

# Please Help Us!

GIJAPA is suffering like everyone else during these tough economic times! Our funds have fallen to an all time low -- \$20,000 in the past 3 months. We are not going to cancel any radio broadcasts for one month, so if you can give anything exta to bring us out of this slump, we would appreciate it so very much. Buying and mailing of Bibles is on hold also. May God bless you richly for all you give!

esus Is In The Midst

There are several times in the New Testament in various situations where you can find the statement that Jesus was in the MIDST as the center of attention.

# JESUS IN THE MIDST OF THE DOCTORS

The first one is in the gospel according to Luke in the second chapter Jesus is in the MIDST of the Doctors in Jerusalem.

Doctor Luke informs us that Mary and Joseph went up every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the Passover, and when Jesus was twelve years old, He also went up with them to the feast. On the journey back to Nazareth, the boy Jesus tarried behind at Jerusalem, and Mary and Joseph knew it not, but supposed Him to be in the company of kinfolk. So they went back to Jerusalem. Now that is always a good place to look for Jesus when you have lost him, go back to the place where you lost him. Sometimes Christians feel they are not as involved in the church as they were at one time. They may feel it is just not what it use to be. They feel as though they have lost something.

The Church at Ephesus had that problem. In Revelation two, Jesus told the Church at Ephesus they had left their first love. Jesus gave them the answer as to how to regain what they had lost, when He told them: "Remember therefore whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works." So if you notice that it just does not seem the same with your relationship with the Lord, go back to where you lost Him, and start over again. Follow the example of Mary and Joseph; go back to Jerusalem.

When they got there they found Him in the MIDST of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions. Jesus should always be in the MIDST in any theological, religious question. He has the answer to any question about salvation, the Christian life style, the Judgment Day, or about Heaven or Hell. Somewhere between that statement in Genesis verse one, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth;" and the last word in Revelation, "Even so come, Lord Jesus," you will find the answer. So let Jesus be always in the MIDST.

## JESUS IN THE MIDST OF TWO OR THREE

Another time when we find Jesus in the MIDST is in Matthew 18:20 Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name; there am I in the MIDST of them."

Jesus said where two or three are gathered together in My name sounds as if Jesus expects us to gather together in His name. In fact it must be very important to gather together in His name as we read the statement in Hebrew 10:25 where we are exhorted to neglect not the assembling of our selves together as the manner of some is, and so much the more as ye see the day drawing nigh. Then in Hebrew 10:29-30, the consequences of neglect is to trod underfoot the Son of God, count the blood of the covenant wherewith you were sanctified an unholy thing, and hast done despite to the Spirit of grace. And then verse 31, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." So on the Lord's Day when we gather together in the Lord's name, He will be in the MIDST of us.

#### JESUS IN THE MIDST ON THE CROSS

Again we read how Jesus was in the MIDST on the cross. In John 19 He tells us: "They took Jesus therefore: and He went out bearing the cross for Himself, unto the place called, the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha: where they crucified Him, and with Him two others, on either side one, and Jesus in the MIDST."

So look at the three crosses again: On one cross was the Saviour, on one cross was the sinner saved, and on the other cross was the sinner damned. Jesus was not slain on the altar in the temple where His blood mingled with the blood of lambs, He was slain on the cross, and His blood mingled with robbers, and murderers.

Jesus died in the MIDST numbered with all transgressors, so that we might be numbered among the redeemed on the pages of the Lamb's Book Of Life.

Luke reminds us that Jesus was regarded as such a dangerous character that when a choice had to be made as to whom should be crucified they released Barabbas who was a murderer, and voted to crucify Jesus. The people of the Holy City thought they were safer with a murderer running around loose than Jesus. Evidently Jesus is still regarded today as the most dangerous character on the planet. Prayers must not be prayed in public, or in school in Jesus' name. Modern day man is right; as long as Jesus is still in the MIDST of us in His Word, and the influence of His church; He is still the most dangerous enemy the Devil, and His followers have on this planet.

# JESUS IN THE MIDST IN JUDGMENT

And now look at Jesus in the midst of a case of Judgment. The Scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman taken in adultery and having set her in the MIDST, and on the basis of the Law of Moses asked Jesus to pass judgment on her. Jesus told them after writing on the ground, "He that is without sin among you let him cast a stone at her." He stooped down and wrote with His finger on the ground for a second time, and they went out one by one from the eldest of them unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman where she was in the MIDST.

But Jesus also said something else besides, "Neither do I condemn thee," He said, "Go, and sin no more." Sometimes if the guilty get off too easy they feel free to do their crime again, so Jesus said, "Don't do it again." Don't do it again, reminds us in principle of a similar statement of Paul regarding Christians who continue in sin after being buried with Christ in baptism when he said in Romans 6:2-3, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid. We who have died to sin, how shall we live any longer therein?"

