



3ABN

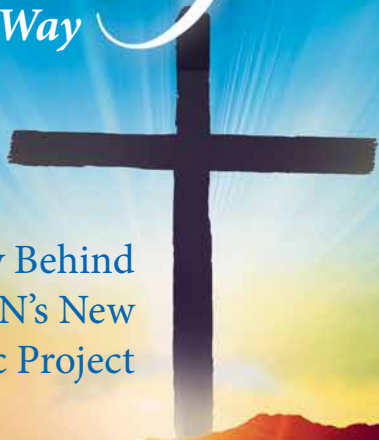
JULY 2016
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WORLD

MAGAZINE

Calvary *Love Found a Way*

The Story Behind
3ABN's New
Music Project





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Calvary

Love Found a Way

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Do you have a testimony to share of how 3ABN made a difference in your life? We would love to hear about it!

Letter from the
PRESIDENT

On the Front Lines

Danny Shelton
President



Dear Partner,

I want to say thank you for your prayers and financial support of 3ABN. We started with a dream 31 years ago, and thanks to you, millions of people hear the undiluted three angels' messages of Revelation 14. Every day they are giving their lives to Jesus and joining God's remnant church!

The Seventh-day Adventist Church had approximately 6 million members when 3ABN began broadcasting in 1986, and today that total is fast approaching 20 million worldwide. However, I'll never forget Pastor Jim Gilley saying that 3ABN had been responsible for bringing millions of new members into the church during a 3ABN Camp Meeting in 2004. While I knew this ministry was having a tremendous impact on people coming to Jesus and joining the church, I was surprised to hear the Assistant to the President of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists announcing this to our worldwide television and radio audience!

I believe that's why he accepted the position of 3ABN president when we called him almost three years later, and I want to thank Jim and Camille for over seven-and-a-half years of service at the helm of this ministry. Thanks to you, 3ABN is the largest supporting ministry—in the scope of worldwide evangelism—in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church!

God has entrusted His people with present truth for a lost and dying world, and the devil hates those who are on the front lines for Jesus—including us at 3ABN. Ellen White wrote, "We have far more to fear from within than from without," (*Last Day Events*, p. 156), so please do me a favor next time you hear a fellow church member gossiping about your pastor, Conference leader, or even a supporting ministry, like 3ABN. Ask them what they're doing to bring souls into the kingdom of God, and please remind them that Jesus commissioned us to "Go ye into all the world," preaching the gospel—instead of being used as pawns of the enemy to hinder those on the front lines of this spiritual war.

If you've joined 3ABN's Blessing Is on the "GO!" Evangelistic Team, I want to thank you. And if you haven't joined yet, please contact us and we will be glad to partner with you in taking the everlasting gospel to the world! May the Lord bless you abundantly and exceedingly more than you could ever ask or think.

Danny Shelton
3ABN President & CEO

Calvary

Love Found a Way

by Danny Shelton

Among the many blessings I've experienced over the years, one of them has been the opportunity God has given me to work with some incredibly talented people. Last year, we were blessed to work with the legendary arranger, orchestrator, producer, and songwriter, Lari Goss, on the *Hallelujah, We're Home at Last!* project. This year, we were blessed to work with the award-winning and legendary songwriter, Lanny Wolfe, who authored such memorable songs as "Surely the Presence," and "More Than Wonderful."

What a joy it was to work with Lanny, Reggie Smith, Kris Wilkinson, and Larry Paxton—not to mention the many tal-

ented singers and musicians. The Spirit of the Lord was truly over this project.

HERE'S WHAT LANNY WOLFE FELT, IN HIS OWN WORDS:

Calvary—the centerpiece of God's plan for salvation. Without the shedding of blood there is no redemption, and without redemption, man would have been forever lost. That's why every born-again believer cherishes what the Cross of Calvary represents. As one hymn writer of old put it, "It was there, by faith, I received my sight, and now I am happy all the day."

Calvary, the Cross, the Christ—the focus of 3ABN's newest music-ministry effort has been embraced by the creative input of so many wonderfully talented people, headed by the vision of 3ABN's president, Danny Shelton.

I remember Danny mentioning his vision for the

project sometime last fall when the Lanny Wolfe Trio had been at the 3ABN complex doing several one-hour ministry specials. He felt strongly about several songs I'd written about Calvary, including "Precious Blood," and asked me to join the creative planning committee meeting in Nashville in January, where I met with the brilliantly talented orchestrator, Kris Wilkinson, producer, Reggie Smith, and other 3ABN personnel.

I brought a folio which included 15 of my songs that focus on Calvary, the Cross, and Redemption, to serve as a springboard for song considerations. Everyone left the meeting excited about the project, and with certain assignments regarding studio choices, musicians, song considerations, keys, soloists, arranging styles, and a timeline. Let me give you a "between the lines" look at the Lanny Wolfe songs included in the project.

A Song Was Born—"It Was Love"

In the mix of song considerations was a song possibility around the question, "Did angels question God's master plan when man fell from grace?" and Danny asked if I'd be interested in pursuing the idea of the song with him. I had co-written with some wonderful writers in the past, but always prefaced a co-writing situation from the standpoint that I had to have some feeling for the message, lyrics, and/or music put on the table for me to consider. I've had some very

high profile songwriters pitch me lyrics for which I didn't have any feeling, so I didn't join their efforts. But in this case, I was intrigued by the question Danny's lyrics raised, so, along with the co-writing efforts of my daughter, Lanna-Marie Wolfe-Chatman, the song, "It Was Love," came together as a very wonderful collaborative effort. Danny Shelton and Ladye Love Smith wonderfully graced this song with their vocals.

God Shows Up—"Gethsemane"

In February, the creative team crossed paths again, this time at Starstruck Studios in Nashville, Tennessee, for two days of tracking sessions with some of that city's finest players. It was at this part of the venture that God would sneak up and surprise Danny and me with a special inspiration.

On his way from Illinois to Nashville, God dropped a chorus into Danny's spirit...



Some of the *Calvary* creative team at a planning session in Nashville, Tennessee (L to R): Back: Danny Shelton, Melody Firestone, Ladye Love and Reggie Smith, Front: Kris Wilkinson, Lanny Wolfe, E. T. Everett.



He suffered Gethsemane, through blood, sweat and tears; each drop of blood He shed bought me a million years.

God's crowning sacrifice, His spotless Lamb; now risen from the grave, He is the Great I Am.

He picked me up at the airport, and on our way to the hotel, he sang it to me. It resonated with my spirit immediately.

In the course of our conversation, Danny said that if I were to feel anything in the way of music and/or lyrics for a verse, we could consider laying down a rhythm track during our sessions the next two days, and then finish off the song later with whatever would need to be added to complete it.

In the studio the next day, the chorus kept going over in my spirit. We finished the afternoon tracking session and I stayed behind at the studio while the others left to get an evening meal. I knew I had to have the luxury of a keyboard to get a grip on a musical idea for the verse before I would get to the hotel.

God gave me a musical idea for the verse and a bridge, then someone took me to meet the group for supper. I got to the hotel about 11:30 p.m. and had a meeting with God for lyrics to this child wanting to be born. I finished lyrics to verse one, and a bridge at 3:00 a.m. Then I went to bed, got up at 7:00, and sent a rough demo with lyrics to Danny, as well as the orchestrator and producer. I had to leave early in the afternoon for a flight back to Houston, so I played and sang what I had so Reggie could get the

gist of the tune in his head, so Gordon Mote, the keyboardist, could get the feel, and so Larry Paxton could chart it for the tracking session later that afternoon. I finished verse two and tweaked the bridge several days later, and Reggie updated the demo track with his emotional vocal interpretation.

This song is so special. It has a classic-ness to it, and is so anointed. It's special to me because it reminds me that just as the Messiah showed up in an unexpected place—a manger in Bethlehem, God continues to show up at times and places when we're not expecting Him. And when He does, He makes all the difference in the world.

"Gethsemane" has this special quality about it. Once you hear it, you just can't get it out of your heart or mind. To God be the glory for this wonderful song He gave to Danny Shelton and me in such an unexpected way.

Icing On the Cake!—"Love Found a Way"

After the two days of tracking sessions were completed, and all the rhythm tracks from which layers of "adds" would be placed (strings, brass, woodwinds, percussion, choir vocals, solos, etc.), Danny was impressed with the idea of "The Creator, who hung the worlds in place, contrasted to Jesus, who hung on the Cross in disgrace."

He shared that idea with his daughter, Melody Firestone, and she had an idea for a start of a song: "From the foundation of the world, God had a master plan." I suggested to Danny that if he and Melody

were interested in me co-writing this song, I would see if I could get any feeling for what was presently in place.

