewise." Then Jesus said, "I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord," John 15:20.

Thirdly, He is to be our pattern in—

III. His sacrifice, Ephesians 5:2, "... Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour."

He is the pattern we are to embrace. "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children," Eph. 5:1.

The exhortation—"Be ye therefore followers of God," vs. 1.

The example—"As Christ also hath loved us," vs. 2.

The evidence—"hath given himself for us," vs. 2. Christ loved and gave. Love that does not give, that causes itself no sacrifice, is useless and even selfish. His self-sacrificing love is the basis on which our faith rests. As with Christ, so with us. Self-sacrificial love is a fragrant offering and acceptable to God.

Love spells sacrifice. It means my giving up my right for the sole benefit of others. Christians, we are called upon to IMITATE Christ. This is the exhortation. This is what is expected.

Christ has given us the model of Christian conduct. He is the pattern. Child of God, we are called to live by the same standard of conduct as the Noblest of all—"to walk even as he walked" 1 John 2:6. ✠

He has left us an *example* which signifies a model of conduct intended for reproduction.

Love that does not give, that causes itself no sacrifice, is useless and even selfish.



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God Is Mindful of You

by Dr. Tolbert Moore

We kept going to those country churches, but they never did tell me how to be saved. They just told me that if I did not get saved, then I would go to Hell.

I was a country boy, a farm boy. When I was seven years old, we moved into town to Lakewood Heights. When I was ten years old, we moved back to the country. I had been to Sunday school a few times in town, but they taught you something different than they preached in the country.

We started going to the old country churches. That old preacher, loosened his tie, pulled off his coat, and started preaching. In about fifteen minutes, I was concerned I was going to Hell if something was not done and done soon!

We kept going to those country churches, but they never did tell me how to be saved. They just told me that if I did not get saved, then I would go to Hell. I did not want to go to Hell. I wanted to get saved.

I kept going to church. The country churches did not have church every Sunday. On the first Sunday in May 1941,

we went over to my mother's church where she went when she was a girl. We heard a man preach on the resurrection of Jesus Christ and about doubting Thomas. When he got to the part where Jesus said, "Thomas," (he pulled his coat back), "reach hither into my side. Believe, Thomas, believe," I saw such a picture of the resurrected Saviour. He just came into my heart.

I am not supposed to get emotional, but I cannot help it. I can feel it every time I talk about it. I was a twelve-year-old country boy who was backward, dumb, and bad. I would steal Mama's eggs, then crawl out under the fence, and go up to Arnie Bullock's to buy some Bull Durham smoking tobacco. I was bad, but that morning something came into my heart. I have never been the same since.

I am not going to apologize for getting emotional about it. It is something to get emotional about. If you don't feel

it, then you better check up and make sure you have it!

I want to read a little bit from Hebrews, chapter 2. I will begin in verse 5 and read a few verses. *For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak. But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

I want to spring from the statement: *What is man, that thou art mindful of him?* Man is made in the image of God. He was never kin to an animal. He never looked like an animal. He never talked like an animal. He is in the image of God. He did not evolve. He became the image of God the day God made him. You are no kin to a monkey. You may act like it sometime, but you are not.

God is mindful of you. I thought about the word **mindful** and what it means.

When I would stay with my Grandma Grizzle on the farm, she would get up every morning and cook breakfast. Boy, what a breakfast! After breakfast she would say, "Tob," (she called me that because I was special to her), "I want you to go out there and mind those chickens." What she meant was, I want you to feed them and tend to them.

When God said He is mindful of us, He is looking after

us. He is making sure you have something to eat. He is making sure you have a place to sleep and rest. He makes sure you have a family or a group of people to love you. He is mindful of you. When you hurt, He cares. When you are discouraged and down, He is mindful of you. When you are trying to study for finals and some of it just doesn't click, He is mindful of that. He knows about that. In fact, He knows what it is you are trying to find out, and He will guide you.

The Bible says in John 16:13, *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. . . .* You want to know the truth? Get acquainted with the Holy Spirit. He is mindful of you.

I thought about this coming up here. When I attended Mount Berry School in Rome, Georgia, at sixteen years old, I considered that a privilege and a blessing that my Dad made the sacrifice to send me there.

