

Tribute to Ed October 1, 1918 - May 16, 2011



Ed Bousman age 92 of Lynchburg, Ohio died Monday morning, May 16, 2011 at his home. He was born October 1, 1918 in Matewan, West Virginia the son of the late William Edward and Delpha Smith Bousman.

Services were held 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 21st at the Allensburg Church of Christ, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142. Lee Mason and Bob Stevens officiated.

He had received his Bachelors Degree from the Cincinnati Bible College and Seminary and his Masters Degree in Communications from Xavier University. Mr. Bousman was a Radio and Television Evangelist for forty-nine years and had served in the ministry for over sixty-eight years. His ministry started in 1943. He served the Churches of Christ in Genntown, Ohio, Hollowtown, Ohio, Hartford, Kentucky, Lynchburg, Ohio, Allensburg, Ohio and for a short time at Marshall, Ohio. Ed would have celebrated his fiftieth year in radio evangelism, with his "God Is Just A Prayer Away" program, this November 18th. In 1997 he started a shortwave radio program, Bible Voice, Europe reaching all countries throughout Europe including Russia. Also in 1997 he began Shortwave Radio Africa reaching over 140 million English-speaking people in three former British Colonies, Nigeria, Ghana and Cameroons. In 1999 he started broadcasting into India by the Super-Power Radio Sri Lanka-Giant of Asia. This broadcast reached India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Nepal; Sri Lanka in the local language English reaching out to over one billion people. In 2003 "GIJAPA" began broadcasting into Western Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, Czech Republic and Bulgaria by means of the powerful 100,000 watt transmitter-Bible Voice Russia. In 2006 he began broadcasting to a potential audience of 344 million by way of the Beacon of Hope-N. Africa transmitter covering Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Sudan. He was known world wide and his work is heard today in ten U.S. Cities and five short-wave broadcasts that serve, Africa, Beacon of Hope N. Africa, Bible Voice Europe, Sri Lanka India and Bible Voice Russia as well as the radio stations WLW, Cincinnati, Ohio, KXEL, Waterloo, Iowa, WRVA, Richmond, Virginia, WIBC, Indianapolis, Indiana, WHAS, Louisville, Kentucky, KAAY, Little Rock, Arkansas, WDOC, Prestonsburg, Kentucky and WWVA, Wheeling, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Naomi Angel Bousman whom he had married on December 18, 1982 at the Madeira Church of Christ, one daughter, Melanie (Joe) Rightmyer of Holtville, Alabama, one son, Eric (Tina) Vail of Edgewood, Kentucky, three grandchildren, Amanda (Alex) Rosen, Emily Vail and Cassandra (Jessie) Atwell, two nieces, Ann (Wayne) Johnson of Newport News, Virginia, Nancy (Jon) Bravinder of St. Louis Park, Minnesota and several great nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Roberta on July 4, 1980, one sister, Lucille Livesay and one brother, Jay Bousman. Memorial Contributions may be made to the "God Is Just A Prayer Away" Radio Broadcast, P. O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142.

LETTERS TO Naomi & family

Hi Naomi,

Just wanted to send a note and say how sorry we are but also rejoicing as Ed is now home and no more "poking and prodding" going on. You must be exhausted too. We are continuing to lift you all before our wonderful Father, who knows all things. So glad Melanie and Eric could be with you, as I'm sure that was a blessing for you and Ed both.

We'll see you Friday at the church. Bob would be honored to be a pallbearer for his hero!!!

Take care and our love, Martha and Bob Feathers

Naomi & Family,

I live in the Buford area (a niece of Lela Mae & Dannie Hess) and have been listening to Ed Bousman for many years at Family Camp in Hillsboro....I can still recall some of his sermon topics by name (Will It be a Sunrise or a Sunset) and his dramatic preaching. The Lord has blessed countless thousands upon thousands through his life including mine. His memory of scripture was inspiring and his spirit was beautiful. I know heaven must be rejoicing as Paul, Moses, David and so many others are welcoming another great man of God home. Prayers for you and your family. (I attend the Union Church of Christ and was pleased to have GIJAPA as our VBS Mission a couple of years ago. Ed & Naomi were so kind to give us t-shirts for the kids and we in kind were able donate several Bibles. Praying his ministry will go on for many more years).