Talk about God showing up at unexpected times and places! It was shortly after my conversation with Danny that God woke me up in the middle of the night with a chorus I had written some years back called, "Love Found A Way." When I got up the next morning, I vividly remembered the chorus God had interrupted my sleep with, and felt that it would go with what Danny had mentioned to me on the phone previously.

It was amazing to me that when I sang this chorus to myself, it really wasn't a full-fledged chorus. It had line one, line two, and a third line that just repeated itself, constituting a fourth line. I was astonished, looking back, that I allowed myself to put a chorus in a musical that wasn't actually a full-fledged chorus. So, the Lord prompted me to add a third line with an internal rhyme, and use the previous third line as the fourth, making it a legitimate chorus. In the back and forth with Melody, the original line Danny had given us didn't really fit the direction of the song; so his line got cut from the song. (Let's blame it on God, and not Lanny Wolfe, okay?)

The song, "Love Found a Way," was finished. Danny would arrange for us to lay down a piano track at the end of one of the orchestra sessions, and we would proceed from there to include this "icing on the cake" song on the *Calvary* project. The lyrics and music for the song were finished, and Melody and I were happy with it, just the way it was. But God wasn't



L to R: Marty Funderburk, Gary Pigg, and Tim Parton discuss details of an arrangement on the *Calvary* project.



The famed Nashville String Machine lays down tracks.



L to R: Yvonne Lewis, Bonnie Keene, Ladye Love Smith, and Julie Goss recording vocals.



Danny Shelton and Melody Firestone co-wrote songs with award-winning composer, Lanny Wolfe (left).

finished with it, and He unexpectedly showed up... or should I say, woke me up on a Sunday morning with lyrics and music for a bridge.

Two of those lines are probably among the favorite lines I've been given in recent years, and I knew they were from God because the verbiage was not like Lanny Wolfe would typically think. After that teaser, I would not be able to make you wait to hear it on the project, so here they are:

God could have emptied the coffers of Heaven if riches could have set me free;

But He knew if redemption's lock could be opened, love was the only key!

So, I'll always think of this song that Melody and I co-wrote as the "icing on the cake" for the *Calvary* project. Can't wait for you to hear this wonderful song—and the entire awesome project.

No Pain, No Gain!—“Precious Blood”

Midway through a ten-day college chorale tour (I was director of the 50-plus member group) during a service in Cincinnati, Ohio, I didn't know if I could make it through the service due to the pain from a flair-up of cellulitis my calf.

As soon as the service was over, I appointed someone to take charge of the chorale group, while the pastor arranged to have someone take me to the nearest hospital emergency room, where the doctors demanded I be admitted.

While one of the nurses routinely took my blood, I had a “moment of truth” as I

realized the absolute importance of blood. Without it, all of the other parts of the body are of no value. It would be like trying to drive a car without the gasoline. The blood of Jesus Christ was not just blood, like the nurse was drawing from my arm. It was *precious blood* from a spotless Lamb that purchased my redemption.

At that moment, the Lord gave me the chorus to the song, “Precious Blood,” and in retrospect, I realize that song would never have been born, had I not had the painful flare-up that ended up in a Cincinnati hospital.

This powerfully anointed song is such an important one to the *Calvary* project, reminding us that Jesus took the stripes on His back, spilling His precious blood for our healing.

No Story, Just Divine Inspiration—“Precious Lamb of God”

I'm constantly amazed at how each song was birthed. Some were inspired by Scripture; some were inspired by a word or phrase in a book, a billboard, or that I heard in a sermon or casual conversation. But out of over seven hundred songs and fourteen musicals, “Precious Lamb of God” is on my short list of favorites. On this project, it is powerfully orchestrated by Kris Wilkinson and beautifully sung by Melody Firestone.

Beethoven Makes the Cut—“Praise His Holy Name”

One of the classical pieces in my piano repertoire while I was working on my first music degree at San Jose State University

was the middle movement from Beethoven's “Moonlight Sonata,” which has this divine and unforgettable melody.

After graduating with that music degree under my belt, I wondered many times why someone in the gospel arena had not written gospel lyrics to this wonderful melody.

And then, just when I didn't expect it, God prompted my songwriting pen to put lyrics on paper that would fit this masterpiece from one of my favorite classical composers.

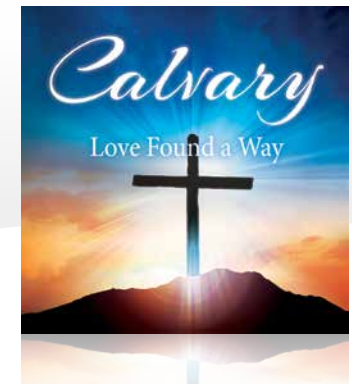
I was extremely careful to put what I would call “classic” lyrics to Beethoven's tune, so my words and his music would feel like they should be in the same company. I struggled with the format of this song, thinking that Beethoven's contribution should be the chorus, and not a verse, because there was no way my contribution could upstage this classical master.

I tried, but could never make it work, until a light bulb went off in my mind to make Beethoven part a verse, and write a Lanny Wolfe-style chorus:

Praise His Holy name; Praise His Holy name; To God be the glory now and forever; Praise His Holy Name.

I went back to the drawing board, wrote a second verse, and the Lanny Wolfe Singers recorded the tune.

Almost 30 years after I wrote the song, Bradley Knight did a choral arrangement, lifting it from a trio format to a choral entity. And now, on the heels of that choral arrangement, “Praise His Holy Name” becomes the “finale” choral “star”



Now Available in CD & DVD
3ABNSTORE.COM

Songbooks for vocal/choir/piano and split performance tracks coming soon.

in the crown of the *Calvary* project, with over-the-top orchestral arrangement by Kris Wilkinson, fabulous choir input from the esteemed Aeolians of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, and anointed, featured soloist and 3ABN artist, Yvonne Lewis. When you hear



The acclaimed Aeolians of Oakwood University added their amazing vocal talents to “Praise His Holy Name.”

it, you'll understand why this cut is my favorite from the new project. Enjoy! ☺

No Time to Lose

by Shelley Quinn

He stared blankly into the camera. “It was awful! We knew it was big, but no one expected the storm to stall and pour down six inches in six hours! A wall of water came rushing through our neighborhood, and drowned the whole family next door. We would’ve drowned, too, if we hadn’t seen it coming and had our boat ready for escape.”

The local reporter inquired if he had personally known his neighbor.

“Well, I always hollered hello across the fence when she was outside, and she would wave. But she was blind, you know, and we only talked a few times. Her daughter dropped those three grandbabies at her home several months ago. It’s such a shame they all died.”



Shelley Quinn is 3ABN’s Program Development manager and a well-known author and speaker. Her husband J.D. is manager of 3ABN’s Pastoral Ministries Department.

Off camera, the reporter asked the man why he hadn’t informed her of the imminent danger, since he knew she was blind.

Defensively, he answered, “Who knew it was going to hit so fast? I didn’t want to run

over there like an alarmist. I’m sensitive about other people’s privacy. Folks don’t appreciate intruders, you know.”

.....
“How heartless he was not to warn his blind neighbor! That poor woman and her grandkids didn’t have a chance.”
.....

Heartless

Incensed, the reporter barely controlled herself until she returned to the van. Driving back to the station with the crew, she unleashed her anger, “How heartless he was not to warn his blind neighbor! That poor woman and her grandkids didn’t have a chance. Can you believe he didn’t tell her because he was afraid of looking stupid or *bothering her*? That guy’s a deacon at my cousin’s church! What kind of Christian wouldn’t reach out to his blind neighbor and offer safety in his boat? He had time—he should have realized disaster was coming. It was sudden, but it wasn’t unexpected.”

She sat in stunned silence as her words hit home. She, too, was a Christian. Her friendly relationship with her neighbors was casual, but she knew them well enough to recognize they didn’t know the Lord. Spiritually blind, they were unaware of the spiritual storm brewing. But out of personal concern that they might think her a zealot, or one of those “intrusive” people, she’d shared nothing about her lifeboat—about Jesus Christ. Wasn’t she equally guilty of neglecting her Christian duty as the poor deacon she’d interviewed?

Can You Relate?

I hope the message of my fictional account resonates with you as much as it does with me. When we see clouds banking up in the east, we know a storm is coming. Based on current events and the prophecies of Revelation 13–18, we recognize a spiritual storm is on the horizon. We must warn others around us that time is running out.

