



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

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|------|----------|-----------|------------------|
| WLW | 6:30 AM | 700 Dial | Cincinnati, OH |
| WLW | 8:00 AM | 700 Dial | Cincinnati, OH |
| KXEL | 10:00 AM | 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 |
| KDWN | 10:30 PM | 720 Dial | Las Vegas, NV |
| KRVN | 10:30 PM | 880 Dial | Lexington, NE |

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

February 2017 Address all mail: Ed Bousman Evangelistic Assoc., P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511 Issue 2

SIXTY-EIGHT YEARS ON THE FIRING LINE

Here is a sketch of the past sixty-eight years I have spent in the Lord's service.

GENNTOWN, OHIO

On 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 potbellied 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 nine. 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 12 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

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 \$12.00 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 as 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 wean them and then some other Church gets them." He was right. Many of the small country churches were nothing but "wieners." They wean 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 preach 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 \$25.00 a week and it took \$13.00 of it to ride the train down there and back to Cincinnati. Ohio, 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 that 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 18 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 \$4,000 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.

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 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 November 18, 2011, we begin our 50 years on the radio.

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 - 12 in the US and 5 short-wave around the world.

Ed Passed away May 16, 2011, just three months after he wrote the above article. He was at home with his second wife of 29 years, Naomi and their two children, Eric Vail and Melanie Rightmyer; 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!

Thanks for standing with us to keep ED'S LEGACY ALIVE through his preaching every Sunday on the above listed 50,000 watt stations as well as short-wave throughout the world.

The Glory Of The Cross

Galatians 6:14

God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of my Lord Jesus Christ. At the crucifixion, Jesus went out bearing for Himself the cross. Paul tells us: "How God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, that we might be made them righteousness of God in Him." On the cross Jesus felt that He was guilty of every sin ever committed. He felt the guilt of every lie, every murder; He was every homosexual, every abortionist, every pimp, every drug addict. He was numbered with the transgressors, that we might be numbered among those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. We think of the cross as something beautiful. We have gold crosses, chrome crosses; it makes such a nice decoration. Actually the cross is ugly. When Peter first learned about the cross, He said, "Be it far from thee Lord, this shall never be unto Thee." Many feel the same way now. When they sing, "On a hill far away stood an Old rugged cross;" that is what they really mean. Get that cross as far away from me as you can get it. If the cross could be thrown into the water like a fishing raft with a motor on it, or trimmed down into baseball bats, or made into bowling balls, it would be better. But the Old Rugged Cross is unacceptable. A sign on the wall of one church where I preached advertised the coming appearance of a noted linebacker to appear before the young people. I casually inquired why? An elder told me: "Well we must have something to draw the young people." Well discretion was the better part of valor, but I thought that is strange. Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto Me." And then I thought that gospel song must not be true. That song that says: "Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power." But then I remembered the secret of the power of the cross, when I thought about the rustic preacher who preached a sermon with all kinds of grammatical mistakes. Someone asked him after the sermon: "Preacher, where in the world did you go to College?" The preacher said, "I ain't never been to College, but I been to Calvary." Have you been to Calvary for the cleansing power? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Are you freely trusting in His grace this hour? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

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 to mail 84 Bibles and 8 boxes of clothes to Africa, Philippines, and 162 large print Bibles and Bible Lessons to prisoners in January. God bless!

SEVEN WORDS FROM THE CROSS FATHER FORGIVE THEM FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO

When they crucified Jesus He said, "Father forgive them they know not what they do." Who was the "they" He was referring to? Paul tells us Christ died for our sins. Jesus was thinking of me at that moment. My sins are what

nailed Him to the cross. His prayer was answered when I obeyed the terms of pardon.

TODAY SHALT THOU BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

"Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise," was spoken to a man who had been on death row. This statement indicates that even the worst of sinners can be a companion of the Lord Jesus in heaven.

BEHOLD THY MOTHER BEHOLD THY SON

"Behold thy mother behold thy son," was spoken during the greatest agony ever suffered. He was thinking of the welfare of others at that time.

**MY GOD! MY GOD! WHY EAST THOU
FORSAKEN ME?**

"My God! My God! why hast Thou forsaken Me?" Jesus was our scapegoat for all of our sins and at that moment even the Father forsook Him. Sin always separates. It separated Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Sin will separate the unredeemed on the Day of Judgment. When Jesus says, "Depart from Me ye cursed into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels." Many will realize part of the suffering of hell is separation from God unto eternal association with the Devil and with all the demons and the worst of damned humanity.

