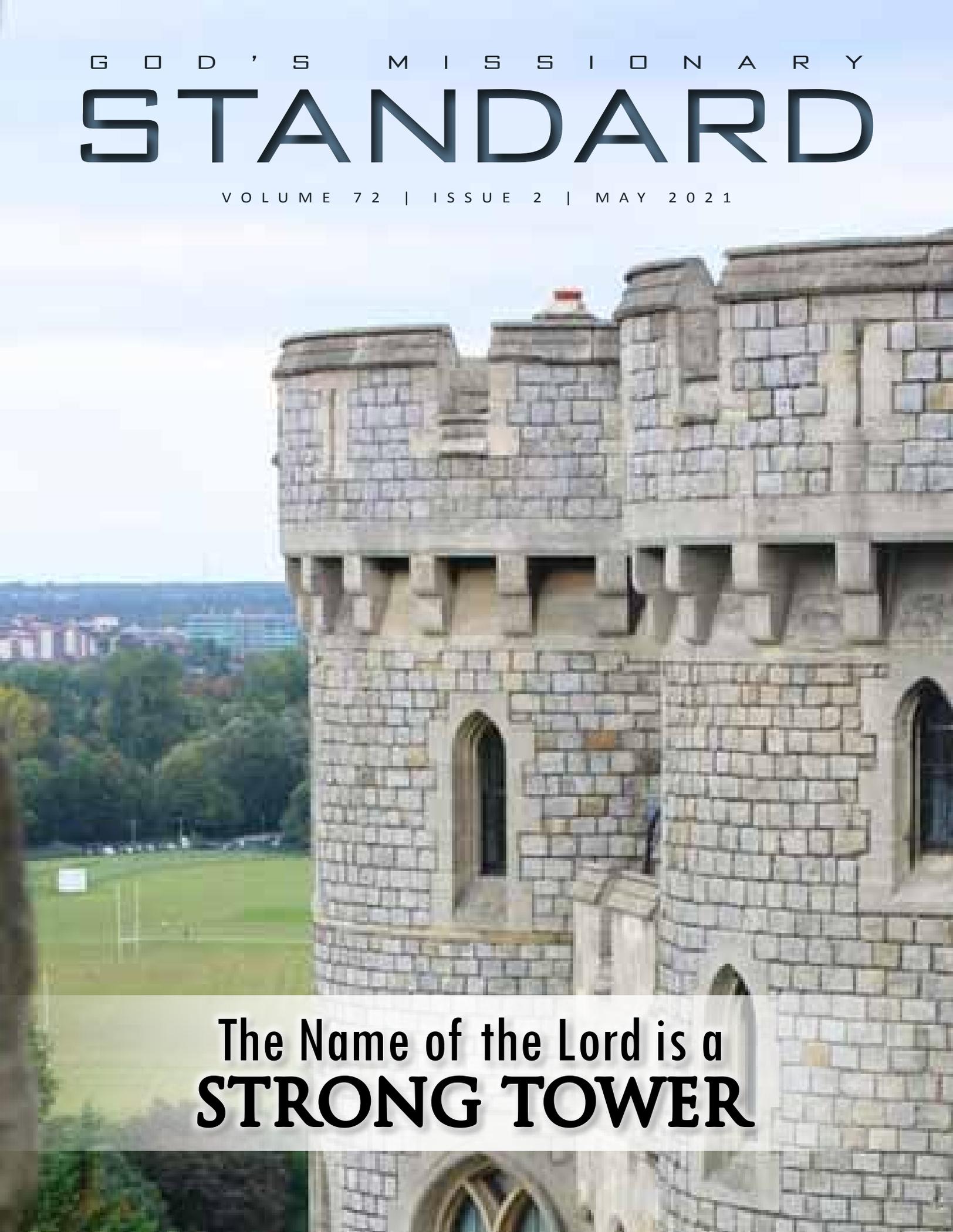


G O D ' S M I S S I O N A R Y  
**STANDARD**

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The Name of the Lord is a  
**STRONG TOWER**



from the

# editor



David Wise

## RUNNING TO THE STRONG TOWER IN SMOKEY'S AMERICA

One of the ways the bills get paid in our home is through working with a local man to do snow removal. In doing this, there are certain guys that can be counted on every time the snow starts to fly. However, when the snow really starts to come down a little faster and a little longer than was anticipated, my boss begins to look around for extra guys to push a snow blower or wield a shovel. During one of our bigger snowstorms this winter, “Smokey” came into my life as a work buddy for a few days. “Smokey” really wasn’t his name, but after watching him take a “smoke break” every forty-five minutes or so, the name seemed to fit him better than his birth name. He was a friendly enough fellow, but it didn’t take me long to realize he was very good at working the system. Around thirty years of age with a girlfriend and a one-year-old baby, he didn’t seem to be too concerned about steady employment. As we traveled from business to business to remove the snow, he would take some time during the day to contact government agencies to help him pay bills. His “access card” got him some cigarettes and an energy drink at the Turkey Hill for breakfast. He then got Pastor Dave to buy him a breakfast sandwich and another guy he knew in the store to buy something else for him . . . all in one ten minute stop! He wasn’t a bad worker when he set his mind to work, but as the hours rolled by, the “fire on the inside” began to burn a little lower with every property we visited. By the time our very long day was over, I wondered if he would be back for more work.

A few days after that round of snow cleanup, my boss asked me for an assessment of “Smokey.” He had heard from another employee, a gruff, no-nonsense fellow in his late 50’s, that our younger friend had needed “a firm hand on his posterior” in his growing-up years. I tried to be kind and point out some of the positives but also had to be brutally honest and share my concerns. It certainly did not surprise my boss. He and other small businessmen for whom I have worked have lamented the trends they see in the rising generation. It was decided that sometimes a warm body is better than no warm body and that he might be needed in the

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# PROVERBS 18:10 – THE NAME OF THE LORD IS A STRONG TOWER. A RIGHTEOUS PERSON RUNS TO IT AND IS SAFE.