It’s time to join The Blessing Is on the “GO!” Evangelistic Team. It’s easy. You simply register to give a recurring monthly donation of any amount to support evangelism around the world and in your local area. In turn, 3ABN will send you an evangelistic tool (a book, music CD, sermon DVD, or Bible study materials) each month to share with your family, friends, or neighbors.

Let us not be guilty of neglecting our Christian duty. Let’s purpose in our hearts to reach out today—warning others and offering the peace and safety found in Christ. Time is short—there is no time to lose! ☪



Join the “GO!” Evangelistic Team

Setting up a monthly donation of any amount to support evangelism is easy! Just visit 3ABN.tv, click the Donate button, then choose to become a “G.E.T.” member. Be sure to check the “Make This Recurring (Monthly)” box.

Easy-to-follow instructions and a video tutorial will guide you through the process.

Not comfortable doing this online? No problem. Just call us at 618-627-4651, or send us your information by mail.



This Month’s Evangelistic Tool

Love’s Justice by Shelley Quinn

This month’s DVD Evangelistic Tool will help you understand the two sides of God’s justice, and how we all must choose to either accept His gracious gift of eternal life, or reject His love and perish eternally. You’ll also discover how the false teaching of the “eternal soul” entered the church! Please watch this DVD and ask God to direct you to the person with whom you should share this month’s evangelistic tool.

YOU

LIKE IT!

by Nikki Anderson



On April 1, we weren't fooling—the 3ABN Radio Music Channel was launched, as promised.

Last October we knew we were taking on a huge task in what seemed like a very short time, but we made it. Of course, the lion's share of the work was on the shoulders of our 3ABN Radio engineer, Michael Babb, and 3ABN Radio general manager, Jay Christian; but everyone here had tons of extra work to get it on the air. God never let us down; He got us through the long hours and the technical hurdles. We're all grateful for His help, His grace, and His mercy during this process—and for all your prayers and support. They've been a blessing. Amen!



Nikki Anderson is the administrative assistant for 3ABN Radio.

Apparently, you like what you're hearing, because the majority of the responses have been overwhelmingly positive to our music and Bible teaching programming. We're hoping to please even more of you very soon, as our affiliates incorporate the channel into their broadcast day, if they choose. In case you haven't tuned in yet, you can go to our website, 3abnradio.org and click on 3ABN Radio Music Channel. You can also download the free 3ABN app on your smartphone, select the Radio icon, and then tap the Music Channel button. Give us a listen and let us know what you think. We'd love to hear from you, too!

FEEDBACK

Besides the phone calls we've received, here are some e-mails from listeners:

"Thank you for starting the 3ABN Music Channel. I have been looking for Christian music to listen to while doing homework, and it is so comforting to hear songs like, *God Will Take Care of You*, and others, when you are a stressed college student. God bless you all." *Cassia*

"I just want you to know how much I appreciate the new 3ABN Radio Music

"To have a channel broadcasting **CHRISTIAN MUSIC** all day is a blessing from Heaven, a **BREATH OF FRESH AIR.**"



Channel. I have a small shop and was looking for a good radio station where I could listen to music all day. I am a Seventh-day Adventist, so I love 3ABN Radio and I listen to it in the morning. But I was praying to find a good station where I could listen to music all day—and I found it! Thank you so much. We are so blessed, and our customers are blessed, also. God bless all of you." *Sherry*

"Your Music Channel is absolutely wonderful. To have a channel broadcasting Christian music all day is a blessing from Heaven, a breath of fresh air among so much worldly screaming, moaning, and shouting. God is so good, and I pray that your ministry will be blessed abundantly more than you can ever ask for. I contacted all my friends and told them about this channel, gave them the direct link, so they don't have to search for it." *Hendrika* (from outside the U.S.)

"I would like to congratulate you on the 3ABN Radio Music Channel. Thank you Jesus. This is something that is so needed in our world. It is so nice that you are able to convey many good thoughts in little snippets with the music.

I listen to it all the time in my car through Tune In. I really like the flavor of the music you share, you can hear the words and hear the message, and it has nice melodies and musicality. Wishing you continued success as you seek to advance the kingdom of our Lord." *Larry* (Canada)

"We're very gratified with the response of our listeners," Jay says, "and we're pleased to offer Christian music programming with substance."

Thank you for your prayers and support so we can continue to spread the gospel in many ways! 🙏

3ABN
radio
Music Channel

PHOTOS: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM/LUIS MOLINERO, MICHAEL JUNG

AN UNEXPECTED BLESSING

When this life is over, and we're living the endless days of eternity, I'm sure we'll marvel as the Lord reveals to us how many encounters, circumstances, and conversations were coordinated by Him for our benefit, or to bless one or more of His children. I believe the story you're about to read qualifies as one of those encounters.

"BY CHANCE"

Like all families, we look for opportunities to spend time together. Due to our busy schedule at 3ABN, and the fact that our oldest son Samuel is a student at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, it has become a challenge to find that time. So after looking at our schedule, my wife Idalia, our youngest son Caleb, and I, drove out to see Samuel this spring.

On Friday morning, while we waited for him to finish his classes, we decided to visit a thrift store. Interestingly enough, we found two of them right next door to each other. "That's great," I declared. "If we have enough time, we can go to both stores.



John Dinzey is the general manager for 3ABN Latino Network. Originally from the Dominican Republic, his passion is to preach the gospel. His wife, Idalia, works with him at 3ABN Latino, and they've been blessed with two wonderful sons, Samuel and Caleb.



John, Idalia, and their son Caleb (right), recently visited Samuel at his school in Nebraska.

"Sounds good to me," Idalia said as she found something in the first store and took it to the checkout.

To take advantage of time, Caleb and I went next door while Idalia was waiting her turn to pay. As we approached a doorway leading to another room in the store, a lady suddenly stopped and stared obviously at Caleb, searching for something to say.

"I can't believe it! I know you and you!" she finally stammered, pointing to Caleb. "I never thought I would meet you, and here you are! I've been watching 3ABN Latino for about three years, first in Guadalajara, Mexico, then here in Lincoln for the last three months since I arrived," she explained.

"Well, praise the Lord! It's nice to meet you!" we said as Caleb and I gave her a hug. Just then, Idalia showed up and the lady seemed even more elated.

PHOTOS SUPPLIED

"I can't believe it! I know you and you!" she stammered, pointing to Caleb.

"I never thought I would meet you, and here you are!"

OVERJOYED

Her name was Norma Torres, and she told us how she'd learned so much about the Bible from watching 3ABN Latino. Then she explained how she was overjoyed when she found our channel in Lincoln—without having to pay for cable!

She explained how God has used 3ABN Latino's programming to encourage her during difficult times, and then exclaimed, "I'm not a Seventh-day Adventist yet, but I'd like to find a church. Can you help me?"



Although she'd watched them for some time in Mexico and the U.S., Norma Torres never imagined she'd meet John and Idalia in person.

As I got her zip code to look up the nearest Spanish Seventh-day Adventist church, Idalia explained that we were in the area visiting our son Samuel. God has blessed my wife with making friends easily, so in a few minutes, they were talking as if they'd known each other for years.

Norma thanked us for the information about the Spanish churches in her area, and assured us she would definitely be attending there, soon. We talked a little longer, had prayer with her, and went our way.

AN UNEXPECTED BLESSING

What an unexpected blessing! We live about nine hours away, and just "happened" to walk into that thrift store. But God knew we would, and somehow lead her there so we could help her find a church. What perfect timing He has! Praise be to His name.

God leads people to watch our programming at the time they need to, so that they can get answers to their questions, have their confusion cleared up, be encouraged, or prevent their suicide and find salvation through Jesus Christ!

Thank you for your prayers and financial support that make this possible! ☺

SALVATION IN SYMBOLS & SIGNS

★★★★★★

by Dr. Yvonne Lewis

I don't know about you, but I've had a hard time getting a handle on the book of Revelation! I've read it more than once, read Bible commentaries and explanations, and attended Revelation seminars; but I just couldn't connect all the dots.

You may wonder why prophecy is important; but in these last days, don't you want to know how events are going to unfurl? Aren't you the least bit curious about what those symbols mean? Well, I have to tell you, as a result of studying on our new Dare to Dream program, *Salvation in Symbols and Signs*, my son Jason and I are finally getting it!

NEW PROGRAM IDEA



Dr. Yvonne Lewis is a naturopathic doctor, author, lecturer, and singer, as well as the general manager of 3ABN's Dare to Dream Network for urban audiences.