I want to tell you it is a privilege for you to be here at Crown College. It is not your right to be here. It is your privilege. God has been mindful of you to put you where you could learn what you need to know to live the life you have chosen for yourself or that God has chosen for you. Isn't that neat? Oh,

that is great. He is mindful of you and is looking out for you.

Young men, when you are looking for a girlfriend, I mean, if you are serious, He will pick out one for you, and that will be the one. These young ladies are looking at me wondering, "What about us?" Same thing applies to you.

The second most important thing you choose in life is who your mate is for life. Choosing Jesus to be your Saviour is the number one, most important choice, but you should pray about who to pick for your life's mate. Oh, you look at a girl, and she is so pretty. Her hair is so pretty. She smells so good. She giggles so cutely, but you had better let the Lord help you!

When I was young, I was looking, looking, looking. I wanted a special one, and finally God picked me out one. She has gone to Heaven now, but she was the one for me.

He is mindful of you when you are making those decisions. He is mindful of you when you decide the studies you are going to follow. He is mindful of you when you are trying to understand what the Word of God says. He is mindful of you. I love that.

I like Somebody looking after me Who is bigger than me. Don't you? I am glad Somebody

is guiding my path Who knows my future, when I don't even know the next fifteen minutes. I praise God that He is mindful.

When I get up in the mornings and go out to my little office in the front of my house where I have prayer and ask God to guide me through the day, speak to my heart and lead me, He is right there. You know what, the thing about it is, He is everywhere. If I go to my office at the church, (I am not the pastor, but they still allow me to have my office there), He is there. How can He be there too? He is God, that's why, and He is mindful of me.

I am not important, but whatever it is that He wants me to do, that is important. What He needs and what He says are very important. He is mindful of me. If I am doing what He wants me to do in His will, He is mindful of me.

I got off a plane in Bombay, India. I did not know a soul. I could not speak or understand one word of Telugu. The people who were going to meet me were going to meet me at the next airport which was an hour from where I landed in Bombay. I didn't know what in the world I was going to do.

They all gathered around me, and boy, they were talking, talking, but I didn't understand.

I like Somebody looking after me Who is bigger than me. Don't you? I am glad Somebody is guiding my path Who knows my future, when I don't even know the next fifteen minutes.

I am not important, but whatever it is that He wants me to do, that is important.

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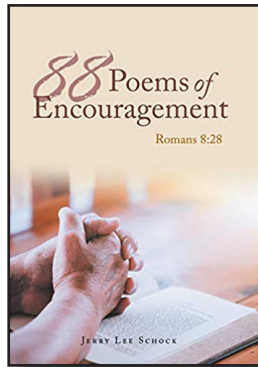
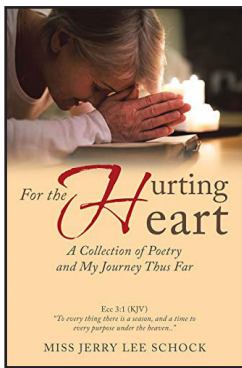
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Dr. Dennis Petty



My heartfelt thanks to all who have encouraged this publishing. Through the years, my desire was to publish and share with others who may need encouragement. Many poems have been emailed and handed to those in need along the way. As friends and loved ones were in valleys and going through trials, God would give me words of encouragement for them. Every poem was written out of a need someone had that the Lord sent my way. The poems span many years of writing and are from the heart, as the Holy Spirit led. May the words continue to bless and encourage those who read. God has answered so many prayers through the years, and with the publishing of this the poetry, yet another is answered. May God bless each of you.

Jerry Lee Schock

Both books available on Amazon in Kindle, Hardback, and Softcover

If I follow Him,
I have nothing
to fear. If you
will follow Him,
you will have
nothing to fear.

They were friendly. There was no problem with that. After a while I said, "Is there somebody here that speaks English?"

Someone yelled, "Yeah."

I said, "Praise God! I really need you to help me."

He came over there where I was, and he said in clear English, "Why are you here?"

I said, "I am a Gospel preacher, and I am here to go into Hyderabad Secunderabad to give the Gospel in the villages."

He said, "I will help you. That is why I am here."

Wow, God is mindful of you. That man would not have been in that crowd any other time. God had him there.

Do you believe that?

Of course, I believe that, because I would have had a real problem if he or somebody else that spoke English was not there. God is mindful of this.