Written by Greg Hobelman

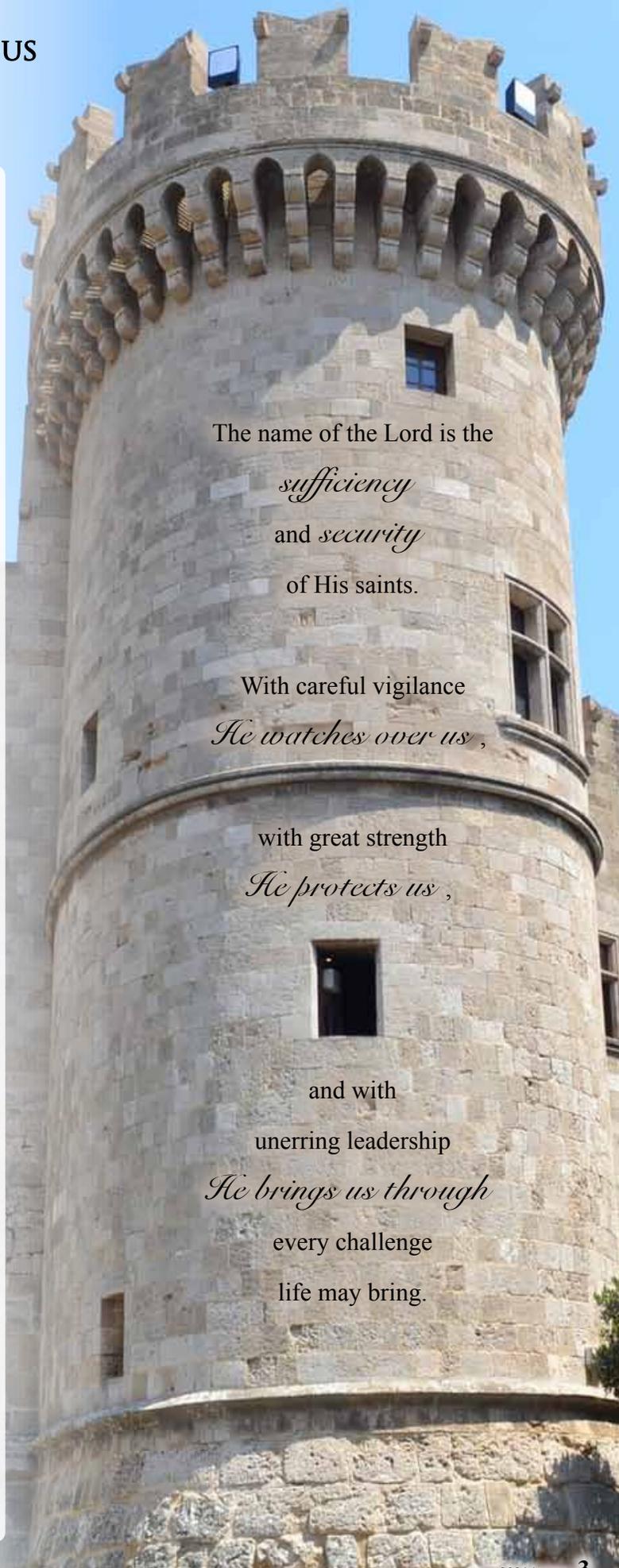
What is in a name? In a famous Shakespearian soliloquy, Juliet ponders the fact that the only reason her love for Romeo is problematic is his last name. Shakespeare seems to indicate that a name is simply an external label, while what is really important is one's essence. Yet, while roses smell sweet regardless of the label one may use, the Proverb writer illustrates an important truth about God from which the righteous can draw great strength and comfort. That truth is that God's essence is revealed in His name(s), and in His name we find everything we need for life and for eternity.

The imagery here is a strong tower and indicates much more than just a tall structure. In ancient times towers were built for security and safety. Whether by a wealthy landowner, a thriving city, or a protective castle lord, towers were built for observation, and watchmen stood by ready to sound the alarm at the slightest hint of trouble. In the event of trouble towers were a place of defense. With their stone walls they kept enemies at bay. From their heights archers could shoot, rocks could be thrown, and even boiling oil could be poured down upon attackers. Then even if the enemy were fierce enough to force their way through the tower gateway, the tower's design was often still strong enough to provide a sense of refuge to the people.

The architect of a strong tower would consider even the smallest detail to gain an advantage. Stairways would ascend from the left, circling up clockwise because most fighters used a sword with their right hand. This design forced them to expose themselves completely to the defenders above in order to use their weapon effectively. Then sections of the stairs were made to be cast away leaving great gaps between levels that would prevent enemies from being able to follow the retreating defenders up the stairs. Typically towers had upper rooms set aside for the storage of food and weapons for a prolonged fight. Then the best towers would have hidden passages and stairways that would allow the defenders to slip away if their enemies endeavored to set up a lengthy siege.

So, a tower provided a constant visual reminder to the common citizens that someone was

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The name of the Lord is the  
*sufficiency*  
and *security*  
of His saints.

With careful vigilance  
*He watches over us,*

with great strength  
*He protects us,*

and with  
unerring leadership  
*He brings us through*  
every challenge  
life may bring.

FOR WHO IS GOD  
SAVE THE LORD?  
OR WHO IS A **ROCK**  
SAVE OUR GOD?

IT IS GOD  
THAT GIRDETH ME  
WITH **STRENGTH**,  
AND MAKETH  
MY WAY PERFECT.

PSALM 18:31&32



By Erik Samborski

With Psalm 18 open before us, let's read it in the setting of the life of David. Remember, after young David killed Goliath, King Saul was motivated by jealousy to commission David as an army captain, hoping that he would die in battle. Unfortunately for Saul, David quickly became a hero in the eyes of the people. Furthermore, Saul's daughter, Michal, loved and married David. Saul's son, Jonathan, recognized that God had chosen David as the next anointed king and yet remained his loyal best friend. These circumstances fueled Saul's hatred toward David. Soon the king attempted to kill David, causing him to flee.

Lacking rations or weapons, David fled first to the high priest Ahimelech. Since David claimed that he was hurrying on the king's business, Ahimelech helped him along his way. As a result, Saul accused Ahimelech of conspiring against him and had him and the other priests killed. David, greatly discouraged by his guilt in Ahimelech's death, fled, first to the enemy city of Gath, and then on for five to ten years, hunted like a wild animal by the armies of a rabidly jealous King Saul.