Let me share with you how this came about. A couple of years ago, 3ABN president and CEO, Danny Shelton, was talking to Pastor James Rafferty about the possibility of having him host a new prophecy program. He told Danny that it would be nice to have a

question and answer format, and Danny thought it was a good idea, and then suggested he do it with me.

About a year and a half ago, we had another conversation about this prophecy program, and I felt impressed to offer it on Dare to Dream. So I asked Pastor Rafferty about it, and he suggested we add his friend, Pastor William Pergerson, to the program.

I immediately connected with his warm smile and gentle, Christ-like manner. He was perfect for the spot of co-host!

TRAGEDY

My son Jason (who is also my assistant at the network) and I traveled to the General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, last year. While we were there, we met with them to finalize plans for the program, and Pastor Pergerson had some great ideas. Then, the unthinkable happened.

Pastor Pergerson was a longtime pilot, and on August 27, 2015, he began to experience engine



Pastor William Pergerson



Hosts of *Salvation in Symbols and Signs* (L to R): Pastor James Rafferty, Dr. Yvonne Lewis, Jason Bradley, Pastor Ivor Myers.



PHOTOS: SHELANA CHRISTIAN

trouble shortly after taking off from Battle Creek, Michigan, to fly back home to Berrien Springs—a mere 20-minute flight. After his first unsuccessful landing attempt, his plane burst into a ball of flames as he tried to land a second time in a grassy field near the airport.

How tragic! All of us at Dare to Dream were horrified! We could not have imagined that we'd never again see him on this side of Heaven! Although we had not spent much time with him prior to the accident, we felt close to Pastor Pergerson, and felt a great sense of loss.

A few months later, still saddened by his friend's passing but realizing the importance of this series, James told me he'd been thinking about another co-host for *Salvation in Symbols and Signs*. He said that he'd felt impressed to invite Pastor Ivor Myers to be on the program, and we were delighted when he accepted the invitation to co-host. What a dynamic pair! We wish Pastor Pergerson could

have been with us; that would have been so powerful! However, we rest in the blessed assurance that we will be reunited with our friend once more in God's Kingdom.

QUESTIONS?

On *Salvation in Symbols and Signs*, there's no pressing agenda. We take our time as we go through the book of Revelation. Jason and I are the "students," and we ask questions that we think you might ask.

We encourage you to participate by sending us your written or 30-second video questions. Just send them to sss@3abn.org.

You've never heard the book of Revelation taught like this before! To God be the glory. ☺

Sunday – Friday

1:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
& 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays

12:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
& 7:30 p.m.
CDT (UTC -5)

Dilettante or Diligent?

by C.A. Murray

According to the Associated Press, on December 14, 1996, the *Bright Field*, a 763-foot grain freighter, was heading down the Mississippi at New Orleans, Louisiana, when it lost control, veered toward the shore, and crashed into a riverside shopping mall.

At the time, the Riverside Mall was crowded with some 1,000 shoppers, and 116 people were injured. The impact of the freighter demolished parts of the wharf, which was home to 200 shops and restaurants, as well as the adjoining Hilton Hotel.

The ship had lost control at the stretch in the Mississippi River that is considered the most dangerous to navigate. After investigating the accident for a year, the



C. A. Murray is the general manager for 3ABN Proclaim! and also hosts and produces the *3ABN Today* program. His wife Irma is a producer for 3ABN Latino.

Coast Guard reported that the freighter had lost control because the engine had shut down. The engine had shut down because of low oil pressure. The oil pressure was low because of a clogged filter. The oil filter was clogged because the ship's crew had failed to conduct

routine maintenance and take care of the engine properly. Furthermore, the failure was not out of character. According to the lead Coast Card investigator, the ship's owner and crew had failed to test the ship's equipment and repair long-standing engine problems.

Earnest Effort

The truth is that many so-called, "sudden disasters," have a long history leading up to them. A little diligence would have saved time, money, reputations, and most importantly, many lives!

Diligence is defined as constant and earnest effort to accomplish what is undertaken; persistent exertion of body and mind. Diligence is usually exercised in proportion to the desire or need to possess or attain what is sought. If we want something very strongly, then we will expend a great deal of effort and energy to attain it. Diligence can be a consequence of need, or it could be simply the way some of us approach challenges.

Dilettante or Diligent?

By nature, some of us are dilettantes in our endeavors, while others are diligent. In most cases, it is usually this second facet of life that determines the difference

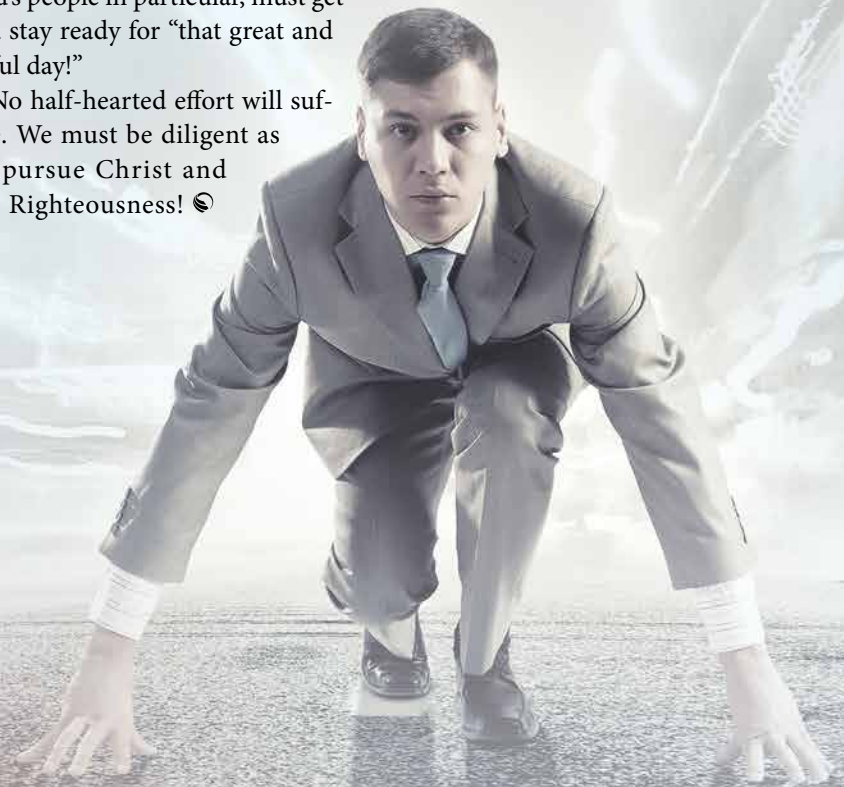
between success and failure, rather than genius, or being smarter than everyone else.

A dilettante takes up a given activity in a superficial, half-hearted way. He dabbles or even toys with it, only to find in the course of time that this "toe in the water" kind of living never allows him to accomplish anything of consequence.

The truth be told, everything that has to do with spiritual growth and victory in our Christian walk is the result of "due diligence" in all the things of God. This theme is an ethic I have heard repeated by a number of the speakers on 3ABN Proclaim! recently. As we are all possessed by the realization that the hour is late, there is a universal feeling that the time of the end draws near, and that the world, and God's people in particular, must get and stay ready for "that great and awful day!"

No half-hearted effort will suffice. We must be diligent as we pursue Christ and His Righteousness! ☪

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Touching People's Hearts

by Julia Outkina



We're constantly seeking new ways to tell our Russian-speaking viewers about God's grace, mercy, and compassion; and thanks to the serving hearts of sincere believers, these programs are leading people to Jesus!

Sprout

One such project is called, *Hope Lives Here*, about a center for special needs children called *Rostok*, or Sprout. Founder and director, Lyudmila Verlan, is one of our hosts, and started the center several years ago in the Krasnodar Region of Russia to help those who

have neither knowledge nor money to address their children's special needs. She began from scratch, putting forth much effort. Through God's blessings, she found a good place, money, and people with medical experience to work with the kids.

Eager to help our courageous sister, we advertised her center where we



Alex Britov shares news about 3ABN Russia.

could, and then decided to feature Sprout in a 3ABN Russia video project. Last April we entered it in the annual Contemporaries On the Screen video competition held here in Russia, with the support of the National Association of Broadcasters. We were thrilled to receive a diploma, but even more thrilled when our new general manager, Alexey Britov, was allowed to share news about 3ABN Russia, and the programs we offer, with the entire audience!

PHOTOS SUPPLIED

Caring for Orphans

The Lord often gives us the opportunity to help people by simply addressing their needs. One such opportunity came just before the New Year, when we were asked to support a local orphanage. We didn't think twice, and raised enough money to buy toys, clothes, and household appliances—giving them like New Year's gifts from the Lord.

