



GOD Is Just a Prayer Away

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

50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WLW	8:00 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, 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
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
WDOC	7:45 AM	1310 Dial	Prestonburg, KY
WWVA	9:30 PM	1170 Dial	Wheeling, WV

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

February 2012 Address all mail: Ed Bousman Evangelistic Assoc., P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511 Issue 2

Remembering February 14, 1943 It all began 69 years ago!

February 14th, Valentine's Day, 1943 I got off the bus at Genntown, Ohio, a village outside of Lebanon, Ohio. I was to preach a trial sermon for the Church there. Actually it was a congregational building, but some Church of Christ people were using it. It was a cold day and the snow was deep. When I walked into the building about two hours early, one of the elders was there building a fire in the pot-bellied stove. He looked up with a rather dour look and I could tell he wasn't expecting much and he wasn't going to get much. The Sunday school teacher was sick that day; I was appointed to teach. The lesson was from John chapter ten. My professor at Cincinnati Bible Seminary had taught all week on liberalism of the world and I used his words as I taught the Sunday school class and they thought it was great.

The sermon I had was going to last about ten minutes. People like short sermons, but not that short. I had been going to school for four years and all my contemporaries were preaching and I was desperate to start. It was the weakest church of the weakest and I was the weakest preacher of the weakest. They had several men trying out before me and had rejected them and they were not expecting too much. So here I was with a ten minute sermon. The incident that saved the day for me was the fact that the pianist had to catch a train somewhere around twelve noon and consented to stay and play on the condition that I would preach a short sermon. When I got up to preach my ten minute sermon, I informed the people that I would have to cut the sermon short that day, because the pianist had to catch a train and then I preached the ten minute sermon I was going to preach anyway. On the basis of that sermon they called me to preach for the Genntown Church. The Lord knows what He is doing. I'm sure I would never have been called to that Church had the pianist not had to catch

a train. I had been there about four months and the elder, the one with the dour look, told me of another half-time Church over in Highland County that needed a preacher. He had written them and told them of me and told me they expected me to come for a trial sermon on the second Sunday of June and that brings us to the next segment of my ministry.

HOLLOWTOWN, OHIO

When I arrived at Hollowtown I learned that no one had received a letter and they were not expecting me. However, since they were fresh out of a preacher, they asked me to preach anyway. They were not sure they wanted me, so they asked me to come back again and after about three times, they decided to call me to that pulpit half-time. They paid me twelve dollars a week. It was at Hollowtown that I conducted my first funeral. One of the largest funerals I ever had. It was during World War II and a lady had gone to Hillsboro to give blood and died. Because she was young and had many friends and because of the circumstances it was a big funeral. The building was full and many more standing outside. I was at a loss as to how to perform. I had only attended two funerals in my life and now I was to conduct one, and the biggest at that. On the way to the funeral, there were two deacons driving me to the service. I asked them what I was supposed to do. They assured me that I would do alright. One of them said, "When you get up there just conduct the funeral service like you would an ordinary church service, the only thing to remember is you don't holler as loud at a funeral as you do in a church service."

Those were the only instructions I ever had about conducting funerals. "Don't holler as loud." I was at Hollowtown for a year and a half. On the day I announced

that I was leaving, one of the elders was muttering something on the front row. I couldn't tell what he was saying, so I asked him what it was. He said, "We are nothing but a wiener", we wear them and then some other Church gets them." He was right. Many of the small country churches were nothing but "wieners". They wear a young preacher so that he can go to a Bigger place. The small country church renders a great service to the Lord this way. A preacher has to start somewhere, so praise the Lord for "wieners". Thirty years later, I reminded them that they were "wieners". But if they were "wieners" in the words of a well known hot dog advertisement in the Midwest, they are the wiener the world awaited. Meanwhile back at the ranch. It was about September of 1943, eight months after the memorable ten minute sermon at Genntown, the opportunity came to reach half-time at Hartford, Kentucky. I was resigning and would now preach half-time at Hollowtown and half-time at Hartford, Kentucky. That brings us to the next segment.