David's turbulent experiences caused him to know God personally, as we see in verses 1-3. After God delivered David multiple times, he declared, "I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength." He had a simple, child-like confidence in God because he knew his own utter helplessness - and God's all-sufficiency. David looked to God as his Rock and stood upon Him as the only stable thing in his entire life. He looked to God as his Fortress, a mighty defense with high walls around his servant. When the battle was hot, God showed David his deliverance. When David was weak, God was his strength, in whom he put

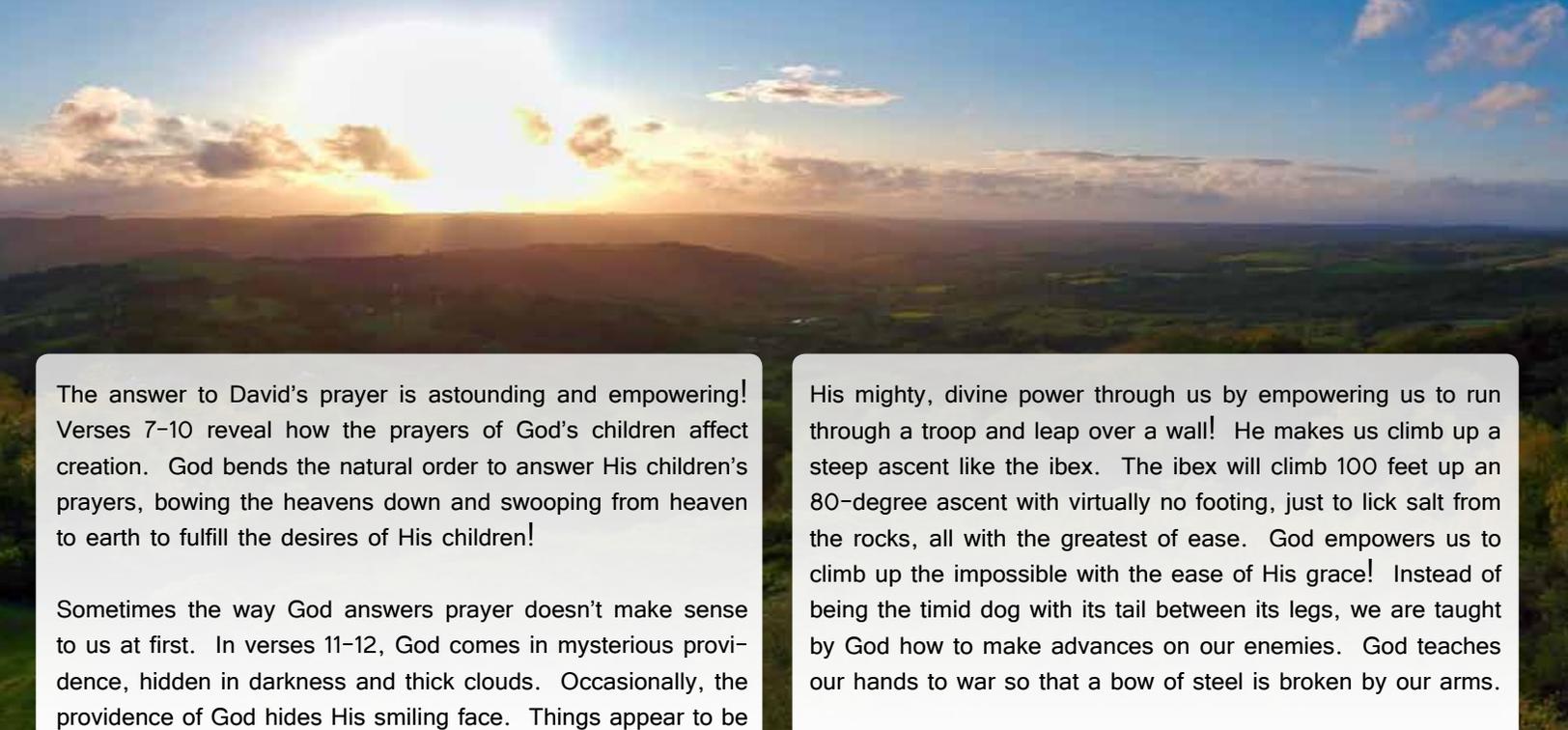
He had  
a simple,  
child-like  
confidence  
in God

all his trust. David laid his life in the hands of God as we would place thousands of dollars in a bank account, not questioning whether the money will be there when we need it. David's trust was fully in his Creator!

God was a shield to David and the horn - or mighty power - of his salvation, his high tower. A high tower in a castle wall is above the battle below, not only giving an extra measure of safety, but also providing a different perspective. When God is your high tower, He helps you to see further than the immediate battle, lifting you above the smoke and heat to give you His perspective. As David knew God so intimately, he could declare that God was worthy to be praised because of Who He is. There is no one on earth or in heaven who can take His place!

David was overwhelmed by his circumstances in verses 4-5. David was afraid! He felt hell itself closing in upon him! Like a bird, he was snared, about to be swallowed in death! David reveals that depression is not a new thing. Later, the Apostle Paul would say that he despaired even of life. It blesses a suffering soul to see these feelings inside the saints of God throughout the Scriptures.

What do you do with overwhelming depression or grief? In verse 6, David cried out to God in prayer. Are you ever in distress? The saints of the ages have been there! Jesus Himself "was full of heaviness: and [He] looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but [He] found none." (Ps 69:20) Jesus Christ and the saints of old cried out to God in their overwhelming distress. In the second half of verse 6, David knew God had answered his prayer. It is our privilege as children of God to have assurance in prayer before the manifest answer comes, to have the peace of God that passeth all understanding. continued on **page 5**



The answer to David's prayer is astounding and empowering! Verses 7-10 reveal how the prayers of God's children affect creation. God bends the natural order to answer His children's prayers, bowing the heavens down and swooping from heaven to earth to fulfill the desires of His children!

Sometimes the way God answers prayer doesn't make sense to us at first. In verses 11-12, God comes in mysterious providence, hidden in darkness and thick clouds. Occasionally, the providence of God hides His smiling face. Things appear to be getting worse before they get better. Child of God, this is just the dust of the Almighty's feet as He steps in to move heaven and earth in answer to your prayers!