Orphanage director, Svetlana Khlovdova, was happy to see us. "I'm so thankful to all of you for your compassion and readiness to help these kids who are left without parental attention and care," she said. "Everything you gave us is much appreciated, and brings joy and a home-like atmosphere to our kids."

That day was surprisingly sunny, as if God and nature were both smiling on this opportunity to help these little ones. Addressing their needs was a real pleasure, and brought us wonderfully close to Jesus.

Reaching Young Ones

The Lord bids us to take part in the lives of our youngest generation. Recently we received a call from a school in the Nizhny Novgorod District, asking us to visit their class to talk about our network and show them some of our children's programs. But instead, we invited them for a tour of our studios!

For an hour-and-a-half, 20 excited kids watched, asked questions, and even tried to be TV artists in our studios.

Everyone received books and DVDs of our children's programs, and some even gave us their first interview. Ksusha, one of the girls, told us, "Everything here was



(Above): The orphanage where our staff brought toys clothes and other gifts. (Below): Children from a local elementary class tour 3ABN Russia studios.

so interesting! I especially loved seeing how the programs are made, and I like your channel's name—Three Angels. They're like stars shining from the sky for everyone on the earth."

There isn't a Russian or American way of showing people who Christ and Christians really are. No matter what happens in international relations, helping people obtain salvation by the grace of our Heavenly Father unites our divided world, rising above every difference.

3ABN Russia's only purpose is to transform hearts and souls through Christian programming, and we're so thankful to our dear American readers and viewers for their prayers and support of 3ABN. God's love changes people. And people, in turn, transform the world. ☺



Julia Outkina is 3ABN Russia's executive director, and has been with us since 1992. Her passion is to win souls for Christ through 3ABN Russia's ministry and her personal testimony.



Lyudmila Verlan, directs the Sprout center for children with special needs.



SPECIAL DELIVERY

by Brenda Walsh



Lifting the pillars onto the truck was no easy task.



Using wood planks, the pillars were all tightly secured together.



Debbie Thompson Kippel (far right) made arrangements for the Amazing Facts IT team to help Mike (second from right) load the pillars.

There's a lot of excitement in the air as Kids Network is hard at work producing *Bible Bowl*, our very first Bible game program. It will involve Pathfinder clubs from around the world—each coming prepared to test their Bible knowledge. Production is scheduled for July.

AN INCREDIBLE GIFT

Debbie Thompson Kippel, our program development manager, and co-producer of *Bible Bowl*, went to work reviewing several set designs, but all were too costly. This sent us to our knees, and you can imagine my excitement when Debbie called to say someone was willing to donate a set worth almost forty thousand dollars! Several years ago, Amazing Facts had created a set for their speaker,

Doug Batchelor, but no longer had a need for it. However, there was one hitch—we would need to move it from Sacramento, California, to 3ABN, which is located in southern Illinois.

TRANSPORTING CHALLENGES

This set consists of many parts, but the biggest challenge would be eight large pillars, measuring eleven feet in height and five feet in diameter! It would take two semi trucks at four thousand dollars each to move them! We definitely couldn't afford eight thousand dollars—but God had a better plan!

A few days later, I was attending alumni weekend at my school, Georgia Cumberland Academy. That Saturday evening, I was invited to a party at my former classmate Cheryl Roger's house and shared with everyone the challenge of

how we had received such a generous gift but had no way to get it across country. That's when God's plan went into action!

MIKE STRICKLAND

"When I heard you talking about needing a truck to bring those pillars, I immediately knew I had to do it. You see, I have been praying for two years



that God would use me to work for Him, and I had no doubt, this was His call." Mike, a former classmate I hadn't seen in 45 years, just happens to own—a flat bed truck! The next day

Mike called to say, "I'll do it . . . and it won't cost you a penny!" True to his word, two weeks later, the pillars arrived safely at our Kids Network studios. What an awesome God we serve!

WE NEED YOUR HELP

If you would like to see more Christ-centered programs for kids, please prayerfully consider supporting 3ABN's Kids Network. If the Holy Spirit impresses, please send your tax-deductible love gifts to 3ABN's Kids Network, Post Office Box 220, West Frankfort, Illinois, 62896, or call us at 618-627-4651. You may also donate online through PayPal from many countries at 3abnkids.tv. Thank you for all you do for this ministry and for God's children around the world. ☺



Brenda Walsh is the general manager of 3ABN Kids Network, as well as producer/host of Kids Time and Kids Time Praise. She is a published author, singer, cook, and international speaker. She is married to Tim, and they have two daughters and four grandchildren.



Mike and the 3ABN crew remove the covering from the pillars.



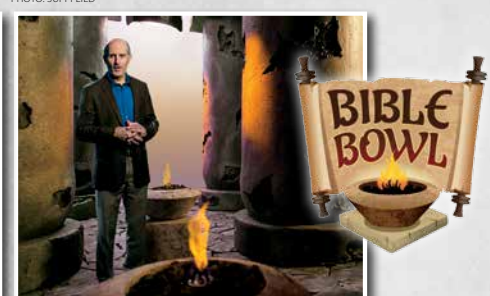
Carefully detaching the wood planks.



3ABN production manager, Greg Morikone, assisted with the unloading.



The crew carries the pillars into the Kids Network studio.



Doug Batchelor on the original set that Amazing Facts donated to 3ABN Kids Network.

BABY SEA TURTLES

by Mellisa Hoffman

If you've ever been through an obstacle course, you know how hard it can be. Before reaching the finish line, you have to conquer challenges like running, climbing, jumping, crawling, and balancing.



Baby sea turtles are faced with an obstacle course even before they hatch from their eggs. The very first challenge they encounter is breaking open the shell. Fortunately, they are born with a sharp "egg tooth" that falls off shortly after they're born. Then the hatchlings must work together to dig themselves out of their nest. This is no small task—sometimes it takes several days for them to burst out of the sand.

When they reach the surface, the baby turtles turn to face the ocean and then the race is on! If they don't make it to the water fast enough, they will die of dehydration. If that isn't enough, hungry birds and crabs are also on the lookout for a delicious snack.

Once in the ocean, there are even more dangerous obstacles—sharks, bigger fish, and diving birds that love to eat baby turtles. And some turtles accidentally eat garbage carelessly thrown in the ocean. Sadly, only one in 1,000 turtles live long enough to become an adult.

Baby turtles keep going no matter what difficulties they face, and with God's help . . . so can you! The devil is going to throw every obstacle that he can in your way to keep you away from Jesus, but no matter how tired or discouraged you are . . . just keep going toward your heavenly goal! Don't let anything separate you from your Best Friend, Jesus!



Mellisa Hoffman is the assistant to Brenda Walsh, general manager for 3ABN Kids Network, as well as their program manager. She is also a talented copy editor and has two teenage children, Hannah and Lance.

"But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."

2 Chronicles 15:7 (NIV)



Baby turtles hatch from their eggs and then have to dig their way to the surface.

Mother turtles crawl onto the beach and use their flippers to dig the holes for the nests.



Turtle eggs are soft, so they do not break when they fall into the egg cavity.



Dangerous Journey

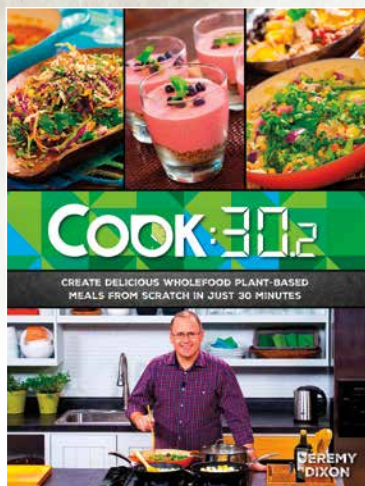
Figure out which path each baby turtle takes to get to the ocean.



ANSWER: 1-E, 2-B, 3-E, 4-A, 5-D, 6-C

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM/WATT JEPSON, (RINA KFAWVLEI) BILDORANGE STUDIO/IGOR FIOTINOV

3ABN MINISTRY MATERIALS



COOK:30.2

The *Cook:30.2* cookbook captures all 24 meals in the second delicious season of this popular television series. The amazing, full-color photographs of each dish, along with the hundreds of preparation and presentation photographs demonstrating each step, will fill you with confidence to try each mouth-watering recipe.

(BC30V2) \$25.00 Suggested Donation

KIDS TIME – SEASON 1 DVDS

Join “Miss Brenda” (Brenda Walsh) and her young friends as they explore nature, learn about the Bible, and sing songs of praise.