HARTFORD, KENTUCKY

I was at Hartford for one year exactly, only half-time. They paid me twenty-five dollars a week and it took thirteen of it to ride the train down there and back to Cincinnati, OH. By the way, the treasurer's name was Jessie James. At Hartford I realized the sin of denominationalism. A group of young people were walking down the street one night after services - the youth minister of the Methodist Church, some of the young people from that congregation and some from the Christian Church. One of the Methodist girls grabbed me and told me to kiss her. She was a very pretty Methodist, so I did even as she said. The next day one of the girls in the Christian Church told me that it did not look good for the Christian preacher to kiss a Methodist - I should confine such attentions to Christian girls. I agree, as far as the Methodists are concerned they kiss alright, it is their baptism that I don't like. So much for Hartford. I left on my birthday, the first day of October and walked three miles with my suitcase from Hartford to Beaver Dam to catch the train for Cincinnati and that brings us to another segment of this saga.

LYNCHBURG, OHIO

Now remember at this point, I am still half-time at Hollowtown in Highland County, Ohio. It was during a revival at this place that the Church at Lynchburg was looking for a preacher and one of the deacons came over to check me out and told the Church about me and I went for a trial sermon. I preached on baptism in the morning and Samson at night. It is appropriate at this point to say something of the providence of God and how He works in our lives. While at Hollowtown and attending the Cincinnati Bible Seminary, one day I walked down the hill from the campus to catch a bus on Glenway Avenue. Just as I emerged from the hill to the street, a car came by and the driver, a student in the Seminary, picked me up to go downtown. He asked me if I wanted a job. I said, "Yes." He said, "You can have mine, I'm quitting today." He took me to the Pepsi Cola Company and I was hired by the boss' secretary. Her name was Roberta, my first wife, who wrote the theme

song for the radio broadcast "God Is Just A Prayer Away". She passed away July 4, 1980. If I had not come down that hill from the Seminary at that moment, I would never met her. My life would have been very different, I'm sure. Without her I would never have been on the radio—GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY. I was in the right place at the right moment. God must be working in our lives. Another case of the providence in our lives was the night the deacon came from Lynchburg to check me out. The other members of the pulpit committee had gone somewhere else. This one man and his wife came to Hollowtown. We spent eighteen years and eight months at Lynchburg. It was while I was there that we built our denominational house. We call it our denominational house because we had plans for the house and then did not pay any attention to the plans. I wanted to build a house for four-thousand dollars and it took four years to do it. Every few weeks, we decided to change something. It is out of shape. It has no evident plan of structure; no one would deliberately start out to build a house like it. Just look at my house and you can see the sin of denominationalism. We have a Baptist living room, a Catholic kitchen, etc. More could be said, but we will let it rest. And now another segment began only three miles away.

ALLENSBURG, OHIO

Allensburg was a ministry that ran concurrently with the work at Lynchburg. I started there about three or four years after going to Lynchburg and stayed on about four years after leaving Lynchburg. They are only three miles apart. In the peak years the attendance at Lynchburg averaged about 360 per Sunday and 170 at Allensburg. I preached the sermon at Allensburg at 9:30 A.M. before going to Lynchburg for the Sunday school and Church service. Allensburg had their communion and Sunday school after the sermon. After leaving Lynchburg, I preached at Allensburg only for the A.M. services and spent the evening preaching in revivals and in speaking for congregations on behalf of the radio program-GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY-raising money to support this work. This past November 18, 2011 we began our 50 years on the radio.

*Ed Passed away May 16, 2011 at home with his 2nd wife of 29 years, Naomi and their two children, Eric and Melanie after being hospitalized for 52 days. Because Ed planned well in advance for May 16th by recording hundreds of sermons in advance his **LEGACY LIVES ON** through the weekly **GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY** radio broadcast!*

MARSHALL, OHIO

After Allensburg, there was yet one more Church to serve that was at Marshall, Ohio for a short while at which time they needed a full time minister and the radio broadcast was taking more and more of my time. All of my time now is devoted to the radio broadcasts—ten in the US and five short-wave around the world.

