

GJJAPA



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GOD Is Just a Prayer Away

50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WLW	8:00 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WRFD	10:00 AM	880 Dial	Columbus, OH
KXEL	10:30 PM	1540 Dial	Waterloo, IA
WRVA	7:04 AM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WRVA	9:30 PM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WSM	7:00 AM	650 Dial	Nashville, TN
WIBC	7:30 AM	93.1 Dial	Indianapolis, IN
WHAS	7:30 AM	840 Dial	Louisville, KY
KAAY	9:30 PM	1090 Dial	Little Rock, AR
WMCL	8:30 AM	1060 Dial	McLeansboro, IL
WWVA	9:30 PM	1170 Dial	Wheeling, WV

Saturday

WOAI	10:30 PM	1200 Dial	San Antonio, TX
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Short Wave Radio

AFRICA:

Monday 7:00 PM
(1800 UTC) 7190 kHz on Dial

BEACON of HOPE N. AFRICA:

Sunday 8:30 PM
(1930 UTC) 6020 kHz on Dial

BIBLE VOICE EUROPE:

Sunday 8:00 AM
(0700 UTC) 5945 kHz on Dial

SRI LANKA INDIA:

Sunday 8:30 AM
(0800 UTC) 9770 kHz on Dial

BIBLE VOICE RUSSIA:

Sunday 8:00 PM
(2000 UTC) 6010 on kHz Dial

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

September 2008

Address all Mail: Ed Bousman, P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511

Issue 9

THE RIVER OF LIFE

Revelation 22:1-5

John said in Revelation 22:1-5 that the angel showed him a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. This water from the throne of God is the only water that completely satisfies the thirst of humanity. Jeremiah 2:13 says, "They have forsaken me the fountain of living water, and hewed out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." Jesus said to the woman at the well, "Every one who drinks of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." All of our hopes and dreams in this life for money, fame, or in great achievement; without that fountain of living water is a broken cistern that holds no water.

Shall we gather at the river
Where bright angel feet have trod?
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God. And he showed me a river.

THE TREE OF LIFE

The angel showed him the tree of life. And on this side of the river and on that was the tree of life bearing twelve manner of fruits, yielding its fruit every month. Genesis 2:9 informs us that God put the tree of life in the midst of the garden. After the fall of Adam and Eve, God drove out the man; and placed at the east of the Garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

No matter what plan mankind can develop to extend life beyond biblical limits will be met with the flaming sword that continues to turn every way to keep the way to the tree of life. In Psalms 90:10: "The days of our lives are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is it soon cut off, and we fly away."

I went to visit an elderly lady who lived alone; she met me at the back door, and as we walked through the kitchen, I saw a large Bible opened on the table. I said, "I see you have been reading the Bible." She said, "Yes, I want to find out more about where I am going." She was a wise lady; some folk have no idea where they are going when their flight takes off.

The Bible is the only place where your destination is mentioned. The faithful Christian can start vocalizing any time as we wait in eternity's intercelestial airport.

"Some glad morning when the sun will shine, I'll fly away.

To that home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away."

Only in Heaven can it be said, "And he showed me a river, and on this side and on that was the tree of life."

NO MORE CURSE

Another thing that was shown at the river that flows from the throne of God was the absence of the curse. There shall be no curse any more. The curse is in Genesis 3:17 when God said to Adam, "Because thou hast hearkened unto thy wife, and eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, that thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; for dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return."

For the Christian the curse has been called off. Then Paul says in Galatians 3:10, "Cursed be he that confirmeth not all things that are written in the law to do them." Paul says in Galatians 3:13 that the curse can be lifted: "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us; for it is written, cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree."

We are not left in doubt as to what it means that Christ

is the one who is cursed by hanging on a tree when Peter told the high priest in Acts 5, "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom ye slew hanging him on a tree. Him did God exalt to be a prince and a Savior, to give repentance to Israel and remission of sins." There shall be no more curse, there will be no more cancers, or aids, no more, crutches, or walkers, or oxygen bottles in heaven for those who gather at the river that flows from the throne of God.