#### JESUS IN THE MIDST OF HIS CHURCHES

Now once again we see Jesus in the MIDST of His Churches. In Revelation one we hear John say, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a great voice as of a trumpet saying, 'what you see write in a book and send unto the seven Churches.'" When John turned to see the voice that spake unto him he saw Jesus walking in the MIDST OF SEVEN GOLDEN CANDLESTICKS. Jesus identified the candlesticks as Churches, and Jesus is walking in the MIDST of them.

Jesus is very negative in His report. Five of the seven churches were told to repent, but then He said, "As many as I love I rebuke and chasten, be zealous therefore and repent." There were no differences in the life style of the Christians then, than the people who were pagans. This seems to be the way it is in many Churches today. People become members of the Church, and you cannot see any difference in them than anyone else.

I heard of a man one time that said he was a Christian, and he made this admission to a friend. He said, "I smoke, I cuss, I drink, in fact, I guess you could say I am a drunkard. I cheat on my wife, I am on drugs, I smoke pot, I gamble, but there is one thing I have never done, I have never given up my religion." Ladies and Gentlemen, I meet people like that every day.

As for as the faithful Christian is concerned in Revelation seven, "John saw a number no man could number who had come out of the great tribulation, washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." And John said: "The Lamb that is in the MIDST of the throne shall be their Shepherd, and shall guide them into fountains of waters of life: and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes." Now think about that, the Christian with Christ forever in the MIDST of eternal glory.



Dear Mr. Bousman,

I am writing for my blind friend with a question. Birhane enjoys your radio program very much. He has received the Bible and the lessons to complete. Presently he is in government university training and finds it very hard to find readers for all of the reading he is required to understand. The Gov. School does not give him Braille materials that he can read himself. Therefore he is requesting Braille materials from your ministry. Is it possible for you to send Braille? Thank you for your attention in this matter. Blessing, George from Eritrea, E. Africa

### George, I AM TRYING TO LOCATE HIM A BRAILLE BIBLE. I'll let you know what I find out. Ed

Dear Mr. Bousman, Thank you for your response on the Braille Bible. However, as I mentioned to Birhane about your response he reminded me that it would be much easier for you to find him a **TALKING BIBLE**. This is a devise that reads the Word to him in English. Braille is quite large and heavy. Thank you for your interest in this young man. He is working hard in school and shares his faith often with others in spite of the persecution believers face in this country. He was taken to the police by school officials because he was overheard witnessing to a fellow student. He was relieved hours later and warned the next time he would be sent to a forced labor area for some months. He continues sharing but is more careful. He has a pastor who gives him a home when he is not in school and friends give him money from time to time. He relies only on the Lord.

# Thank you, George (If anyone has the Bible on audio or CD and would like to give it to Birhane, I'll send it to him in Eritrea. Ed)

#### Dear Sir Ed,

I am receiving your magazines and CDs. Thank you so much. They are helping me a lot in sermon preparations as well as my studies with the scriptures. I appreciate so much for these simple but in-depth studies. There are some views now I did not consider before but now they are crystal clear. I am being encouraged as gospel preacher when someone asked me for a copy of my subject after service. Thank you so much, Sir Ed! For now I stopped listening with your CD sermons sent to me weekly as I bought some batteries to keep on but this time I have the difficulties to buy new ones. If possible I will buy an iPod to be connected on the player. The iPod has the ability to store voice record which can be downloaded in a computer and can be played in the CD player. With its help I can only download your weekly broadcast which is available on your GIJAPA website. Thank you for your wisdom in subscribing me to your written and vocal records of your preaching. May God keep on blessing you and to those who are behind your noble evangelistic work? Indeed, as the days of Paul, "Your faith is being spoken of through out the whole world!" Regards to your wife and to all the staff of GIJAPA and to Reg Rice. Tell them they are in my prayers.

Yours for the gospel here in the Philippines; Ed D.

### Hello Brother Bousman,

I have received the post today (3/7/08) at 10 AM local time. It had arrived on January 28, 2008 that is only three days after you sent it, but it was kept in the post office for clearance as we are restricted by government as to what all we can receive. I did receive the lessons and the Bible along with the GIJAPA newsletter. I am really grateful to your concern. May God bless you richly? May God give you more? Thank you.

Zerigabir from Eritrea, E. Africa

### Dear Brother Ed,

Greeting to you and hope that you are having a wonderful year. I pray that God will continue to watch you throughout the year. We have opened a house church in Messengers compound on Sunday the 24th February 2008. People who attended were 21, 9 men, 8 women and 4 children. We baptized two brothers, Steve M. and N. Musole. Singing was good and our first offering was k13.300 (3 dollars 25 cents). The community is open to receive the gospel. I will soon send you some pictures. Now I will be reporting the church growth every month. Please send us more Bible materials, pamphlets with new stickers of the new church. Pray for us because this is not our power but the work of the Holy Spirit (Psalm 118:23). I wish you all continued good health in the Lord's service.