In verses 13-15, God enters in judgment against His children's enemies. God thunders in the heavens, hails down stones and coals of fire, sends out arrows, shoots out lightning, and scatters the enemies of God! He sends out the blast of the breath of His nostrils! We can expect the vengeance of God against the enemies of His Church in answer to prayer, not because of personal vindictiveness, but because our hearts are aligned with the glory and justice of Almighty God in His cause.

When the righteous cry out to God in their distress, deliverance is found, as in verses 16-26. Deliverance from the waters of affliction, persecution, despair, confusion, and assault! Deliverance from enemies who are too strong! The crafty God-haters and demons of hell are foiled by the Lord, who is the stay of His children! God brings His children out of persecution into abundance and largeness, changes us from hunted souls into kings, and keeps us from turning our backs on Him when things get tough! In fact, as we abide in Him, God rewards us by giving us the ever-present deliverance of our Father. God notices your faithfulness in the fires, dear child! All we must do is to cry out to God in simple, child-like faith, expecting Him to answer, just as Psalm 18 portrays.

As if it weren't enough for God to deliver us, in verses 27-36 we find that saints are equipped for battle in answer to our prayers. God gives us confidence in the face of a boasting enemy and light in the midst of darkness! God displays

When the  
righteous cry  
out to God  
deliverance is  
found

His mighty, divine power through us by empowering us to run through a troop and leap over a wall! He makes us climb up a steep ascent like the ibex. The ibex will climb 100 feet up an 80-degree ascent with virtually no footing, just to lick salt from the rocks, all with the greatest of ease. God empowers us to climb up the impossible with the ease of His grace! Instead of being the timid dog with its tail between its legs, we are taught by God how to make advances on our enemies. God teaches our hands to war so that a bow of steel is broken by our arms.

In verses 37-45, God gives us the victory. God enables us to relentlessly pursue our enemies until they are consumed, wounding them until they fall under our feet, boldly conquering and destroying those who hate God and His cause! Does this mean we have a carnal hatred in our hearts towards those for whom Jesus died? No! God makes us soldiers in this epic battle against evil, with the full intent of victory! We are not fighting against personal enemies, but against the enemies of Christ and His glorious Church.

The Captain of the host, Jesus Christ, leads us on to victory in verses 43-45. He is made the head of the heathen! Those who didn't even know God end up being the very ones who serve Him with utmost devotion. We see many bowing to Jesus in obedience and strangers submitting themselves to His rule! We see the retreat of the enemy as our glorious Victor appears at the head of the battle!

Though David began Psalm 18 in grief and despair, he concludes it with triumphant hope in the power of God in verses 46-50. God Himself will win your battles! God will fight for you, helpless child of God, if you will lean hard on Him, crying out to Him in believing prayer! Just like David, we should triumph in our God as we praise Him for certain victory ahead. The Church of Jesus Christ is not a sickly, hopeless waste. Jesus told us that upon the Rock of Himself, He would build His Church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it! As we see the alarming and overwhelming advances of evil in our nation and the world around us, let's not fold up in defeat, hoping for Christ's soon return. Let's stand up as soldiers of the cross, weak as we may feel ourselves to be, but leaning hard on the mighty power of the Son of God who bled and died to redeem the world unto Himself! Let's make God our Strong and Mighty Tower! 🏰



# THE THREE HUNDRED by Beverly Carradine

The people of Israel might well have been discouraged at the sight of the rapid melting away of Gideon's army if they had not had to steady and gladden them the spectacle of the faithful "three hundred" who would not leave the field, but stood true to God and their leader in the face of everything.

And so we might well be downcast over the coldness, indifference, backsliding, side-tracking and actual derailment that we see taking place in so many different directions, if we did not observe just as unmistakably the faithfulness of Christian individuals and the steadfastness of those little bands of true and tried ones who survive and remain after every revival, no matter what stand the community takes or how many of the congregation grow cold and go back to the world.

These are members of the "Three Hundred Brotherhood," who never stop to count numbers or consider the magnitude of the opposition, but simply ask what is right, and then stand or go forward just as God directs.

We may say what we will about all men being the same and all souls being alike. In one sense they are equally precious in their immortality, but after that, there is a marvelous difference. One man is worth more to the cause of God than another. One person has more magnetism, influence, and aggressiveness than another. One individual has often done what a whole congregation was not able to perform. Now, when, in addition to these natural powers, the man is filled with the Holy Ghost, the Bible itself declares the spiritual rank or ratio in the statement that one is equal to a thousand.

The "Three Hundred" of Gideon did easily what the fearful "twenty-two thousand," who departed in a hurry for home, could not possibly have done.

Many hundreds of years have passed away since that time, but the Three Hundred still remain. The Brotherhood has been perpetuated. Their spiritual posterity lives after them.

The tenth leper who returned to give thanks to Christ for his healing was a member of this mystic devoted band. The one hundred and twenty who took time to leave farm, shop, and fishing-boat and wait for the Baptism with the Holy Ghost in Jerusalem belonged to this blessed Fraternity of the wholly consecrated.

They simply ask what is right and then go forward as God directs

John and Peter, lingering in the court-yard when Jesus was being tried and scourged, and Paul and Silas, singing and praising with bloody backs in a midnight prison, were captains in that noble company of the Three Hundred that is seen in every age and country, no matter who is the king nor how the law reads, whether for or against them.

As seen down to the present time the Three Hundred is a band of faithful souls who cannot be driven from truth and duty nor coaxed or sopped into compromise and sin. Men may come and men may go, but they keep on forever.

The writer, in common with other evangelists and pastors, has seen much of his work scattered and destroyed; but, with them, he can also say that he never revisited a place where there had been a genuine revival but he would find a band of men and women, a little company of faithful ones, who had weathered the storm, outlived the pestilence, survived the persecution, remained firm in the falling away, and kept their hearts like a watered garden in the midst of general spiritual drought and deadness.