Get ready for 100% pure fun and learn more about your Best Friend, Jesus!

BONUS: Free DVD of *Kids Time Praise*
2 Extra Hours of music in each volume!

(KTSV) SPECIAL \$8.50 each* Suggested Donation
Only volumes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 available.
Limited supplies. Call for availability.



*Special Pricing for month of July only

3ABN SPRING CAMP MEETING 2016

Be inspired by powerful messages from speakers John Bradshaw, Carlton Byrd, John Carter, Kameron DeVasher, Ivor Myers, David Shin, Mollie Steenson, C. A. Murray, Shelley Quinn, John Lomacang, and Kenny Shelton.

(16SCM DSET) \$140 (20 program set) Suggested Donation

(16SCM) Individual Items \$10.00 each or \$7.00 each for 5 or more. Suggested Donation. Calvary concert not available in set or individually.

CHRIST,
CALVARY,
AND THE
SANCTUARY



TO ORDER, go to 3ABNSTORE.COM, use the attached envelope, or call 618-627-4651 during regular business hours.

All prices are in US dollar amounts

3ABN TV SCHEDULE JULY 2016

FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF ALL THE NETWORKS PLEASE VISIT [HTTP://3ABN.ORG/SCHEDULE](http://3abn.org/schedule)

For Pacific time -2 hours • Mountain time -1 hour • Eastern time +1 hour **CC** = Closed Captioned. **L** = Live program.
★ = New series. **↻** = Repeat of live program. Program titles in red are changes effective this month.

CST	SUNDAY	CST	MONDAY
2:00a	Pillars of Faith ★ CC	2:00a	Life Discovery Series (Jim Reinking) CC
2:30		2:30	
3:00	Featured Ministries CC	3:00	Homecoming 2015 CC
3:30	From Sickness to Health (Rico Hill) CC	3:30	
4:00	In the Beginning (Stan Hudson)	4:00	Eleventh Hour Evidence
4:30		4:30	...(David Asscherick) CC
5:00	Revelation Now (Jac Colon) CC	5:00	Praise! (Kelly Mowrer)
5:30		5:30	Wonderfully Made CC
6:00	Body & Spirit Aerobics (Dick Nunez) CC	6:00	Body & Spirit (Dick Nunez) CC
6:30	Heart Lift (Jill Morikone) CC	6:30	Pressing in to His Presence (Shelley Quinn) CC
7:00	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC	7:00	Digging Up the Past (David Down) CC
7:30	Praise! (Kelly Mowrer)	7:30	Ultimate Prescription (Dr. James Marcum) CC
8:00	3ABN Today	8:00	3ABN Today
8:30		8:30	
9:00	Stones of Remembrance CC	9:00	House Calls (John Lomacang) CC
9:30	Adventures in Missions CC	9:30	
10:00	Focus on God's Word CC	10:00	Free Indeed (C. A. Murray) CC
10:30		10:30	Books of the Book CC
11:00	Inspirational Hour CC	11:00	Revelation of Hope (Taj Pacleb) CC
11:30		11:30	
12:00p	Melody From My Heart	12:00p	Behold the Lamb Presents
12:30	Grace Pipeline (Shelley Quinn) CC	12:30	...(Kenny Shelton) CC
1:00	A Sharper Focus (John Lomacang) L	1:00	Off the Grid CC
1:30		1:30	Abundant Living (Curtis & Paula Eakins) CC
2:00	Body & Spirit CC	2:00	Action 4 Life (Casio Jones) CC
2:30	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC	2:30	Heaven's Point of View (Frank Fournier) CC
3:00	3ABN Today LIVE L	3:00	3ABN Today CC
3:30		3:30	
4:00		4:00	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC
4:30		4:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC
5:00	The Carter Report (John Carter) CC	5:00	Liberty Insider (Lincoln Steed) CC
5:30		5:30	Help in Daily Living CC
6:00	Books of the Book CC	6:00	Grace Pipeline (Shelley Quinn) CC
6:30	Cook:30.2 (Jeremy Dixon) CC	6:30	Mission 360 (Gary Krause) CC
7:00	Jesus for Asia Now (Jon & Natalie Wood)	7:00	Celebrating Life in Recovery CC
7:30	The Heavens Declare (Jim Burr) CC	7:30	...(Cheri Peters)
8:00	3ABN Today	8:00	3ABN Today CC
8:30		8:30	
9:00	Table Talk CC	9:00	Pillars of Faith ★ CC
9:30		9:30	
10:00	It Is Written Canada (Chris Holland) CC	10:00	The Carter Report (John Carter) CC
10:30	Help in Daily Living CC	10:30	
11:00	3ABN Today	11:00	3ABN Today
11:30		11:30	
12:00a	Secrets Unsealed Presents...	12:00a	ASI Conventions CC
12:30	...(Stephen Bohr)	12:30	
1:00	GYC 2015 CC	1:00	Books of the Book CC
1:30		1:30	Battles of Faith CC

CDT	TUESDAY	CDT	WEDNESDAY
2:00a	Stones of Remembrance CC	2:00a	Celebrating Life in Recovery CC
2:30	Descendants of Abraham (Shakeela Yasuf) CC	2:30	...(Cheri Peters)
3:00	Melody From My Heart	3:00	Revelation Insights (Lyle Albrecht) CC
3:30	Free Indeed (C. A. Murray) CC	3:30	
4:00	House Calls (John Lomacang) CC	4:00	Digging Up the Past (David Down) CC
4:30		4:30	Thunder in the Holy Land (Charles Byrd) CC
5:00	Salvation in Symbols and Signs (Myers, Rafferty) CC	5:00	White Horse Media Presents (Steve Wohlberg) CC
5:30	Cook:30.2 (Jeremy Dixon) CC	5:30	Adventures in Missions CC
6:00	Body & Spirit Aerobics (Dick Nunez) CC	6:00	Body & Spirit (Dick Nunez) CC
6:30	The Heavens Declare (Jim Burr) CC	6:30	ASI Video Magazine (Dan Houghton) CC
7:00	Special Feature CC	7:00	Amazing Facts Presents... (Doug Batchelor) CC
7:30		7:30	Help in Daily Living CC
8:00	3ABN Today LIVE ↻	8:00	3ABN Today
8:30		8:30	
9:00		9:00	Keepers of the Flame CC
9:30		9:30	Walking with Jesus (Garloff)/Grandma's House (Neal) CC
10:00	Heaven's Point of View (Tom Shepherd) CC	10:00	Melody From My Heart
10:30	Pressing in to His Presence (Shelley Quinn) CC	10:30	Liberty Insider (Lincoln Steed) CC
11:00	Featured Ministries CC	11:00	Table Talk CC
11:30	Books of the Book CC	11:30	
12:00p	The Revelation of Jesus Christ CC	12:00p	3ABN On the Road CC
12:30	...(Kenneth Cox)	12:30	
1:00	Hope in Motion	1:00	Issues and Answers CC
1:30	Cook:30.2 (Jeremy Dixon) CC	1:30	Abundant Living (Curtis & Paula Eakins) CC
2:00	Body & Spirit CC	2:00	Action 4 Life (Casio Jones) CC
2:30	Heart Lift (Jill Morikone) CC	2:30	Back to Our Roots (Alex Schlussler) CC
3:00	3ABN Today	3:00	3ABN Today
3:30		3:30	
4:00	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC	4:00	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC
4:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC	4:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC
5:00	Kids Time Praise CC	5:00	Everlasting Gospel CC
5:30	Marriage in God's Hands CC	5:30	
6:00	House Calls (John Lomacang) CC	6:00	Revelation of the Coming King CC
6:30		6:30	...(Ranko Stefanovic)
7:00	Secrets Unsealed Presents...	7:00	A Sharper Focus (John Lomacang) ⚡
7:30	...(Stephen Bohr)	7:30	
8:00	3ABN Today	8:00	3ABN Today
8:30		8:30	
9:00	Behold the Lamb Presents CC	9:00	Amazing Facts Presents... (Doug Batchelor) CC
9:30	...(Kenny Shelton)	9:30	Books of the Book CC
10:00	Revelation Insights (Lyle Albrecht) CC	10:00	It Is Written CC
10:30		10:30	Stones of Remembrance CC
11:00	3ABN Today	11:00	3ABN Today CC
11:30		11:30	
12:00a	Heaven's Point of View (Hal Steenson) CC	12:00a	A Sharper Focus (John Lomacang) ↻
12:30	Exalting His Word (Shelley Quinn) CC	12:30	
1:00	Contending for the Faith (Clifford Goldstein) CC	1:00	In the Footsteps of Paul (Tony Moore) CC
1:30	Ultimate Prescription (Dr. James Marcum) CC	1:30	Melody From My Heart

