



God Is Just A Prayer Away



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Heard on the following 50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 A.M.	700 DIAL	CINCINNATI, OHIO
WRVA	7:04 A.M.	1140 DIAL	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
WHAS	7:30 A.M.	840 DIAL	LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
WIBC	7:30 A.M.	1070 DIAL	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
WLW	8:00 A.M.	700 DIAL	CINCINNATI, OHIO
WOAI	9:30 P.M.	1200 DIAL	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
WRVA	9:30 P.M.	1140 DIAL	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
KXEL	10:30 P.M.	1540 DIAL	WATERLOO, IOWA
WSM	7:00 A.M.	650 DIAL	NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
WRFD	10:00 A.M.	880 DIAL	COLUMBUS, OHIO
KAAY	9:30 P.M.	1090 DIAL	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

SHORT WAVE RADIO

AFRICA:	Monday	7:00 P.M. (1800 UTC)	7190 kHz on Dial
BIBLE VOICE			
EUROPE:	Sunday	8:00 A.M. (0700 UTC)	5945 kHz on Dial
SRI LANKA			
INDIA:	Wednesday	7:30 P.M. (1830 UTC)	9720 kHz on Dial
BIBLE VOICE	Each		
MIDDLE EAST:	Sunday	7:00 P.M. (1700 UTC)	9430 on kHz Dial
BIBLE VOICE			
RUSSIA:	Sunday	9:00 P.M. (1900-1930 UTC)	6015 kHz Dial
CHINA-ASIA & S. PACIFIC:	Saturday	11:30 A.M. (17510 UTC)	17510 on kHz Dial

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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Issue 8

THE JERUSALEM JACUZZI

John chapter five

Ladies and Gentlemen it all happened at the Jerusalem Jacuzzi. The Jacuzzi was located at the House of Mercy better known as the Pool of Bethesda near the sheep gate. The Jacuzzi had five porches and on these porches were many of the sick: blind, halt, maimed, withered, gathered in hopes of healing. It was said that sometimes an angel troubled the waters and whoever got into the waters first would be healed.

The multitude of sick folk gathered there that day provides a micocosm of modern day people. Many who are spiritually blind, maimed, lame, halt, and withered in old age, are jogging, pumping iron, taking vitamins, in an all out attempt to prolong their physical life on earth and pay little attention for the care of their souls that will be very much alive for all of eternity either in heaven or in hell. Actually we need spiritual exercise; we need to run for God, walk in the spirit, and do deep knee bends in prayer.

Jesus saw one man there who had been trying to get into the pool first for thirty-eight years and never made it. It seems as though Jesus picked out the man in the worst condition of all to demonstrate His power and asked him if he wanted to be made whole. It looked as if He could heal him He could heal anyone. The man said, "I have no one when the water is troubled to let me down into the water." After thirty-eight years it was obvious that no one could help him. Jesus was his last and only hope. Jesus can also help the worst of sinners today. There is not a person anywhere that cannot be saved from their sins by the blood of Jesus Christ that was poured out on the cross. Jesus is still looking for the worst sinners to bestow the blessing of salvation.

Jesus told him to take up his bed and walk. He told him to do something impossible and he did it. Jesus told the apostles to take five loaves and two fishes and feed five thousand and they did it. He told eleven men to go and

preach the gospel to the whole creation and they did it. The Apostles fished all night and took nothing. Jesus told them to cast the net on the right side of the boat and they would find and they did it. Over forty years ago we asked a man who was knowledgeable in such things if he thought we should start the, "God Is Just A Prayer Away," radio program and he said, "You can't do it," and we did it. If anything seems impossible and Jesus wants you to do it, you can do it.

Now it so happened that it was the Sabbath Day and Jesus got into trouble for working on the Sabbath. The law said no work should be done on the Sabbath. The Pharisees said, "What is work?" They figured out if you walked more than seven eighths of a mile on the Sabbath that was work. They twisted the law to mean what the law never said. So when Jesus healed this man on the Sabbath they decided to kill Him. Many today twist the New Testament scripture to say what it does not say and insist on fellow Christians doing what they say.