Such spectacles prove the truth of the continued on **page 7**



always looking out for their safety and they had a place of refuge to run to in any time of trouble. The picture Solomon is showing us in Proverbs is that the name of the Lord is the sufficiency and security of His saints. With careful vigilance He watches over us, with bountiful stores He provisions us, with great strength He protects us, and with unerring leadership He brings us through every challenge life may bring. Our part is simple; we just run to Him. We run to Him through our faith in Him. We run to Him through our prayers to Him. We run to Him through our life of devotion to Him. We run to His name.

**THE THREE HUNDRED** continued from page 6 doctrine, the genuineness of the experience of holiness, and the possibility of human faithfulness under any and all kinds of adverse conditions, provided Christ is allowed to remain in the heart.

So these true and tried individuals, these faithful little bands, these struggling small companies of Holiness people become a text and sermon, as well as an inspiration besides, to all who are doubting, hesitating, reeling, and ready to fall. They demonstrate by their lives that what they have stood and done we can stand and do. If they can endure and survive the shock of temptation, the loneliness of a devoted Christian life, the venom of slander, the laugh of ridicule, and the blow of misrepresentation and hate -- then all of us can do the same. The living illustration becomes then an appeal to arise, move against the walled cities, and possess the land.

In conclusion, we thank God for Israel's "Seven Thousand," for Gideon's "Three Hundred," for Pentecost's "One Hundred and Twenty," and for all the faithful followers of Christ today, whether they reach the number of hundreds in a great City Tabernacle, dedicated to Full Salvation, or are a despised little Corporal's Guard worshipping in a dingy mission room or hall, or whether the "Three Hundred" is seen sifted down to the solitary individual living the life of holiness alone in a cold, fashionable church or in the midst of an unsympathetic, worldly family circle.

God be thanked for the Three Hundred, and above all, for that Spirit of Grace and Truth who calls out the Three Hundred from the great ranks and bodies of men and causes them to stand true to God and themselves in the face of all the opposing thousands and millions of earth. ■

Oh, that His name may be the first thing on our lips in the morning, with thanks for the day. Then may it accompany frequent expressions of praise for His daily blessings, and finally, ascend with our last phrase of gratitude before we go to sleep at night. If we live thus, then it is only natural that His name will also spring first in the face of any trouble. Yet, there might be some who

Oh, that His name may be the first thing on our lips in the morning

would say, "What difference does this make?" In essence, "What is in a name?" Yet Philippians 2 reminds us that God gave Jesus a name that is above every name.

We repent and are baptized in Jesus' name, and at His name sin's chains are broken. We pray in Jesus' name, acknowledging He is master of everything and is sufficient for our need. We find that demons flee from the name of Jesus, and in His name mighty miracles have been accomplished. Then, if that is not enough, there is coming a day when at His name every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess His Lordship. Truly there is something about that name, and it is the fact that God's essence lives in His name. The songwriter got it right when he said, "Hope for tomorrow and help for today; it's all in the name of Jesus." ■

# A HARVEST OF SOULS IN CALIFORNIA

*Testimony of Pastor Robert League as told by Helen Temple in "Put In The Sickle"*

I had not planned to be a bi-vocational pastor, who worked and pastored at the same time, because I believe God can supply all our needs if we are in His will. But God led us into this kind of ministry, and it has been a separate ministry all its own.

In the first few months at Lamont, California, we were too busy making the church presentable to work at anything else. There was no home mission assistance in the beginning, and \$10 a month didn't go far. But God spoke to people and \$20 bills came in quite regularly, with no name, just "God bless you." Forty dollars a month came from another source.

In our morning devotions, Marie often ended by reminding God of the groceries she was completely out of. Without fail, before the day ended there would be a knock on the door, and a big bag of groceries would be thrust into our arms. "Thought you might need these," the donor would say and go on his way. Every item on the list that Marie had given God was always there.

Many times I have been interrupted at my job to go and pray with someone so under conviction he couldn't wait until the next service. One frantic caller cried, "There's a woman dying in my rental cabin. She wants to see a preacher." We dropped the hammer and saw and took off. At the cabin we found the town's winos – man and wife – just ending a two-week drunken spree. They were half-starved, with a bad case of delirium tremens. As I came in, she began, "Pastor, can you help me?" I answered, "No, but I brought Someone with me who can. His name is Jesus." In a few moments He set them free. The transformation was so miraculous their old drinking buddies didn't even recognize them on the street. And they have remained true to God.