CDT	THURSDAY	CDT	FRIDAY
2:00a	Books of the Book CC	2:00a	3ABN Today LIVE (continued) ↻
2:30	Grace Pipeline (Shelley Quinn) CC	2:30	
3:00	Up Close	3:00	Revelation of Hope (Taj Pacleb) CC
3:30		3:30	
4:00	Remodeling Your Life (Jim Ayer) CC	4:00	Liberty Insider (Lincoln Steed) CC
4:30	Issues & Answers CC	4:30	Battles of Faith CC
5:00	Origins (Terry McComb) CC	5:00	Sabbath School Study Hour CC
5:30		5:30	
6:00	Body & Spirit Aerobics (Dick Nunez) CC	6:00	Body & Spirit (Dick Nunez) CC
6:30	Jesus for Asia Now (Jon & Natalie Wood) CC	6:30	His Words Are Life (Mowrer)/Grandma's House (Neal) CC
7:00	Homecoming 2015 CC	7:00	Revelation Now (Jac Colon) CC
7:30		7:30	
8:00	3ABN Today	8:00	3ABN Today
8:30		8:30	
9:00	GYC 2015 CC	9:00	Behold the Lamb Presents CC
9:30		9:30	...(Kenny Shelton)
10:00	From Sickness to Health (Rico Hill) CC	10:00	Health for a Lifetime (Don Mackintosh) CC
10:30	Heart Lift (Jill Morikone) CC	10:30	It Is Written Canada (Chris Holland)
11:00	Celebrating Life in Recovery	11:00	Secrets Unsealed Presents...
11:30	...(Cheri Peters) CC	11:30	...(Stephen Bohr) CC
12:00p	Ultimate Prescription (Dr. James Marcum) CC	12:00p	Revelation of the Coming King CC
12:30	Marriage in God's Hands CC	12:30	...(Ranko Stefanovic)
1:00	Books of the Book CC	1:00	Remodeling Your Life (Jim Ayer) CC
1:30	Taste of Paradise (Nyse Collins) CC	1:30	Cook:30.2 (Jeremy Dixon) CC
2:00	Body & Spirit (Dick Nunez) CC	2:00	Action 4 Life (Casio Jones) CC
2:30	Melody From My Heart	2:30	Steps to Christ in Song CC
3:00	3ABN Today	3:00	3ABN Today
3:30		3:30	
4:00	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC	4:00	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC
4:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC	4:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC
5:00	Liberty Insider (Lincoln Steed) CC	5:00	Featured Ministries CC
5:30	Heaven's Point of View (Tom Shepherd) CC	5:30	Melody From My Heart CC
6:00	The Carter Report (John Carter) CC	6:00	Jesus for Asia Now (Jon & Natalie Wood) CC
6:30		6:30	The Heavens Declare (Jim Burr) CC
7:00	Sabbath School Study Hour	7:00	Pillars of Faith ★
7:30		7:30	
8:00	3ABN Today LIVE ⚡	8:00	3ABN Today CC
8:30		8:30	
9:00		9:00	It is Written CC
9:30		9:30	Maranatha Mission Stories CC
10:00	Kenneth Cox Ministries CC	10:00	Mission 360 (Gary Krause) CC
10:30		10:30	Hope in Motion
11:00	3ABN Today	11:00	3ABN Today
11:30		11:30	
12:00a	Table Talk CC	12:00a	A Sharper Focus (John Lomacang) ↻
12:30		12:30	
1:00	3ABN Today LIVE ↻	1:00	Breath of Life (Carlton Byrd) CC
1:30		1:30	Thunder in the Holy Land (Charles Byrd) CC

CDT	SATURDAY
2:00a	Praise! (Kelly Mowrer)
2:30	In the Footsteps of Paul (Tony Moore) CC
3:00	Give Me the Bible (Kenneth Cox)
3:30	
4:00	Focus on God's Word CC
4:30	
5:00	Breath of Life (Carlton Byrd) CC
5:30	Digging Up the Past (David Down) CC
6:00	It Is Written CC
6:30	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC
7:00	Kids Time Praise CC
7:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh)
8:00	3ABN Today
8:30	
9:00	Sabbath School Study Hour CC
9:30	
10:00	Kenneth Cox Ministries CC
10:30	
11:00	Worship Hour CC
11:30	
12:00p	Pillars of Faith ★ CC
12:30	
1:00	New Perceptions (Dwight Nelson) CC
1:30	
2:00	Table Talk CC
2:30	
3:00	3ABN Today CC
3:30	
4:00	Maranatha Mission Stories CC
4:30	Kids Time (Brenda Walsh) CC
5:00	Kids Time Praise
5:30	Tiny Tots for Jesus (Linda Johnson) CC
6:00	Laymen Ministries (Jeff Reich) CC
6:30	Salvation in Symbols and Signs (Myers, Rafferty) CC
7:00	Breath of Life (Carlton Byrd) CC
7:30	White Horse Media Presents (Steve Wohlberg) CC
8:00	3ABN Today
8:30	
9:00	Contending for the Faith (Clifford Goldstein) CC
9:30	Books of the Book
10:00	Pressing in to His Presence CC
10:30	Making Waves (Jim Ayer) CC
11:00	3ABN Today
11:30	
12:00a	Special Feature CC
12:30	
1:00	GYC 2014 CC
1:30	



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PULLING WEEDS

by John Lomacang

Write this at the time of the year when most of the Western Hemisphere countries echo the phrase, “Spring has sprung.” Everywhere, we see apparently dead trees coming to life, and green blades of grass reappear after a long winter’s nap. The air is fragrant with new life in abundance, and the birds join in concert as they welcome nature’s budding food crop.

Yet I can’t help but think of the unwelcome signs of spring—those irritating fellows that tend to do their part to hinder the production and growth of nature’s finest. If you haven’t guessed it yet, I’m talking about weeds. Gardening would be a pleasure if it weren’t for the pesky, choking tentacles of weeds. They seem to manifest a presence everywhere. Find the tomato plants and you will find weeds. Spread the fertilizer to enrich the lawn, but don’t forget the Weed B Gon!

Whose idea was it to clutter the beautiful things in nature with weeds? What

kind of architectural genius thought it well to insert in the soil the ability to hinder progress? I believe we can find the answer in God’s Word. After the entrance of sin, we read these words, “Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field.” Genesis 3:18.

During the season of sowing, Jesus redirects our minds by explaining what and who is behind hindering the impact of His Word.

Matthew 13:27–28 says, “So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’

“He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’”

It’s Not Entirely the Devil’s Fault!

An enemy? Could it be that the unproductive nature that has gripped the church is directly related to the work of the enemy? More specifically, the work of

the enemy has become quite easy, due to the condition of the soil.

It’s easy to say, as the famous comedian, Flip Wilson, did, “The devil made me do it!” However, the truth is that when the heart is not nurtured to receive the living Word, the results Jesus desires never come to fruition.

When we examine the components of growth, there is Jesus the Sower, the seed (His Word), and the soil (our heart’s condition). Of the four types of soil He mentioned in His parable, three were com-

pletely unsuitable. The recipients of the Word hampered *seventy-five percent* of the production.

Were the recipients helpless to change their course? Not so. Listen to words of wisdom: “Even the tares have a lesson to teach. They are of Satan’s sowing, and if left unchecked, will spoil the wheat by their rank growth.”¹

There are no helpless church members; each of us is capable of making decisions about the impact of God’s Word in our lives. The challenge comes when we see our condition and allow it to continue unchecked. In other words, we can’t keep

the bird from flying over our heads, but we can prevent them from making a nest in our hair.

This is where examination comes in. Ask yourself, *What have I allowed the enemy to sow in my life that has remained unchecked?* You might be shocked by what the Lord reveals, and the importance of this revelation cannot be underestimated. When we confront the nemesis of our Christian growth—the thing that keeps us uninvolved and unfruitful, we are on our way to unhindered productivity.

If winning souls for the Lord is your pulse, and “Every-

THERE ARE NO HELPLESS CHURCH MEMBERS
each of us is capable of making decisions about the impact of God’s Word in our lives.



John Lomacang is 3ABN’s director of World Evangelism. He pastors our local church and is an author, singer/songwriter, and host of *House Calls* and *A Sharper Focus*. His wife Angela works for 3ABN Radio.