What the man gave as a reason for ignoring their ideas of keeping the Sabbath is worth remembering. He said the Man who made me whole said unto me, "Take up thy bed and walk." He had been lame for thirty-eight years, he was a hopeless case, if Jesus had the power to heal him, He had the right to command him.

If Jesus considered not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped but emptied Himself taking upon Himself the form of servant, made in the likeness of man, and found in fashion as man, and left heaven, and came to this earth to suffer and die for a hopeless sinner like me, He has the right to command me to do what ever He wishes. When people ask me why I insist on telling lost sinners he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, I can tell them the man who died for me and saved me told me to do it.

Jesus later found the man He cured in the Temple and told him, "Sin no more lest a worse thing befall thee." It was evidently some kind of sin had him lame thirty-eight years before. Sin always does that. Sin makes you lame so that you cannot walk with God. Actually sin is what brought on all disease in the first place. By one man sin came into the world and death by sin.

When Jesus found him in the temple He found him in the right place. When the Lord delivers us from sin, may it be that we will also be found in the house of worship at the appointed hour. Jesus gave him a warning that we all need to hear. There is always the danger of falling away and going back by our own free will and choice into the old life. Sin no more lest a worse thing befall thee. In his case what could be worse than thirty-eight more years waiting on the porch of the Jerusalem Jacuzzi? There is always something worse that can happen to us beyond life's worst experience. Jesus said, "It is better to enter into life maimed and halt than to be cast into hell where the worm dieth not and fire is not quenched." On the Day of Judgment it is declared that whosoever was not found in the Lamb's book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Jesus told them that the Father worked hitherto and I work. God is still working today. He never stopped working. Jesus is still working today. He works through the ministry of the members of the body of Christ.

Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today. He has no feet but our feet to lead them in His way. He has no voice but our voice to tell men how He died. He has no help but our help to bring them to His side. What if our hands are busy with other work than His? What if our feet are walking there sins's allurements is? What if our tongue says things His lips would spurn? How can we hope to help Him, unless from Him we learn?

SHE DID WHAT SHE COULD

In Matthew, Mark, and John is the story Mary of Bethany anointing the head and the feet of Jesus. Now when Jesus was in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, they made Him a supper and Martha served and Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with Him.

We cannot help but notice a great spiritual lesson at this point. Lazarus had been raised from the dead; now a supper is made for the Lord at the house of Simon the leper and Lazarus is one who sits at the table with Him. Lazarus is a guest of honor. We too, were raised from the dead when we experienced the resurrection from the watery grave when Paul speaks of baptism as resurrection when he says, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death, that like: as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

When I personally was raised up to walk in that newness of life, it did not take long for me to learn that they had made a supper for the Lord and me, and I was to be a guest of honor. I have sat at the table with Jesus like Lazarus many years on the Lord's Day with few exceptions.

Mary therefore took a pound of ointment, pure nard, very precious, broke the cruse, and poured it upon the Head of Jesus and anointed His feet and wiped His feet with the hair of her head and the house was filled with the odor of the ointment.

On this occasion Mary did not come to the supper to hear a particular preacher although the greatest preacher in the world was there. Sometimes a person's loyalty to the Lord is determined by the person who happens to be preaching. If they don't like him they refuse to come to the feast.

Nor did she come for the fellowship of her friends and family although that is always an enjoyable experience. She could have said in the words of a song, "I just came to praise the Lord." She had come to worship the Saviour. Who cares how many hypocrites like Judas are present? I just came to praise the Lord. What difference does it make if I don't care for the preacher? I just came to praise the Lord. I did not come to marvel at those who wear expensive clothes or those who wore jeans; I just came to praise the Lord. Always keep your focus on Jesus when you go up to the feast.

Now Mary had this pound of ointment that was worth three-hundred shillings, a working man's salary for a whole year. She broke the seal and poured every bit of it on His Head and feet and wiped His feet with her hair.

Usually if a person has an expensive bottle of perfume a few drops is sufficient to give the desired aroma. No one ever pours the whole bottle on. It was certainly a lavish display of her reverence for Jesus. The house was filled with the odor of the ointment.