***Thanks for standing with us to keep
ED'S LEGACY ALIVE!***

Letters

Dear Naomi,

I just wanted to thank you so very much for the large print Bible. I will enjoy reading it 'til I take my last breath from this earthly life. I also am enjoying the Bible studies that were sent to me. I am looking forward to doing as many as you send to me. May God keep blessing you and your service.

Sincerely, Kalie New Castle Correctional Facility in IN

Dear Sister Naomi,

My name is Brother Kenny and I am so sorry to hear about Brother Ed Bousman. Mr. Bousman he touched me with the Lord; I did not know God. Brother Ed, as I do my time in prison he helped me turn my life around, and Sister Naomi with God. I thank you and Brother Ed for helping me to get to know Jesus as my Savior. When I was transferred from Malvern Prison Unit to Tucker Unit Prison, (Malvern, AR) they lost my Bible; could you please send me another one. I have a brother here at the Tucker Unit, Alford R., he would like a Bible and Bible studies also. Sister Naomi I have asked God if He would put Ed with Peter, James and John. *(We sent Kenny another Bible and Alford too; in addition they both are doing our Bible Study lessons.)*

I am Habtom. I was contact with GIJAPA before 5 or six years in those time I was so blessed by those Bible Studies and books. Now I am out of my country; I am a refugee in Ethiopia. I want now from GIJAPA King James Version Bible you can send me in this address. Thank you for the books sent me before 5 and 6 years I am blessed. *(Habrom lived in Eritrea when Bibles were forbidden and those possessing one were imprisoned.)*

To Aunt Naomi and all:

Uncle Ed has left his mark let us carry on and give! Please send Bibles, clothes shoes and whatever the people need with this gift. I have never met you all but please feel my love. I pray for you and I offer thanks for you. Thank you for carrying on GIJAPA. I WILL SUPPORT YOU AS LONG AS God gives me strength. Please keep the faith to KEEP ON KEEPING ON!

As always, Love Mark (Mark is from Grand Island, NE; his dad always referred to Ed as "Brother" Ed. When Mark's dad passed away, he continued to support the work, but would call Ed Uncle, and now I'm his Aunt Naomi.)

Dear Sister Naomi,

It is quite a long time I heard from you but through the grace of God I believe you are fine there with the children. Thanks be to God. Our congregation here is getting large in number. We thank you so much for your help of clothes, shoes and Bibles to us, sister. That Pentecostal Church pastor I was teaching has been worshiping with us along with others from his congregation and several members of that church coming along with him. This is good news and we

give God the glory. We wish you, your lovely children, the workers and the entire family a very happy and prosperous year 2012 in the Lord. Thanks so much, sister.

Alexander Ofori, a servant of the Most High God, London Corner Church of Christ, The Gambia, W. Africa.

Dear Staff,

Fellow brothers and sisters in our Lord Christ Jesus, hope you are having the holidays in the blessed way our God wishes. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I know I should have write before now, but am still at a loss for words, except Mr. Ed Bousman is at home now with the Lord. He shall be missed greatly for sure. I reckon his work here was done? I still catch him every Saturday night on 1170 WWVA out of Wheeling, WV. It's been over half year now and I was wondering if you all still have Bible studies. The one we did in by mail. I don't know maybe I finished them all, but after I sent the last one in I didn't get a new one to do and as I remember I had just sent the last one I completed in a few days maybe week or two then I heard about Ed's passing. GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY is something I think daily and now we can say the same for Ed. I am sorry to bother you all with this, as you must have so much more going on, but I thank you very much for your time and trouble. I do not watch TV, I work, read Bible and do my Bible studies. I would really like to see if I have finished all you all have and if not do so. I have 6 certificates of completion from you all: I have Foundations of Faith, 1-10; The Christian Way, 1-10; Into All the World 1-10; Searching the Scriptures 1-10; Studies in the Bible 1-10; The Great Commission 1-10 and the nine Conversions in Acts. If I have finished them all I thank you all very, very much and please know they have been great help in my examine scriptures to determine truth and error and helped the Holy Spirit give me eyes of understanding to be enlightened. I had more pleasure out of your studies than any other. They were the first to make me look into the ways of everlasting. Thank you all for carrying on the work, you are truly a blessing to people like me. "ME FOR SURE." I have no words that can say how I feel, so will go not, "keep the Faith" and thank you.