THE THRONE OF GOD AND THE LAMB

When he showed me a river, He showed me the throne of God and of the Lamb. The best description of the throne of God is in Revelation four: "Behold a throne was set in heaven, and one sitting upon the throne; and He that sat was to look upon like a jasper stone and a sardius: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, like an emerald to look upon."

That rainbow circled throne brings to mind the rainbow that God placed in the heavens after the flood in the days of Noah. In the beginning God said, "I do set My bow in the clouds, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between Me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, and the bow shall be in the cloud: And I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh."

The rainbow in a complete circle around about that throne; reminds us that every promise that God has ever made to mankind will one day be fulfilled. Jesus tells us in Revelation 3:21, "He that overcometh, I will give to sit down with Me on My throne even as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."

On that day as we are invited to sit down with Jesus on His throne; we may say that there is something vaguely familiar about this throne. Then the Lord may tell us; "It should be familiar because you have been to this throne many times." Then we will remember the many times according to Hebrews 4:16 that we accepted the invitation to come boldly to the throne of grace to find grace and mercy in time of need. And He showed me a river.

SERVE HIM

And when He showed me a river, He also showed me that our lives in heaven would be one of service; we shall serve Him. There will still be more work to do. Heaven is going to be a busy place. It won't be like the song says:

"I'll go where the loud hallelujahs are ringing,
But I will not take part in their singing
Then weep not for me, friends, if death do us sever
For I'm going to do nothing for ever and ever."

No it won't be that way; we are going to be busy. We are going to serve.

If we are going to serve Him in heaven, it is necessary that we serve Him while on this planet. Jesus gives us a word of encouragement when He tells us in John 12:26, "If any man serve Me, let him follow Me, and where I am, there shall also My servant be."

In our service we need to be aware of what Jesus said about service in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew

6:24: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one and despise the other." In other words it is easy to serve the Lord for a couple hours on Sunday, and then serve the Devil all week. Somewhere I have heard it said: "I want to be more than a 'Sunday go to meeting' Christian." Joshua 24:15 challenged us WHEN HE SAID, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." And he showed me a river.

HIS NAME

When He showed me a river He shows John those who are serving will see His face, and His name shall be written on their foreheads. We shall see His face. I would like to have seen the face of Jesus as He was as a babe in Bethlehem. I would like to have seen the face of Jesus as a boy of twelve as the doctors were amazed at His questions, and answers in the Temple at Jerusalem. I would like to have seen His face when He took the cup and gave to them saying, "This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many unto the remission of sins." I would like to have seen His face when He gave the apostles the Great Commission, when He said, "God ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." But best of all is when we see His face in all the glory of heaven.

Face to face with Christ my Savior
Face to face what will it be?
When with rapture I behold Him
Jesus Christ who died for me. And he showed me
a river.

NIGHT NO MORE

Then He showed me that there would be night no more: and they need no light of lamp, neither light of sun; for the Lord God giveth them light. Jesus said in John 8:12, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life."

Without Christ you are walking in the dark. Darkness cannot be confined between sunset and sunrise. You can be walking outside at high noon and not a cloud in the sky, and without Christ you are walking in the dark. How dark is it? It is dark like the ninth plague that fell on Egypt. A darkness that could be felt. Darkness like the chains of darkness that bound some of the fallen angels in Jude 6. Hell is going to be a dark place. Only in heaven will there be light.

One night when I was a child, my dad told me to go into another room and bring him something. I told him I would not do it, because it was dark, and the boogie man would get me. He said, "Go ahead, the boogie man won't get you because Santa Claus threw him in the river." Then I was brave enough to go in. And he showed me a river.

REIGN

Finally when He showed him the river, John said "And they shall reign forever and ever." If we are going to reign with Him forever and ever it is needful that we reign over our selves while here on earth.