There is an aroma in the House of worship when the worship is centered on Jesus. The prophet Amos gives us this principle when he said of the hypocritical worship of Israel. I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

God loves the aroma in our assemblies if it is worship of Him and His Son. The Lord's Supper means nothing if we do not discern the Body of Jesus. The house is not filled with the odor of our ointment. The Apostles were filled with the indignation and said, "To what purpose is this waste?" It was Judas who said, "Why was not this ointment sold for much and given to the poor?"

We have many a Judas with us today as the offering plates are passed. People may object to a sermon that exhorts pouring out an abundance of money in the offering plate, even though Jesus poured out His blood in the Garden of Gethsemane, Pilate's judgment hall, and on the cross. And one of them with a spear pierced His side and straightway there ran out blood and water. When we are reminded of the blood poured out for us as we observe the Lord's Supper; can we afford to be concerned about the money we pour into the offering plate.

Judas was no weak sister among the Apostles. He had influence. He is the one who complained that pouring all the ointment was a waste of money, but Matthew and Mark said it was all the Apostles. Judas brought it up and the others followed his lead. Maybe Peter said, "You know John, Judas is right, this is a waste of money." While it is true that we need to be mindful of the needs to be done. The social

gospel is not the answer to the spiritual problems of this day or any day. Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that Jesus told them, "Let her alone. She hath done what she could." What a compliment that would be. For Jesus to say of any of us, "He hath done what he could," that would be high praise. Many have not done what they could. For in that she poured this ointment upon my Body she did it to prepare Me for burial. Jesus said, "Wheresoever this gospel is preached in the whole world that which also this woman hath done shall be spoken of as a memorial of her. She hath done what she could.

If in heaven we are awed by the service of a Daniel, David, Peter, or Paul, we will find great peace and solace in the word of the Lord Jesus if He should say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, you did what you could."

LETTERS FROM LISTENERS:



Brother Bousman

I am here in the Arkansas Dept. of Corrections Varner Unit and a recipient of your Bible and sermons, and lessons. Thank you so much, you can never get enough of the word. In prison the word is getting strong you can see many men forsake the word, but praise God many have come as I have back to the word, thanks to ministries as yours. You and your ministry is in my prayers.

In loving fellowship Richard

Dear Mr. Ed Bousman,

First of all I forward you my warm greetings from my heart in the precious name of Jesus. I love to know my God now but my daddy do not want me to do that even tho I a 24 year old Moslem man converted. WHY? I am so sorry that I do not know God better, I need to know him more. I thank you for all the things you send me in Ghana and I love it and I need more to learn. Can you give me name of good Church here in Ghana to go? Please I need help to find a Church. May the almighty God continue to bless your ministry as you labor to extend God's kingdom and bring more souls to Him.

Yours faithfully

Muniru from Accra, Ghana, W. Africa

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings to you in Jesus name. I am grateful to you for the course material you've sent me. Here with I am sending the finished course work on the lessons 6-10. I have learned a lot from this particular course as well as those courses which I have completed earlier. I am glad to let you know that God has enabled me to get a deeper understanding about Bible and Christian living through your course material. They are very information well researched and powerful. As I am very much interested in continuing the knowing and learning process of those courses you offer. Kindly accept the finished work and send me fresh and advanced course material. Also I have a good news. I am completing my degree program and have planned to join Bible College. I want to learn more about

Christ and I would like to serve Him full time. God has called me to this work even when I was small. So I need your prayers. In fact God has prepared for me this bold step through friends like you. I am inspired to serve Christ like you in an unselfish manner. Please pray for that desire to be fulfilled. In this regard can you send me Christian literature which will help me grow in my commitment to serve Him full time. Thanks once again for the attention you show towards my spiritual growth. Also pray for my family, my mom, my brothers—Samuel and Daniel. Pray for my lonely mother good health and long life. We all as a family are praying for you, and your family and your ministry.

Love Benny from Nazareth, INDIA

Dear Sir,

Calvary greetings to you. My name is Akala. I was a Muslim before but now am a Christian. Since I had changed to Christian things are not going so smoothly. My parent had even abandoned me because they were Muslim. A friend of mine told me about you that is why I now decided to mail you sir, can you please send me anything to help me including Bible and I would like to be collecting your newsletter to this address also, and your Bible Studies too.