With heartfelt sympathy in your loss, Darla J. Louderback

Words fall short as tears grace my eyes on hearing of Ed's passing into the hands of our Lord. My prayers are directed in the family's favor as they are for the time being separated from this lovely child of God. I appreciated so, the sounds of Ed's voice speaking of the Word in a delivery which had the comfortable certainty of an age seemingly gone by in this world. In Richmond Virginia I was greeted by a strong yet humble voice lilting from the radio as I awoke many Sundays. Ed did not sugar coat nor embellish his message but presented it in such an appealing manner. His accent revealed, I think, his roots in WV and a familiarity with the "down home basics" of a brand of sincere home-grown Christian community that seems so lacking today.

I pray that the work of Ed shall well continue with those who have worked so earnestly on our Lord's behalf in so special a ministry and that the example of his leadership and stewardship may he held as a firm standard in the face of the "societal flexibilities" which seem to so permeate and taint many churches throughout this and many lands.

I thank The Lord that I have grown to be one who could appreciate Ed instead of mocking him as I had been one such at one time. I must say that I read the updates and found my prayers heavily weighted toward those who loved Ed so, those truly very close to him. I had no illusions and knew it just a matter of time for Ed, as it is for us all - his was just closer than many. GIJAPA..... God is Just a Prayer Away, I guess it sinks in just a bit differently today. Thank you all for you efforts and prayers for so many, I pray that the Lord may underscore the joys plainly for you in these upcoming days. *God bless - Scott Josenhans*

Praise God that you are all home! This will be good for Ed's healing. We are keeping up with all of your updates and our church is praying for you all.

Crystal McDormand Westport Church of Christ Westport, Brier Island, Nova Scotia Canada Hi Naomi and Ed,

I am so sorry for the multiple burdens you are carrying. Your lives have been walks of faith. The road you are traveling is rocky and long, so very long! I am so sorry that your months have been filled with disappoints. This has given the Lord's Body an opportunity to labor on behalf of a couple of God's front-line soldiers. Because you both have always led the way, you have encountered enemies, that are strong. You've both been so positive and your faith, has surely encouraged our family. We are still in the battle today, because of Ed and Naomi Bousmans' prayers and support. You make be glad to be a part of the fellowship of the burning hearts. Thanks for keeping your eyes on the love and power of Jesus Christ. Because of your walk, we are all still running for the glory of the Lord and seeking the souls of dying men and women, w/o Jesus. THANKS!

Danny, Carmen, Jay Hilliard Church of Christ, Hilliard, OH

The news is spreading like wildfire tonight that Ed may be meeting his glorious Maker soon! Thanking God for the millions that have been challenged by way of GIJAPA! Wondering how many thousands have obeyed Acts 2:38 because of his dynamic preaching and GIJAPA! <u>May it never end!</u> Prayers going up tonight (5/14/11)..as they do every night! *Larry Fields*

Ed is constantly on my mind and in my prayers as well as all his family. It was 27 years ago this month when I first heard a sermon of his on the modern day tongue movement. I have listened to him very often since that day. No one man has influenced me more in my Christian faith in the 27 years I've been a Christian. I wish he could stay here another 27 years. I remember taking off from work to hear him preach about 20 years ago because I thought it might be the last chance I get. God has truly blessed this world through this ministry. Ed, I love you.

Bob Bricker Wilmington, DE

Thanks folks for the update. Good talking to you the other evening. We still have you folks on the prayer list. Wish there was more we could do for you folks - fellow servants.

Lots of love to all from Canada- Lou Outhouse

Dear Naomi,

I'm sure you don't know me but I grew up in Hillsboro and was a member of the Hillsboro Church of Christ. I can't begin to tell you how many sermons I've heard Ed preach or how many of his radio broadcasts I've heard. We'll just say, A LOT. I always got a lot out of each and every sermon. I can still hear his voice today!!!

I moved to Cincinnati in 1978 to teach in Cincinnati Public Schools. I retired in '08 but still live in the Anderson Twp./Cherry Grove area. Not very long ago I was awake early on a Sunday morning and turned the radio on - not wanting to get up. It was set on WLW, I believe. Much to my surprise, I heard Ed's voice. For the next few Sundays, I set my alarm so I could get up and listen to his sermons before I began my day. I miss the sermons and services of my younger days. In my thinking, there are few ministers nowadays who can deliver a sermon like Ed Bousman and Paul Jones. I don't like the way church is evolving. I miss the old hymns, the reverence of the service, etc. I'm not an old prude but I'm very disappointed with today's Christian churches. I can't seem to find one that is not so much "of the world". Makes me sad.

Please know my thoughts and prayers are with Ed, you and your family during this time. I pray that conditions improve with health care providers and that they become a greater asset to you.