Your brother in Christ, Randy, a prisoner in Butner, NC

Dear Sister Naomi,

We got the money that you sent on 3rd December 2011 to buy Christmas clothes for Naomi, your namesake and my family. The money came at the right time when God has blessed us; our son Brian, 13 years old has passed the grade seven final exams to have a place in grade eight in January 9, 2012.

We bought clothes for Naomi and used the rest of the money to buy school requirements for Brian and all the other children. My sister Naomi, thank you so much for this special gift for Naomi and your continued help with other items including Bibles. I also want to thank you for your wise idea that God brought in your mind not to buy us clothes in America and spend \$58.50 for postage. God is in control and holds everything in His hands. He permitted everything and will continue to bless GIJAPA always.

Thank you very, very much. Every blessing.

Your brother and fellow servant of Christ, John Maseka, Evangelist of Messenger Church of Christ, Zambia, Central Africa

Dear Sirs, I am an inmate at NE Arkansas Community Correctional Center in Osceola, AR. I saw another inmate here receive a Bible from you. I also noticed that it is in large print and was wondering if there is any way that you could possibly send me one? I have something with my eyes and have started to lose vision. I am 45 years old and it might just be old age catching up with me? I have recently turned my back on a long life of drug addiction and have just been reacquainted with my two children and found out they are faithful members of the Church. I would like to do some kind of Bible Study correspondence with them if possible.

Thank you, James

Dear Mr. Bousman,

First off I want to say God bless you my brother in Christ, I'm coming to you in time of need in my life. One of our brothers in Christ in here gave me your information because he is one of your students in the Bible courses you offer. Mr. Bousman I would like to enroll in your Bible study courses and I'd like to receive a new Bible. The Bible says, "Ask and you shall receive", this is a new begging for me because I'm used to a life of money, women, and drugs. I'm for once putting everything in God's hands. I'm also in the GRIP program here at the Plainfield Correction Facility, Plainfield, IN. I let the ways of the world and Meth take control of my life and have robbed, stolen from my kids lost my entire family and hit rock bottom and that's a life I don't want to live anymore.

Please help me in any way you can. Richard

Dear Mrs. Bousman,

Please find the enclosed tithe so that many more may

come to know God. I am very grateful that Ed faithfully recorded many more sermons for us. I was struck by a letter in a recent issue of GIJAPA from Helen M. I too am struggling to find a local church that is not "of the world." So many no longer preach God's Word but instead want to espouse "how much fun we have" to drive membership and increase tithing. It's pretty simple, as Ed said, "Open the Bible and READ it." Hallelujah!

Mark W. from Henrico, VA

Dear Naomi and GIJAPA team:

True, true, true, "KEEP ON KEEPING ON." Keep up the great work and keep on the firing line for the Lord. Because our Savior loves, lives and forgives.

Art

Dearest one,

I'm hoping and praying all is continuing to go well with you and GIJAPA. Know you keep busy and know you miss Ed - May God continue to watch over and care for you and GIJAPA. We can't let His word become silent; so many need the truth.

Love and Blessings, Lois from Kokomo, IN



**Thank You! Thank You!
Thank You!**

Thank you all - individuals and Churches - for your continued help to GIJAPA so we can KEEP ON KEEPING ON! Special thanks to the individuals and Churches that gave very generous gifts for Bibles and postage. You made it possible for me to mail 96 Bibles and 16 boxes of clothes to Africa and 75 large print Bibles and Bible lessons to prisoners in January. God bless!



Return Service Requested

Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

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ED BOUSMAN

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