Akala from Nigeria, W. Africa

Dear Brother Ed Bousman and Sister Naomi,

Greetings and best wishes. Thanks so much for the wonderful Bible you sent me it was the happiest day of the year to receive such a wealth of treasure. I also thank you for the book of Acts the tapes from Pinehurst Christian Church in Marietta, Ohio, the Bible teachings and for the opportunity to do the Bible course under your guidance. I'm truly lucky and grateful for the surprises and gifts I receive from your ministry from time to time.

May God bless you, your family and your ministry, may He open the gates of heaven and shower you with His choicest blessings and may you succeed in all your endeavors and in every step of the way. Thanks once again I'm truly grateful. Remain blessed yours in Christ

Candida from INDIA

(Single working parent son age 19)

To Ed Bousman,

Grace and peace be to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I am sending you back the last five chapters of the 2nd Bible course of correction. The lessons you taught me and the service you rendered me helpful me much in my spiritual growth. In the scripture we read that we are one in the body of Christ we are expected to be perfectly united in mind and thought. So the service you are giving leads from bare words to practical unity. It gives flesh blood and spirit to the skeleton. The holy words are enclosed in the books of the Bible. The words give life, if only we live according their messages. So praise God, you are productive branches the boundaries; politics and cultures of countries do not hinder our unity in Christ. Because we have one Lord, one faith, one baptism and one God the Father of all.

God bless you and Amen from Okubai,
your brother in Christ, Eritrea, E. Africa

Dear beloved in Christ,

May the good grace of the Lord be yours in abundance. Greetings to you in the mighty name of our Lord and compassionate father Jesus Christ. Who by His grace direction's given in life. I so much thank God for your life and ministry, for the strength He has given you to proclaim liberty to the captives and open of the prisons to them that are bound. Beloved, I thank God Almighty for all His light and glory he shine over my life. My life was totally transformed by our Lord Jesus Christ. My entire family and I were Muslims. I grew up very radical, I collaborated with some Muslims leaders to commit all source of atrocities against the Christians (especially the persecution of ministers of God). In March 28th 1997, on Esther day, I was send by the Imma of our mosque and other Muslim leaders to assassinate one minister of God who preached regular on our local television station. On my way to execute this mission the police caught me and I was send to jail. We were all doing this in order to stop the word of our Lord Jesus Christ not to be preached in our state. It was in jail I first heard the word of God. At first I was not happy with the evangelist, but when the word of God began to touch my life, I open up fully for him.

So, few months later I was finally bail by the Muslims leaders because they are highly influential in our society and they needed me to execute another mission for them, which I rejected immediately and tell them that I am now for Christ. They tried everything to win me back but I refused. Ever since I accepted Christ into my life. I have seen that I am not called for repentance only, but to preach and teach the word of God to the Muslims and other lost sinners like me. If we don't reach out to them in love and share the gospel with them, they will be increasingly radicalized by their fanatical mullahs and imams into committing heinous act against the Christians.

Beloved, truly my calling began to manifest and I continue to reach out for Christ. My team and I have visited so many Muslims communities and successfully delivered the good news to the people. But this last trip turned very sad when we visited Umokhu town about 57km away from our city. As we began to preach the gospel to the people of this community some group of Muslims radicals attacked us. We were seriously beating and two old members of my team died at the spot, our properties were burnt down including the place we fellowship. Five of us manage to escape with several injuries and pains. We were hospitalized for one month and two weeks. We thank God for His faithfulness to these noble souls who love Him even unto death.

Despite all this, our great joy is that numbers of souls won in this community are still very much in faith ready to know more of the word of God. Beloved we are highly in need of your help. During the attack our bibles were burn. Please kindly help us with three KJV/NIV Bibles, two Giant print bibles and books for my friends and I. Well we have about 78 numbers of poor Muslims converts who are highly in need of Bibles for their studies if you have any other Bibles available with you we will be happy to distribute them for their converts.

Yes I thank God, that He has used my friends and I as a marvelous tool for effective spiritual power to evangelized the heathens. We will appreciate your prayers and we will continue to pray for you and your ministry. Please we are hoping on you to have Bibles again to minister the word of God. Please try and write back soon. Thanks and God richly bless you until I hear from you again.

Yours in Christ love,
Brother J. Ogie
NIGERIA, W. Africa

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