May God Bless and Keep You Always, Helen Milligan

Dear sister Naomi,

We do understand the great pains that brother Ed Bousman is under going and your feelings my sister Naomi. I am praying for you sister Naomi, that, out of God's glorious riches, He may strengthen you with power through the holy spirit in your inner being as you are nursing brother Ed Bousman. We have continued to pray for brother Ed, that, God keep him safe from the pains. May God protect brother Ed, from all the pains by His power. It is His will that we seek, in Jesus's name. We are not putting our will above your will, O God. We are not insisting on our will be done. We are not dictating you mighty God. Rather we are praying for your will, but yours be done. Lord, we are aware that, sickness is another way that you use to call us home and be will you. As born again christians, we also think † about the future, about heaven. More than ever, everyone in this sinful world look forward to that day. Our Father in Heaven, we thank you for what you are going to do. It is your will that we seek in Jesus's name. Amen.

Your servant, John Maseka, Evangelist - Zambia, Africa

Dear Madame Naomi, Madame Melanie, Sir Eric, & To The Rest Of The Family: It is of Great Regret & Sadness to learn today on the demise of our Ed Bousman! Our last update from Melanie anticipates "few days" for Ed, & we too have to succumb by heart on the will of God for Ed as you yourselves did after about a couple months of battling his health. On our meeting with local churches last Sunday we bursted into tears of surrender in our prayers... with the wrestling thought that an Exceptional Man of Heart & Mind has gone out from our side & from the churches of the Lord! Ed has turned into his Global Career by Praying the Impossible, & he is joining now with his Master to such an Ultimate Blessing. But alas he is a Man of Faith who "... still speaks, even though he is dead." (Heb. 11:4) He is quite ready for This Day as he joins & labors in a Prophetical Truth with the Son of God on the Kernel of Wheat that "... if it dies, it produces many seeds."

(Jn. 12:24-25). He literally has with us his books, radio CD sermons, GIJAPA cloth gifts, bibles & literatures, & not to mention the Unheard Recorded Sermons CDs that he prepared in advance to be aired around the world for the next five(5) years if God allowed. These are material evidences of his willingness to work with the people of God after he is gone. And to you the bereft family of our Ed Bousman, my family & I with our whole local churches in the Philippines are joining you by heart & spirit for the void of Sadness that it has created on his absence. We are surrendering by great wailing but we have immense hope as you do that he has gone now to his eternal rest & joined with myriads of saints whom God "will bring with Jesus" on His great appearing. Our Ed is literally a great loss & be missed immensely on this side of Heaven but we are greatly looking forward to see him personally for the first time on that Great Day! (I Thess. 4:13-18). Meanwhile, we are so much impressed with your positive outlook & with the assurance to keep on with the work of saving lost souls. We are then hoping with You GIJAPA on the greater & multiplying impact of our Ed Bousman as he falls & rests with our Master Jesus. This is certainly the next episode in the life of Ed Bousman here on earth that liken to the kernel of wheat that falls on the ground but will multiply. May God be with you & give you strength as you lay the body of our beloved Ed Bousman into it's final resting place. Our sincerest & immense love & condolence to all of you!

Ed Domingo, The Philippines

Dear Naomi,

On behalf of the New Testament church in Liberia and

Sierra, Leone I want you to please extend our condolence to the family of the late EVANGELIST ED BOUSMAN. We all love him but our LORD loves him the best. *In Christ, Mike Foday*

Dear Naomi,

My name is Bryan Forbes. I am the current minister here at the Bellbrook Church of Christ; Bellbrook, Oh.. I was the Worship leader here back in the late 90's when I had the pleasure of meeting you and Ed for the 1st time. I am 41 years old and have attended Family Camp since I was a baby, but I had never met Ed personally until he preached here. I was and am very proud and blessed to have known Ed. I know this church body has been blessed by the GIJAPA ministry for many, many years.

We are truly saddened by the news of Ed's passing. However, I want you to know that ALL of you have been in our prayers since we heard that Ed went into the hospital. Please know that our prayers for you and the various ministries will continue. I can tell you that Family Camp will never be the same, but I know that God will continue to touch lives through the work that you and Ed have done. You both have been faithful laborers for the Master and for the Kingdom of Heaven. I also know that God will continue to bless you and I pray His comfort for you and the rest of the family during this difficult time.