Now, I don't know if I ought to warn you of this. I don't want you to get down and out, but the Devil has his eye on you too. If you are going to serve the Lord, you have an enemy. The Devil will pull all kinds of tricks on you. He will make that look so good. You will look that over, and boy, there could not be anything wrong with that. That is pure poison from the Devil. The Holy Spirit will give you a check.

Sue, my secretary for 40 years, wondered what I was saying when I would say, "I had a check about that."

You know what it means when you have a check about something. Don't you? Be careful here. Watch out here. He is being mindful of you. He is warning you. He is guiding you. Isn't that wonderful?

If I follow Him, I have nothing to fear. If you will follow Him, you will have nothing to fear.

I have been in some places that were sort of touchy. That made me feel at bit uncomfortable, but you will always find somebody that knows the Lord. I don't say this boastfully. I say it to praise God. I have been in 68 different countries, and everywhere I have been, God has had

somebody there. That is the way He is mindful of His children.

On one of my trips to Great Britain, I set time aside to visit The Crown College in England. If you've known me for very long, you know that I have had a burden for England and Wales for many years. Having the opportunity to meet Bro. James Zenker in person and see what God was doing with the college there was a thrill. I've prayed for years, and this trip was a reminder of how mindful God is and how He has developed wonderful works and ministries in these countries.

Let me say that when the Holy Spirit takes charge, you need to let Him work.

After I got saved, when I was twelve years old, we were living on the farm, and I started

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doing something that I still do now at 90 years old. I would find a place to pray. I can see it now. It was out by the barn and the hog pen and on down in the pasture where there was a little sandy ditch. As a boy, I would get down there and pray. Then, I would pray with Mom and Dad. I was praying pretty good.

One morning Mom, Dad, and I were getting ready to pray. The other children were running around. Dad said, "Tob, how about leading us in prayer this morning before we go?" We got down to pray, and suddenly, something came over me. Something touched me that I had not felt before. I started crying and praying. My Dad started shouting, and my Mother was on her hands and knees. She started crying and said, "Oh God, lead us to help this child." God was mindful of me way back then.

I was so ignorant I didn't know anything. I am not a lot smarter now, but I am smart enough now to make friends that know what I do not know and have that same touch.

I want to tell you something. Once you have that touch, you will recognize it in other people. That will be your guide. He is being mindful of you.

I never will forget the first time that happened to me. I ran across a young man named R. T. Williams. He was just out of the Navy, and he had been saved and baptized in the church where I had been ordained, Calvary Baptist in East Atlanta. He started talking to me about his experience, and I had a witness with him. I thought, "This is it. He has got what I got."

That is a rough way to say it, but that is the truth. You have a witness. That is God being mindful of you to help you find people who will walk and talk with you, and share burdens and decisions

with you, and praise God with you. That is wonderful.

I am so happy for you here at Crown College. The President of this College has a touch of God on his life. When he stands up to preach, you know there is Someone else standing up there with him.


I hope the same thing for myself and for you. That is God being mindful of us. How could we ever preach without it? How could we ever lead a soul to Christ without it? How would we ever be what we ought to be, be the husband or wife or the friend that we ought to be, and can be, without that touch and blessing? Oh, how wonderful that God is mindful of us. That is not a sermon, that is a testimony. I hope it's helped you. God bless you. ☩

Once you have that touch, you will recognize it in other people. That will be your guide.




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Reflections . . .

by Susan Lee Lutz

What a privilege I have had to be a part of the lives of Bro. Rex and Jessica McPherson. I met them in 1975 when they were teenagers, and I was a young widow. I was there when he was called to preach and *on fire for God! (And, he still is!)* I can remember him standing on the edge of the high platform of Shiloh Hills Baptist Church saying, “Do it! Do it! Do it!” as he challenged us to get up, get out, and win souls. It’s been a blessing to watch them all these years.

I was looking through some of the magazines we have published and found an article he wrote when they got to Wales and began their ministry there. This article was written in 1990 (right at 30 years ago). I can’t think of anything I could say that would better describe their life’s love and ministries than to let you read his description of what he saw, and sees, when he considers what needs to be done for Christ in His great cause.