And then Paul gives us fair warning in Romans 6:4, "We were buried therefore with Him through baptism unto

death; that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.” And then in the 12th verse he continues: “Let not sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey the lusts thereof.” The question that plagues us all; is sin reigning over us, or are we reigning over sin? According to John, the victorious Christian shall reign with Him forever and ever.

The term forever and ever is found about nineteen times in the New Testament. Seventeen times it refers to the glory, praise, and power of God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Then there is a one-time reference concerning the Devil in Revelation 20:10: “And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where are also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be tormented day and night forever and ever.” And then the last and final time forever and ever is mentioned in the New Testament is when it refers to the redeemed, “And they shall reign forever and ever.” And he showed me a river.

LETTERS

Report From Ike & Lee

It is still raining but we go through it most of the times due to the ponchos to work without problems. We thank you for the ponchos. Ed’s sermon translation is still doing very well here. Last Friday we talk to some people at the hospital whilst waiting for the doctor’s report and we handed over some tracts to them and two of them called back to tell us that they worshiped with the Usawam Road congregation last Sunday. We were so glad to hear that and called one of the elders to inform him about these two and asked that they visit them, which he agreed to. We are following them too, to make sure that they are baptized. We shall also enroll them in the lessons. Thank you so much. The Fianko Church was one year old July 1, 2008; we celebrated Sunday July 6, 2008 with 64 adults and over 40 children. Most of the brethren couldn’t attend church service but we had 2 baptisms. One of the women who baptized was a fetish priest but praise the Lord she left her god to serve our living God. PTL!!! Fianko is growing and more people are joining the church with many traveling for work in the big cities.

The brethren from Agona Nkwanta are still worshipping with us at The Park Side Church of Christ at Bawjiase whilst we getting ready to start or plant the church there.

The enthusiasm at this small congregation that we call the “Unexpected Church” that meets under a tree, is more than too high that we just don’t know how to describe it. The nearby church has agreed to assist with a little support from us but the church is saying that, they will soon do everything on their own, which we agree and believe that they can. Please, when you pray, pray for this church. We are still astonished over how people are giving themselves to Christ through The Truth/GIJAPA soul wining work. We are saying so because it has never been that easy having people giving themselves to baptism almost every week. We thank God for all He is doing through the work we are doing here. The clothes, the lessons, the radio broadcast sermon translation and the approach of presenting the

gospel to the people play a major role in this mass souls wining exercise apart from the grace and power of God. We thank GIJAPA for the several thousands of Bibles mailed to us for the work here. We are still receiving them and we need them and will need them the more. More Bibles in our local languages too have been bought and distributed and we still need more as the people can use both the local and English languages Bibles.

We still receive more requests for lessons from serious and responsible people and are taking the lessons with all seriousness. We still have more lessons to mail to Ed and Naomi as lessons mailed even in 2005 are still being return for grading. We praise the lord for the work though these lessons, as this is a major part of our soul-winning mission. We thank every one for his love and compassion for the work for the Lord.

May God bless you all

Sermon Saves Ten at Funeral

Dear Brother Ed Bousman.

May our Lord Jesus Christ be magnified. May he continue to bless you with strength, age and most importantly with spiritual insights....AMEN!!!

Let me share this news with you. On July 19th 2008, I preached a funeral over the remains of one of my Elders of Triumph Church of Christ in Monrovia. I prayed for two days for the Lord to show me right message to deliver to win souls on this occasion and the Lord led me to preach from one of your sermon books titled “57 Sermons and Illustrations Vol.11.

I used your text Isaiah 38:1 on page 22. The Theme “SET YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER; FOR YOU SHALL DIE AND NOT LIVE” was what I used. It was a short message, just 20 minutes. I only paraphrased the entire sermon and gave it to the audience. The Holy Spirit used your sermon thru me to the people at the funeral at Triumph Church of Christ that day. Sinners shed tears Brother Ed, especially when I talked about the unexpected visitation of the great Land Lord to require from us the kind of lives we live in this world. In short, ten persons gave their lives to the Lord as a result me “borrowing” your sermon to preach on that occasion. Keep the good work, Brother Ed. The Lord has your reward in Glory.