I THIRST

"I Thirst," are the words that put emphasis on the humanity of Jesus. He was thirsty. As far as we can tell the last drink that moistened His lips was the fruit of the vine when He instituted the Lord's Supper the night before. His thirst was not only the natural thirst of humanity, but also an indication of the eternal thirst of the damned. The rich man, in one of the incidents Jesus told, suffered from thirst. To have such intense thirst for all of eternity and no one to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool his tongue is one of the tortures of the lost.

IT IS FINISHED

"It is finished." This is the moment that the Lord Jesus had waited for from the moment of Genesis 3:15. "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel." At last it was done. The Son of the woman had smashed the head of the serpent. Paul told the Roman Church of Christ, "The Lord will bruise Satan under your feet shortly." As members of the Body of Christ we can put our foot on the Devil's neck too.

INTO THY HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT

"Into Thy hands I commend My Spirit." Jesus commended His Spirit into the hands of the Father. That is an interesting statement in view of the tenth chapter of Hebrews. There is the statement about those that have trodden underfoot the Son of God and counted the blood of the covenant an unholy thing and have done despite to the spirit of grace. For we know Him that said, "Vengeance belongeth unto Me, I will ye recompense saith the Lord." And again the Lord shall judge His people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. When we leave this world all will fall into the hands of God.

Think of these statements of Jesus as He died on the cross; as you eat of bread and drink of the fruit of the vine that so fitly represents His blood that was shed for our salvation. From archives of Ed Bousman



The Lord's Supper and the Second Coming

Many times it seems that the shedding of the blood of Christ is linked to the Lord's Second Coming. One such reference is in the first chapter of Revelation. "Unto Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His blood and made us to be priests and kings unto His God and Father; to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever, Amen."

Then after that reference to the blood of Christ, John says this, "Behold He cometh; with the clouds; and ever eye shall see Him, and they that pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth shall mourn over Him. Even so, Amen."

After speaking of the blood, John speaks of the Second Coming. He says, "Every eye shall see Him," but that is not all they shall see. Jesus said in another place that the Son of man would come in the glory of the Father and with all the angels. So every eye shall see Jesus and all the angels. What a sight that will be as John saw one angel and fell down and worshiped him even though he knew better. What will it be like to see all the angels in the glory of God the Father?

But there is one thing that will claim our attention above all else. Every eye shall see Him, and they that pierced Him. The nail pierced hands of Jesus will be a terrible sight for the unsaved. All the tribes of the earth shall mourn over Him.

In 1986 the statecraft Challenger exploded after launch and all hands were killed. A few days after this event I was in worship service in Boston and the preacher told in his sermon that day of the last recorded words before the explosion. Someone aboard the spacecraft said, "Uh oh!"

Certainly on that day when the Lord returns and every eye shall see Him and they that pierced Him; from multiplied millions the cry will be heard, "UH OH!" But for the redeemed the words of the gospel song says it best. "I shall know Him, I shall know Him, and redeemed by His side I shall stand. I shall know Him, I shall know Him by the print of the nails in His hands."

WHEN THE RELATIVES OF JESUS THOUGHT HE WAS BESIDE HIMSELF

The fifth marvel of Mark three is when His family thought He was beside Himself. Mark says, "And when His friends heard it they went out to lay hold on Him: for they said He is beside himself. And then there come His mother and His brethren; and standing without they sent unto Him, calling Him." The members of His family thought He was over zealous. He was pushing too hard, he will get burned out, He needs to get more rest, and beyond that the scribes may kill Him. Ease up Lord and take our advice.

According to some the Lord Jesus Christ will listen to His mother. She knows what is best for Him. He will listen to her when He will listen to none other. But the strange thing about the whole episode is that Jesus ignored His mother. He paid no attention to her pleas. He turned to those around Him and said, "Who is My mother? And who are My brethren?" And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples and said, "Behold My Mother and My brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of My Father who is in heaven the same is My brother and sister and mother." Now think of that. When we do the will of the Father, Jesus looks upon us as his brothers or His sisters. That means that we are a part of the same family, Jesus is our elder Brother and God is our Father. Jesus does not need the advice of Mary or anyone else. He never asks us for our opinion on anything. One time it may look like He asked for advice when He asked Philip before the feeding of the 5,000, "Where shall we buy bread that these may eat?" John quickly adds: This He said to prove him for He, Himself, knew what He would do. We repeat, Jesus does not need anyone's advice. Paul told Timothy, "For there is one God, one mediator between God and man, Christ Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all." Paul sums up the futility of giving Jesus advice when he told the Romans, "For who hath known the mind of the Lord or who hath been His counselor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of Him. and through Him, and unto Him, are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen." EB



ED BOUSMAN
Evangelistic Association, Inc.
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Lynchburg, Ohio 45142
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