In Him, Bryan Forbes, Minister

Dear Naomi,

The song, "If You Could See Me Now" makes me think of Ed! I can't imagine how glorious happy he was when his faith became sight. When Jesus comes back for His Saints, Ed will get to come back with Him. My love and prayers are for you and your family Naomi. You loved him into eternity. I can think of no better love from a wife to a husband. I love you. I have been thinking of you always and praying. I know half the country is praying for you and that's quite a statement of your life and Ed's. I love you and wish I could take away your sorry. Debbie Colian

Hi Naomi,

My heart is breaking with you, I'm so sorry. I used to car pool with a fellow who had most of Ed's sermons recorded on cassette, and he would force me to listen to them as we drove back and forth from work. I was a hardened sinner, and wasn't much pleased that I had to listen to the messages. However, Ed's messages somehow managed to open my heart to the things of God, and as a result, I turned my life over to Christ, and was baptized at the Jamestown Church of Christ by Keith Wise. Ed had a profound impact on my world view and also in the way I presented the Gospel to others. I am often accused of being too rigid and legalistic in my interpretation of Scripture - which I consider to be the greatest of compliments. Ed taught me that to distort the meaning of Scripture is to distort the character of God, and almost thirty years later, it is still the foundation that I teach and share on.

I never knew Ed as a friend, but loved him as one. His messages saved my life. I know Ed would not want us grieving, but rejoicing in his victory. "O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?" *In Christ, With love, Dean Wescott*

Dear Family of Ed,

Will be praying for you all. Ed was here in upstate New York, years ago, when Ray Schuh served here also. He was such a vibrant man. Loving the Lord & serving Him faithfully. Thank you for sharing him with us. *Love in Christ, Ben & Cherie Tietjen*

Dear Naomi & Family,

I know you must be receiving hundreds of calls & emails...So, I'll be brief... We love you, and are keeping you and

all the family in Prayer...Ed will surely be missed by us all... But, you have been way more than just his other half... Ed could not have continued these last 3 decades without you by his side... And, I know he was your life... God bless and keep you!

Love You! Bro. Bob Wickline; Bethel, OH

Melanie, we were so sorry to hear of your loss but we know he is with the Lord for eternity now. As you know he was a Timothy of Northside Church of Christ. Our Senior Minister, Larry Jones remembers Mr. Bousman's radio program well and Ann and Wayne Johnson are members of our congregation. Could you please send me the details of arrangements when they are complete and an address that people can send their condolences? Many blessings and please let me know of there is anything we can do for you and your family here at Northside. *Yorktown, VA*

Dear Naomi,

Our heartfelt condolences to you. We all love you. Be brave. Love Ruby Alleppa; Chattisgargh India

Marilyn and I are praying for you Naomi, and for all the family. I just heard the news this afternoon, and we rejoice with Ed, and weep with you. May the Holy Spirit comfort you and all whose lives are profoundly touched by Ed and you - including ours. We have special memories of our times together especially at Family Camp, the Tribute night at Wilmington, being in your home, and traveling together to Greece, the Greek Isles and Italy. What a joy that was. Ed's powerful preaching in Athens still rings in my ears - and the affirmation by another minister on the tour who told him "Brother Ed, that's the best sermon I've ever heard!" Not bad from a Baptist!

How we all appreciate Ed's faithfulness to the Word and his love for New Testament Christianity. No-one can replace him, but I pray that multitudes will rise up to follow his example. And, as the apostle of old, may many follow him as he followed Christ! Marilyn and I will be in prayer for you in the days ahead. If there is anything we can do to help, please let us know!

Your friends in Jesus, David & Marilyn Stokes

Naomi,

May God be praised for his long life of service to our Lord and may you be rewarded for your being a wonderful helpmate and your family be rejoicing that they were able to serve him so well in the end. I would not bring him back to this sin cursed world from the place where he is now comforted and enjoying the fruits of a faithful life to the one who saved him by His grace.

Only eternity will reveal what this great leader in God's Israel accomplished with that great voice that God bestowed upon him for His service. I do not see another of of his caliber on the horizon. Let us pray that He will raise one up.

Your brother in Christ, George L. Faull



One of the last things Ed said to Naomi was: "Keep GIJAPA going as long as you can, remember we have enough sermons ready to air for 5 years." The Ed Bousman Family and GIJAPA trustees wants all the contributors -Churches & individuals - to know that GIJAPA will continue on as long as funds come in. In addition to mailing your contributions in, you can give at www.gijapa.org through Paypal! Save November 19, 2011 for a very special Tribute to Ed Bousman's 50 years broadcasting!



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