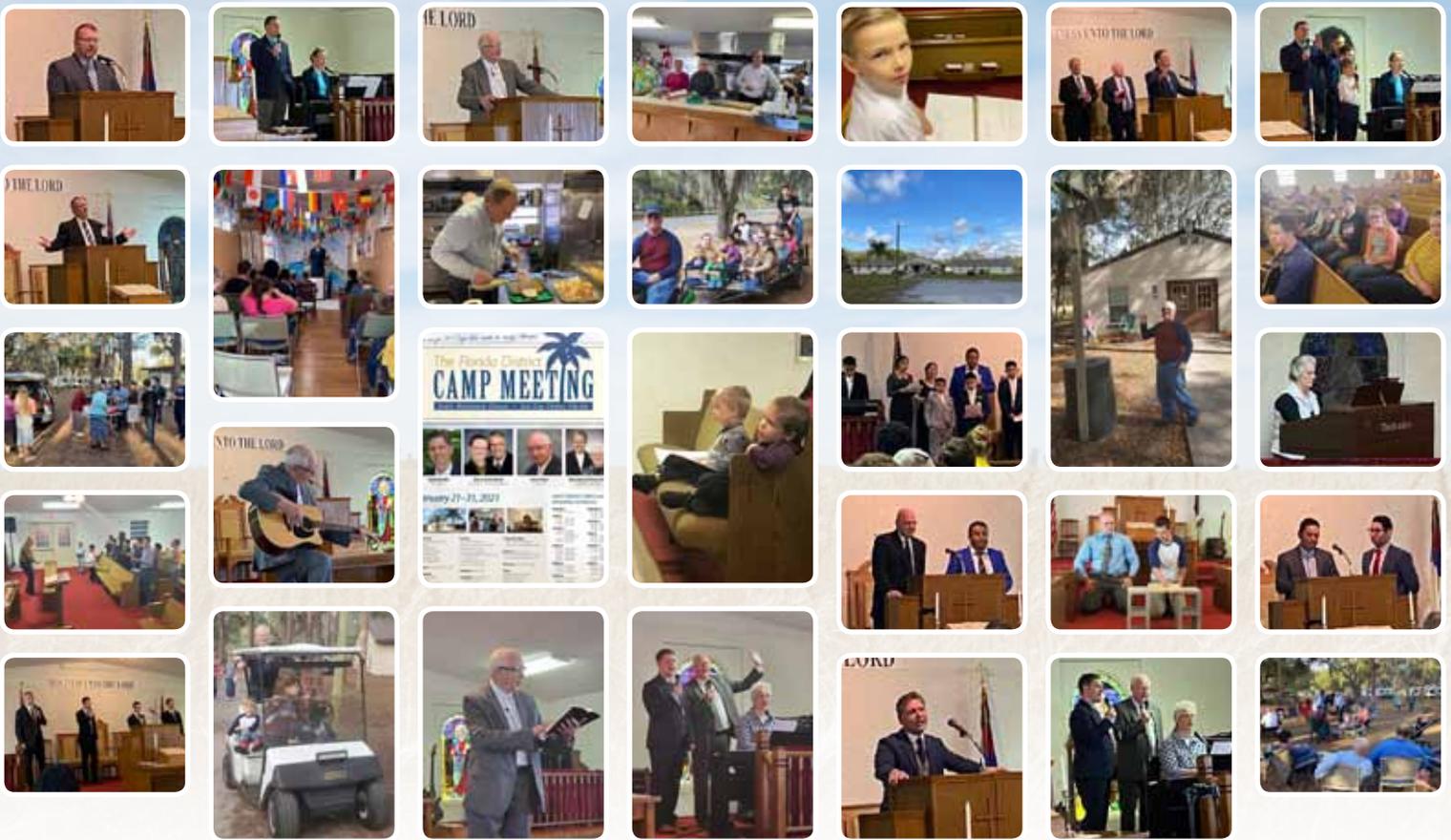
I have worked on 12 churches or parsonages across the Central California District (Nazarene) these past 20 years. I don't believe my working has hurt any of them. It has helped spiritually as my working has become a ministry in itself. While remodeling the church at Hughson, a 90 year old woman on her way to mass used to stop and chat about how nice the church was

looking. As she left, she always reminded us, "I'm praying for you." I felt I could do no less, so we began to pray for her. She came to our next revival, and at the invitation she admitted, "I want to be saved before I die." As we counseled with her at the altar, she confessed, "My dad was a Methodist minister. I became a Catholic to spite him." His prayers had brought her back to a personal relationship with God. It was wonderful to see her radiance, even though it took a little time to get used to a 90 year old woman calling me "Father."

We had some long dry spells at Hughson. It seemed as though nothing would move. I called an evangelist and we began to prepare for revival. I've found that fasting is the best way for me to prepare. I had been fasting about a week when a letter came from the evangelist canceling the meeting. At the same time I had a phone call from the district superintendent of another district. He needed a pastor with building experience. The cash was on deposit to build a new church. A new parsonage was already completed, the congregation was twice as large as Hughson, and so was the salary.

"Let me know by Sunday," he requested. "I'll pray about it," I responded, stunned by all he was offering. I did pray, but no answer came until midnight on Saturday night. Then God seemed to confirm His will: "If you will just hang on here, I'll show you what I can do." I called the district superintendent and declined his offer.

The next Sunday God moved on the scene and nearly the whole church was at the altar. They insisted that I preach my own revival. We planned to keep going as long as people were being saved and sanctified. Seven weeks, night after night, we saw new miracles. People were healed, backsliders reclaimed, and new families came in. Fifteen people were sanctified in one night. There were about 100 seekers in that meeting. We closed out exhausted and blessed: 26 converts baptized, 20 new Nazarenes by profession of faith, and 50 percent increase in membership. ▣



**RUNNING to the STRONG TOWER in SMOKEY'S AMERICA** continued from **page 2**

future, but my boss wasn't going to actively pursue a future work relationship with "Smokey." A few weeks later, we were in the midst of another five inch snow-storm. I was by myself at one of our businesses with my backpack blower, ready to start on the property, when who should appear walking by with his girlfriend and baby in the stroller but my former work buddy! I was shocked that he had the baby out in the snow but said nothing. After some pleasant conversation I found out they were walking through the snow, a mile from home, to get some alcohol. As they were about to head on their way, he made a final comment to me. "Man, I called your boss and left a message about work. I can't figure out why he didn't call me back."

As Christians in a culture that is increasingly hostile and at odds with biblical Christianity, we find ourselves needing to depend on the Lord more and more each day. We are facing situations now that our older saints would never have dreamed possible when they started with the Lord fifty years ago. It seems like every prop is being pulled out from underneath us and we are facing enemy fire from every direction. We are starting to experience the lawlessness that we have heard described by our missionaries in their fields of labor. The corruption in our political and justice systems is forcing us to a place where we can't trust in the institu-

tions to which we looked in the past. Increasingly, the conviction is growing that our only hope and safety is in God and that we must run to Him in the trials of life. While folks like "Smokey" lean hard on "Big Government" to get by from day to day, we must cling to God as disappointments arise and the national landscape looks bleak. The tendency to embrace the gloom is understandable. The desire to curse the darkness is a temptation. Yet in the midst of a culture that is crumbling, the strong towers of spiritual churches where a sound Gospel is preached and lives are transformed will appear as beacons of hope to a world of people like "Smokey" who are searching for answers. Our Lord wants us to inhabit the strong towers of a biblical worldview and an up-to-date Christian experience so we and our families can live under His protection. Then while we are sitting with Christ in heavenly places, we can look down from our secure spot and testify to a lost world of the redemptive power of the blood of Jesus. As we make Him our refuge, we can call out to a rebellious nation to join us in the strong tower that has given our life safety and purpose. Seeing the joy and peace we find in the strong tower of our God, the "Smokey's" of our town just might decide to run in our direction. 📌

Our hope  
and safety  
is in God



# YOUTH DISCOVERY 2021 REPORT

*By Rev. Jeremy Fuller*

The fifteenth annual Youth Discovery event was held January 15-17, 2021. One hundred ninety-five people attended the Friday night rally as Evangelist Ron Stevens shared his life story. God's grace was magnified and a number of young people and even children sought the Lord at altars of prayer.