A Look at the Church of South Wales

by Dr. Rex McPherson

I am not qualified to appraise the churches in every part of Wales. In mid and north Wales, I understand that they are about the same as in south Wales. I do not claim to be an expert on all denominations, nor even on my own. My comments are strictly based on what I have seen first-hand. As I have traveled from church to church, I have tried to keep my eyes and ears open. I have tried to see the needs and to listen to the people to whom I have preached. It is not my purpose to criticize—but to analyze what I have seen and learned.

In many of the churches I have seen some good things. First, there is the faithfulness of those who really love God. All over I see small groups of people who are faithful to pray and support the Word of God. Many of these are people of retirement age, but they have not retired on God.

Next, I sense a hunger for the true Word of God. People are hungry for the bread of life; however, there are not very many men with the skill and gift of God to feed the people. At Bethany in Ynyshir, the consistent preaching of the Word of God has resuscitated the church. In less than ten months, the congregation has

more than tripled. People have been saved and baptized, and the spiritual growth of the people is quite remarkable.

Then, there is a great longing for revival, or at least a time of refreshing sent from God. People are beginning to understand that their church’s survival may depend upon God’s divine intervention. A recent article in the *Western Mail*, a national newspaper, stated that one chapel per week was closing in Wales.

Finally, many churches have opened their doors and even their hearts to us and **The Gospel Preacher Association**. They have responded enthusiastically to what we are trying to do here.

The major needs are easy to spot but hard to fill. The first need is pastoral care and leadership. There is no adequate substitute for a pastor. I am not trying to demean the job being done by the deacons leading the churches. In most places they are doing a good job, and I thank God for them. What is needed is God-called men, trained by God-called men, to do the work of the pastoral ministry.

The second need I see is local church evangelism and personal evangelism. Evangelism is a natural outgrowth of caring about

people. We are commanded to “love thy neighbor as thyself.” To love people is to have an irresistible urge to help them. It seems that in the wake of the great revival of 1904 the church became a community within a community. People outside the chapel have sometimes felt cut-off from the chapel. At times even resentment grew towards the church and its leadership. The unchurched felt that the people in the church did not care about them. We need to see the people of our towns and villages as people in need of the Saviour. Every person is worthy of the Saviour’s love and of our love. We must be eager to reach the families of our communities with the Gospel.

Here in Wales three out of five adults that I have talked to who are unchurched know little about God or the way of salvation. Almost all the young adults say they never think about spiritual things or eternity. This must be due to the lack of outreach by the church. On a wide scale, two or three generations of people are missing from the congregations.

Men of God are needed to pastor and to lead the people in local church evangelism. We must continue to pray. We must allow God’s love to live in us. We must develop programs centered around the Gospel that will reach out to the lost. We must work. I think it was Thomas Edison who said, “The secret of success is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.” In the work of God, the secret of success is allowing God to use us and to work through us.

In I Chronicles 12:32 the Bible says that the men of Issachar “had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.” Let us pray that God would give us some men like this for the times in which we live. It may be that God would touch your heart to come to Wales and help in this great work. ✠

People are hungry for the bread of life; however, there are not very many men with the skill and gift of God to feed the people.

Evangelism is a natural outgrowth of caring about people. We are commanded to “love thy neighbor as thyself.” To love people is to have an irresistible urge to help them.

Held by the Grip of God

Taken from *My Utmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers



I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus, Phil. 3:12b

Never choose to be a worker for God, but once God has placed His call on you, woe be to you if you “. . . turn aside to the right hand or to the left” (Deuteronomy 5:32).

We are not here to work for God because we have chosen to do so, but because God has “laid hold of” us. And once He has done so, we never have this thought, “Well, I’m really not suited for this.” What you are to preach is also determined by God, not by your own natural leaning or desires. Keep your soul steadfastly related to God and remember that you are called not simply to convey your testimony but also to preach the Gospel. Every Christian must testify to the truth of God, but when it comes to the call to preach, there must be the agonizing grip of God’s hand on you—your life is in the grip of God for that very purpose. How many of us are held like that?

Never water down the Word of God but preach it in its undiluted sternness. There must be unflinching faithfulness to the Word of God, but when you come to personal dealings with others, remember who you are—you are not some special being created in Heaven, but a sinner saved by grace.

“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:13-14). †

Dr. Moore has signed his documents, *In His Grip*, for these many years. In this he acknowledges his desire to be controlled by the hand of God in all his dealings and communications.

“As an eagle stirreth
up her nest”
Deut. 32:11



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