With Christian love from your brother and fellow laborer, John Maseka, Zambia, S. C. Africa

### John emails again March 28th:

#### Dear Brother Ed,

I greet you in the blessed name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. My family and I are doing well. God has blessed us; our daughter has been selected to grade 10 this year. I am more than happy to inform you that the new church is doing fine. Right now we are waiting for the Bibles and tracts you sent to us, thanks so much. Our next step is for us to look for a worshipping place. My family and other Christians have given plenty of free time to preach the gospel. Thank you again for your genuine love and interest to continue blessing our community with Bibles, tracts, shoes and clothes. The brothers and sisters who are working with me send greetings to you. The Lord be with all of you and one thing more: pray for us.

*With much love from your brother John M. Zambia, S. C, Africa* 

#### Hi Ed Bousman and Naomi

GOD bless you and blessed your ministry. I am Fiori T. from Asmara, Eritrea I would like to start Bible study correspondence. I believe and hope to start this course with in the short period.

Your best regard Fiori from Asmera Eritrea, East Africa

#### Greetings,

Hope you are doing well and the weather is okay with you now? The weather here is still hot though there was a torrential rains last three days that destroyed many homes here. Hope everyone at GIJAPA is doing well too? Over here we are doing well and were at Agona Nkwanta yesterday with good results. We had three souls baptizing. 2 of them promised to worship with us temporally at Parkside Church of Christ till we start the church there for them. We are counting on the Lord for the start of this congregation. Ekow still goes to Fianko Sundays and Thursdays. We have three homes to run the Ed's sermon translation program this evening. We praying that the Lord opens a door for us for souls to be won for Him. We thank you so much for the help you are to us. May the good Lord bless you all.

Ike and Lee from Ghana, W Africa

## Beloved Ed and Naomi Bousman,

Praise be to God for your lives. I will please inform you when I receive the Bibles.

As for Bibles, we need more in this Muslim dominated country. I reach out every where and each day people begin to demand for their own copy of the Bible. Many in this country now see the importance of the Bible. The Radio ministry is doing wonders here. The used clothing and other materials served wonderfully on Sunday. The entire Church was very happy. Thanks in Jesus' Name, nice family. The Church here salutes you in the Lord.

Alexander Ofori, a servant of the Most High God from The Gambia, W. Africa

Dear Brother Bousman,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who is the head of my life. Right now I just want to thank God for making a way for me to meet this Evangelistic Association titled, "God Is Just a prayer Away." Thank you, God, as GIJAPA has truly been a divine blessing to my life. Today I can say from the heart, "It's not about us, it's about Jesus." He is the way, the truth and the life. May God bless you.

Brother Gregory G. from a prison in Brickeys, AR

Dear Evang. Bousman,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am an orphan and I converted to Jesus because of your program that I heard on Radio Africa called "God Is Just A Prayer Away." I need you to send me one Holy Bible with your Bible Study lessons. May God bless your work.

Yours sincerely Tunde from Nigeria, W. Africa

	08 M "Passing May		
Time	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:30 - 9:45	Camping is Available –	Singing	Singing
9:45-10:30		"Protect the Flock" Titus 1:5-16 Matthew Sullivan	"Follow The Right Guide II Tim. 3:10-17 Wade Allen
10:30-10:45	No Meals Provided	Break	Break
10:45-11:00	FIUVIUCU	Singing	Singing
11:00-11:45	No Registration or fee required	"Minister To All" Titus 2:1-15 Tony Sullivan	"Don't Quit" II Tim. 4:1-8 Kerry Allen
2:00-2:10	Singing	Singing	Evening Sessions
2:10-2:55	"A Father's Charge" II Tim. 1:3-14 Kendall Faull	"Do's & Don'ts" Titus 3:1-11 Mark Fugate	<ul> <li>Evening sessions are open for the whole family</li> <li>Worship led by Art Bush</li> <li>Steven Foster</li> <li>All Sessions will be available on CD &amp; DVD</li> </ul>
2:55-3:10	Break	Break	
3:10-3:15	Singing	Singing	
3:15-4:00	"A Son's Strength" II Tim. 1:15-2:13 Jeff Faull	"Life's Tough" II Tim. 3:1-9 Logan Fugate	
7:00-7:30	Singing	Singing	
7:30	"Be A Faithful Worker" II Tim. 2:14-26 George Faull	"Passing Along The Faith" Ed Bousman	



Lynchburg, Ohio 45142 Return Service Requested

**ED BOUSMAN** 

Evangelistic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 511