The theme for the convention was CHOSEN based on the words of Jesus in John 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." Bro. Michael McMillan preached an unforgettable sermon on Saturday afternoon, laser-focused on the beauty and grace of salvation through Jesus Christ.

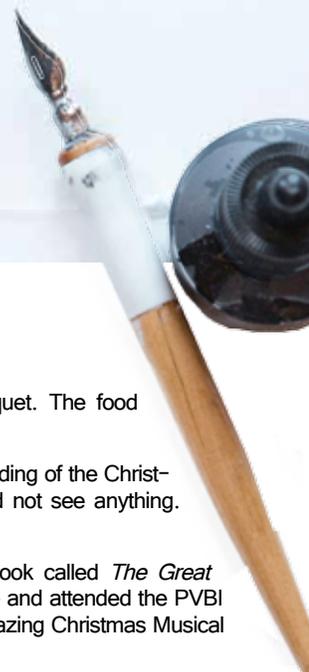


On Sunday morning, Bro. Stevens preached a powerful sermon on Hell. This sobering truth was deeply rooted in Scripture and produced mighty conviction. Only in eternity will we fully know all that was accomplished through the seed planted in this service.

We were blessed to have the music ministry of Sounds of Praise from Union Bible College. Penn View Bible Institute provided outstanding music from the Praise Singers and Majesty. We were also privileged to have the Chapel Trio with us again. We give glory to God for His presence and blessing on Youth Discovery!

Please plan to attend Youth Discovery next year. Convention dates are January 14-16, 2022. To be added to the Youth Discovery mailing list, email [jfuller@embarqmail.com](mailto:jfuller@embarqmail.com). 📧





**Nov. 01:** Lebanon (Harvest Home). The church did a wonderful job of honoring their pastoral team. There were two children's presentations to honor both the pastors and the pastors' wives.

**Nov. 02:** Shamokin, Viewing for Ernie Gessner. He will be greatly missed by family and friends. Bro. Gessner's impact on Beulah Camp will live on.

**Nov. 03-06:** I voted and then prayed for our country. I also did administrative work and sermon preparation for Rome and the upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration for Penns Valley Church.

**Nov. 7-08:** Rome, NY. I was privileged to preach at the third anniversary service of our Rome church. It was exciting to see some who have been there the whole time and also to see new attenders.

**Nov. 10:** Penns Creek, GMYC board meeting, preparing for the 2021 Youth Camp.

**Nov. 12:** PVBI Alumni event. Sis. Sally (Sebo) Iovan was voted 2020 Alumnus of the Year. We appreciate how God has used Sally at home and in Romania.

**Nov. 13:** PVBI School Auction. God used the auction to supply needs for the school and Honduras. Honduras had a flood that devastated many houses and churches. We were blessed to watch people donate a lot of food and supplies to Honduras instead of keeping those items for themselves.

**Nov. 14:** I hunted in the morning and then met Rhoda to enjoy a meal at the China House Buffet for her birthday.

**Nov. 15:** Penns Valley. I attended the 50th Anniversary Service. Exciting memories were shared by Pastor Andy Cooley, Rev. Tim Cooley Sr., Rev. Jacob Miller, Mr. Wesley Miller, and Rev. Gabriel Morley from the 50 years at this location/church building. The Morley family shared several specials, and I was privileged to speak twice from God's Word.

**Nov. 16-17:** Administrative work, sermon preparation, and I spent some time at the courthouse to support someone.

**Nov. 18:** Shamokin. It was great to preach to Mary, who was saved several years ago in Sunbury.

**Nov. 19-20:** Administrative work, studied the PVBI Board of Directors Self-Evaluation Forms and made calls to some of our pastors.

**Nov. 21:** We were privileged to have the Wes Cressman family (Missionaries to Honduras) and our whole family for a meal and time of fellowship.

**Nov. 22:** Penns Creek, PVBI Choir. God used their testimonies, singing, and playing to help us to praise Him. We were also thrilled by how God is still calling young people to PVBI.

**Nov. 23-27:** Administrative work, Travel Notes with the President, and read a book of 270 pages dealing with *Biblical Answers to Today's Tough Issues*. Rhoda and I also celebrated a wonderful Thanksgiving with all our family, her parents, and my father.

**Nov. 28:** PA buck hunting with my son, Chad. We saw some doe and no buck. I also spent a few hours in my study sorting through old paperwork (PVBI classes that I taught years ago).

**Nov. 29 - Dec. 01:** Beavertown outdoor service. I finished reading the book *Workman for God* by Oswald Chambers. It was owned by the late Rev. Truman Wise, one of the founders of God's Missionary Church. I am also reading a couple books on the history, personalities, and meaning of Christmas.

**Dec. 02:** PVBI board meeting.

**Dec. 03:** PVBI staff and faculty Christmas banquet. The food and fellowship were great.

**Dec. 04-5:** Sermon preparation and continued reading of the Christmas books. I also went out deer hunting and did not see anything. First day of doe hunting in our area.

**Dec. 7-12:** Administrative work. I also read a book called *The Great Handoff*. I sorted through some books in my office and attended the PVBI Businessman's Banquet. We then enjoyed an amazing Christmas Musical program put on by Penny View.

**Dec. 14:** Camp Hill. Hanover Camp Board met and approved plans for some more improvements on the campgrounds.

**Dec. 15:** Duncannon, Home Missions Christmas Banquet. Bro. Jeremy Fuller did a great job organizing the event. Bro. Brian Fuller and his family did an outstanding job playing and singing. Others inspired us by sharing how God is working in their ministries.

**Dec. 16-19:** Sermon preparation for speaking at the Outreach and Bus Convention in March.



JACOB MARTIN

**Dec. 20:** We went to Sunbury, GMC, to watch our grandchildren participate in their Christmas service.

**Dec. 21-24:** Administrative work, setting up pre-services for Sun City Camp, travel notes, and sermon preparation. I also finished a 200-page book called *Christmas* by David and Warren Wiersbe.

**Dec. 25:** We pray that everyone has a Christ-filled Christmas. Remember, He is Emmanuel. God with us! Merry Christmas to you all.