In Christ. Mike Foday; LIBERIA, W. Africa

Dear Brother Ed Bousman,

I thank God for this wonderful opportunity to be able to write to you today from the US itself in Michigan. Actually I have been listening to your Radio Broadcast over the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Station which I get to hear on Sundays at 8:30 in the mornings right in my home at Dharwar City in Karnataka State, INDIA.

We are a family of born again believers in Jesus Christ having come from a strong Catholic background and in these difficult times when we do not have proper believers churches to attend your radio programs have been a tremendous help, support and encouragement in our spiritual lives and a great blessing to us all.

As I am visiting my son here in Michigan, I am overwhelmed at this opportunity to communicate to you what a

tremendous blessing your program has been to me and my family out there in India. Kindly uphold us in your prayers and also please pray for my son and his family too here in the US. I would be thankful if you could please send me a copy of your Gospel Bible Lessons and any other literature.

Marlene D.

Uncle Ed and all,

Thank you for your story of THE CENTURION in one of your most recent newsletters (June). I used this in a communion devotion—Hands To Heaven, it received rave reviews! Thank you and God bless. You are just preaching your prime! PS And by the way, E.B. still rocks!

Mark from Grand Island, NE

Hello Brother Bousman,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am now in Christ. I have recently confessed my sins and asked for forgiveness and been baptized. I am currently in prison and was told y'all would send me a Bible along with a Bible Study course that I could get involved in. Please let me know what I need to do to participate in your program. I am ready to learn and anxious to get started. If y'all have any Giant Print Bibles, I would greatly appreciate one as I love to read. Thank you for any help y'all can provide and God bless you. Yours in our Lord and Savior's name Jesus Christ.

Your brother in Christ, Raymond from Brickey, AR

Dear Ed Bousman:

Today I listened to your Radio Broadcast "God Is Just A Prayer Away" on Bible Voice Broadcasting on shortwave 5945 Khz. Sunday morning at 08:00 Uk time. This was lovely because I haven't heard the broadcast for many years.

I shall listen in on a regular basis now I know where to find it. Could I please request the free book of Gospel lessons and ask to be enrolled in the Bible Correspondence

Course.

God Bless Chris O. from S. Yorkshire, United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Bousman:

In the 1970s while I was in high school in Iowa, I was the only person in my youth group. I used to hear you on the radio. You were a big influence in my life as you preached the gospel as it was in the days of the Apostles. It was great! I went to Bible college and became a minister of the Gospel and then graduated from Cincinnati Bible Seminary. I have taught in three of our Bible colleges. I later earned my doctorate and now teach at Valencia Community College in Orlando, Florida.

I teach Greco-Roman History where I teach New Testament Christianity as it was taught in the days of the Apostles as part of Roman history.

I have a good number of enemies at the college for teaching New Testament Christianity in a secular college. I cannot preach, but I do teach them about Christianity and how to become a Bible Christian.

I wanted to say thank you for being a part of my life. Please forgive me for not doing so for so many years.

I am close to completing a book. I have attached chapters on baptism and on the history of baptism. In it is every scripture and how to answer denominational critics. I also found that in the ancient world an infant was up to 14 years old—which is very important in the matter of "so-called" infant baptism. I document where and why babies had water poured or sprinkled on them and bizarre practices such as baptism in blood, salvia, and even beer. It also documents where Reformers like Martin Luther, John Calvin and Zwingli all say that baptism is by immersion, but then contradictorily say that it doesn't matter. If you can use any of the material in your preaching, please do so. Once again, thank you for helping me as a young high school student hear preaching as it was preached in the days of the apostles.

Best wishes, Jeffery D.



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