**Dec. 26-29:** Administrative work, setting up pre-services for Sun City Camp, etc.

**Dec. 30 - Jan. 01:** Hobe Sound, Florida, for the beautiful wedding of Jamison & Sarah Plank. We pray that God will continue to use this young couple for His Glory.

**Jan. 02:** January is always Bible reading month for me. I read yesterday in the airport a lot and today (Genesis - Exodus).

**Jan. 03:** Rebersburg. My service was canceled due to bad weather. I was going to preach on 1 Kings 19:1-7. The Journey of 2021 will be too much for us unless we face the New Year with Holy Purposes, Heartfelt Prayers, Higher Power, and Humble Plodding.

**Jan 04:** Salamanca, NY, viewing for Rev. Kenneth E. Watt. I overheard one man say to his daughter, "He was the real deal."

**Jan. 05-11:** Administrative work for Florida, General Board meeting, funeral for Kenneth Witmer. I finished reading Bro. Black's new book that will be published soon. I also filled a doe tag by shooting my first Flintlock deer.

**Jan. 12 - Feb. 03:** Sun City, FL, camp meeting trip. God's Presence was real. God supplied our needs in a special way. \$10,500 came from those who could not come to camp this year. Total giving was \$29,200.



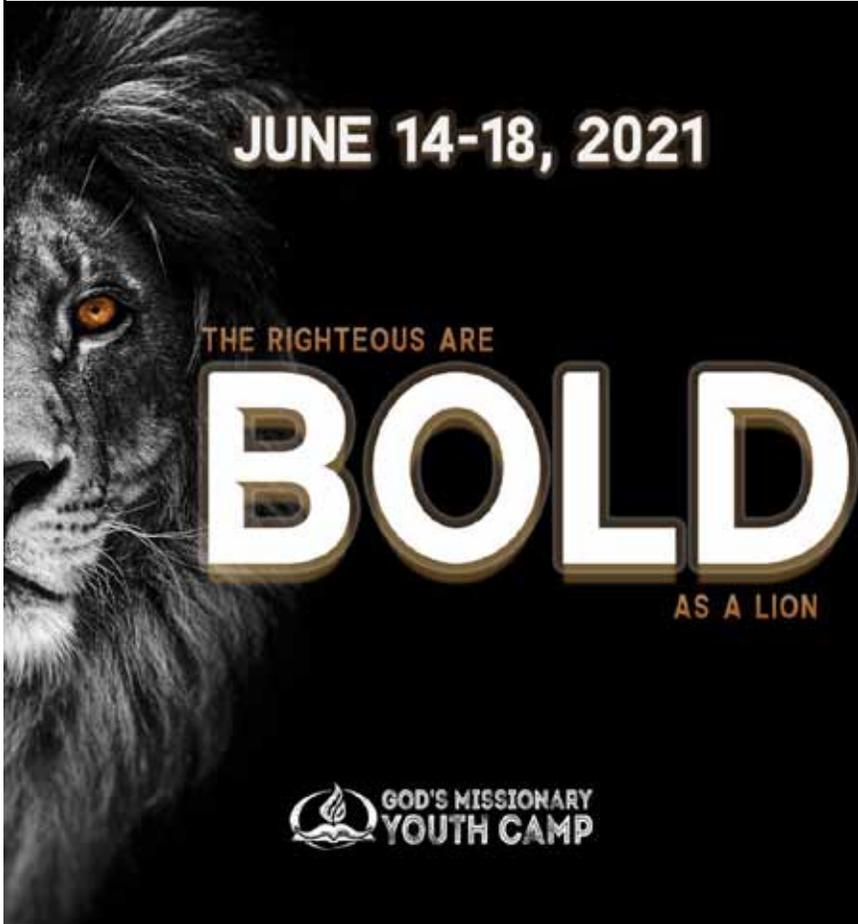
## THE WINDS CONTROLLED IN ANSWER TO JOHN WESLEY'S PRAYER.

*In Dr. Adam Clark's record of his life and early ministry, he relates the following instance of prevailing prayer: John Wesley, with some of his co-workers, had been laboring in the Norman Islands, and had appointed a day to be at Bristol. Taking passage with Dr. Clark, Dr. Coke, and Joseph Bradford, in an English brig which had touched at Guernsey, on its voyage from France, they left Guernsey with a fine, fair breeze, and every prospect of making a quick passage. In a short time the wind died away, and a contrary wind arose, and blew with great force. Mr. Wesley was in the cabin, reading; and hearing the bustle on deck, occasioned by putting the vessel about, he put his head above deck and inquired the cause. Being told that the wind was contrary, and they were obliged to tack ship, he said; "Let us go to prayer." - At his request, Coke, Clark, and Bradford prayed. As they concluded, Mr. Wesley broke out into fervent supplication, which seemed, says Dr. Clark, to be more the offspring of strong faith than mere desire. He said: "Almighty and everlasting God, thou hast thy say everywhere, and all things serve the purposes of thy will; thou holdest the winds in thy fists, and upon the water-floods, and reignest a king forever -- command these winds and these waves, that they obey THEE, and take us speedily and safely to the haven where we would be," etc. The power of his petition was felt by all. He from his knees made no kind of remark, but took up his book and continued his reading. Dr. Clark went on deck, and to his surprise, found the vessel staying on her course with a steady breeze, which did not abate, but of nine or ten miles an hour, until they were safely at their desired port. Mr. Wesley made no remark on the sudden change of the wind. "So fully," says Dr. Clark, "did he expect to be heard, that he took it for granted he was heard. Such answers to prayer he was in the habit of receiving, and therefore to him the occurrence was not strange."*

*He who hath "gathered the wind in his fists," (Prov. 30:4) and who rules the raging of the sea, bends low to hear his children cry, and deigns to hear their prayer. "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and his wonderful works to the children of men." 📖*

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**JUNE 14-18, 2021**

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YOUTH EVANGELIST: MATT ELLISON

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CHECK-IN & ROOM ASSIGNMENT: MONDAY, JUNE 14, 12:30-2:30 PM

EVENING SERVICES: 7:00 PM

CLEAN ROOM / ROOM INSPECTION / GO HOME: FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 3:00 PM

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