REACHING IN, REACHING OUT

by Bobby Davis

For many years, 3ABN's Pastoral Ministries Department has corresponded with inmates, answering their Bible questions and sharing spiritual food. In addition, they've prayed over their prayer requests, and sent them Bibles, books, and Bible study courses, too.

REACHING IN THROUGH TELEVISION

By God's grace, 3ABN television is currently reaching around 46,000 inmates in 40 prisons, and the stories of changed lives are amazing. One inmate, in his twenty-second year of incarceration, wrote to tell us that he'd searched for God by attending church services in the Church of God, Baptist, Pentecostal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic faiths. However, he still felt empty.

In prison, he made a firm decision to live for God. He joined the Episcopal Church, and then enrolled in college classes to prepare for the ministry.

But what little faith he had was soon challenged. "I was being taught that many books of the Bible were mythology, parables, or simply non-factual," he says. "Their teachings often seemed at odds with the Scriptures, and even worse, the instructor seemed to be trying to force the Scriptures to say something they never intended to! The longer I took those classes, the more confused I became, and by the time I dropped out, I wasn't sure what to believe in anymore. So I stepped away from organized religion to study the Bible on my own."

He sat down with an Oxford Annotated Study Bible, a borrowed King James Bible, and a worn-out paperback version of the Holman Christian Standard Bible in modern English. Methodically, he read each one through and compared the three versions, verse by verse. When he found verses that didn't seem to agree with each other,

he searched for the original Hebrew and Greek meanings in the chapel's huge, exhaustive concordance.

"Nearly three years later, I'd read through all three Bibles three times," he writes. "And by then, I'd concluded that almost everything I thought I knew about God's Word—and almost everything I'd been taught by my church and family—was wrong!

"I soaked up God's truths like a sponge, but didn't know what to do with it. I wanted to tell the world, but honestly, I was afraid they would think I was crazy. I didn't know anyone else who believed as I did, so I felt more alone than ever. I grieved over the knowledge God had given me, since it set me apart from everyone I knew. So I began to ask God to help me understand what to do with it.

"Shortly after this, while flipping through the TV channels, I stumbled onto 3ABN. All of a sudden I wasn't alone anymore! I wasn't crazy—unless millions more were crazy with me—and I was overjoyed! I immediately recognized my brothers and sisters in Christ by the message they proclaimed, and 3ABN became my second home, as well as my place of worship. If I was a castaway, then 3ABN had become my life raft—my secure place in a sea of confused Christians.

"One day I heard of a group who met on Saturdays for worship, and I couldn't wait to visit. After attending for eight Sabbaths, I asked to be baptized; and two weeks later, I joined the local

prison congregation and became a member of my local Seventh-day Adventist Conference!"

REACHING IN THROUGH RADIO

3ABN Radio also reaches in behind the walls through radio stations that "just happen" to be located where prisoners can listen. A prisoner in Michigan writes, "I thank 3ABN Radio for saving my life.

"I wanted to tell the world what I'd learned, but to be quite honest, I was afraid they would think I was crazy."

My first five months in prison were the darkest period of my life on this earth, and I felt so lost that I contemplated suicide. However, something kept me walking back to my bunk, where I finally begged God to deliver me from the pain and anguish in my heart and soul."

Putting on his headphones, he says that he searched the dial for some music, but instead found a 3ABN Radio station broadcasting a sermon by Doug Batchelor. "I felt like he was speaking right to me!" he exclaims. "I'll pray that someone else may be saved the same way I was!"

REACHING IN THROUGH LITERATURE

God is not just using television and radio. An inmate in Texas writes, "Thank you so much for sending me a copy of the book, *The Antichrist Agenda*. It's been a blessing to me, as well as to many others in this prison. Today is the third Sabbath I've

Testimony

observed, and I intend to discuss this matter in detail with my pastor upon my release.”

An inmate in Indiana writes, “I received the Bible and the information booklet you sent me. It’s the nicest thing anybody has done for me in a very long time. I would like to thank everybody who donates to 3ABN. I will put the Bible to good use daily, and have already started. I’ve tried so many churches growing up, but never totally agreed with them. What do I have to do to become a Seventh-day Adventist?”

REACHING IN THROUGH DVDS

Recently, we received a letter from Mark* an inmate in the Cayman Islands who’s serving a life sentence. We first heard from him several years ago, when he asked our Call Center manager for materials he could use for outreach in his prison. But when our Pastoral Ministries Department volunteer, Grace Yost, received a phone call from him, she was rather surprised.

“At first I thought, *Is this a joke?*” she recalls. “After all, was it even possible that I was talking to an inmate calling from the *Cayman Islands*? Then he explained to me that his prison job allowed him access to the telephone, and that he’d been in touch with one of our previous Call Center managers. I was immediately impressed by the sincerity with which he asked for materials. It

was clear that the Lord had transformed his life, and that his greatest desire was to reach others for Christ.

“We’ve sent quite a few DVDs to prisons, like *Unclean Spirits* with John Lomacang, *The Harvest Is Ready!* with C. A. Murray, and episodes of *Celebrating Life in Recovery* with Cheri Peters,” Grace continues. “Mark says that *Free Indeed*, featuring the stories of prisoners who’ve found freedom in Christ, are especially popular in his prison.

“Of course, many correctional facilities only have one television in each wing, and Christians have difficulty convincing the rest of the population to let them watch religious programs. So they watch the DVDs in their chapel, learning new truths together and often using them as a springboard for further Bible study or discussion.”

REACHING OUT

As inmate lives are transformed, a deep desire arises in each of them to reach out to fellow inmates with God’s amazing grace and salvation. Recently, Mark worked hard with the local churches to coordinate an evangelistic series in his prison, and was overjoyed by the results.

“Yesterday, nine precious souls were baptized at HM Northward prison,” he writes, “so I am no longer the only Seventh-day Adventist baptized member here! Thank you, 3ABN, for the many resources you’ve sent me. Surely the Holy Spirit is working in this place. My labour is not in vain. There are new names written down in glory!”

PHOTO SUPPLIED



Mark* stands in the chapel he was able to remodel with his own funds some years ago. By God’s grace he was able to make many improvements, including the addition of the Ten Commandments, and two large murals, depicting the Last Supper and a picture of Jesus Christ.

Do you have a testimony to share of how 3ABN made a difference in your life?

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT IT!
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Friday night and Sabbath Worship attendance is growing, a Conference Bible worker now brings a Bible study to 22 inmates every Wednesday, and they’re anticipating another baptism this summer.

“When we receive a letter like this, we rejoice at how God reaches those inmates who are searching,” Grace says. “Their letters tell us the horrible backgrounds they’ve come from. Many have been frightfully abused since they were tiny children. But the healing power of Jesus, combined with our humble efforts, gives them hope that we’ll all be together in His heavenly kingdom.”

CHANGED LIVES

Mark is enthusiastic about what happens when new Christians leave prison. “God has big plans for those who find Him here but then leave this place,” he says. “An inmate who was converted and baptized is now conducting an evangelistic series with a pastor in Barbados! Another man who fled the country after being charged with drug trafficking, arrived back here suicidal. But the Holy Spirit won him to Jesus, and he was baptized. Today he is a faithful member on the outside and is doing his part for the Lord.”

Mark receives much support from the Cayman Island Seventh-day Adventist Conference, and is especially grateful to Pastor Reinaldo Drocket, their executive secretary, who has always helped tremendously. He’s also greatly blessed by the Adventist pastors who lead out in church services each week. “But our main support with materials has come from 3ABN,” he adds. “We’ve received cases of books and many DVDs. And when the inmates watch them, the Holy Spirit works on their hearts and opens their eyes.

“I’m also deeply grateful for the materials we receive from United Prison Ministries International and Inspiration Books East, in Alabama. These materials are changing lives!”

Grace is quick to add her gratitude for those who contribute each month to 3ABN’s prison ministry. “We can send these materials only because of the generosity of our donors, and my heart is humbled when I realize that God’s ministry has opened up their hearts to support those who don’t have the ability to receive materials freely, as we do in our country. Thank you for your prayers and financial support that make this possible.” ☺

*A pseudonym.



The Starling and the Storm

*Greg began to jog, but my legs couldn't seem to move.
He glanced over his shoulder. "Hurry!"*

We stood in the doorway, watching as the wind blew leaves and twigs across the yard, picking them up and swirling them into little eddies and circles. And then the rain came. Not in sheets, but with a driving force because of the tumultuous wind.

The Starling

Suddenly, Greg pointed. "Look on top of the porch roof." There, at the very top, perched a starling. Just a simple black bird. She had somehow made a nest under the eaves. Earlier that day, we'd heard the familiar "cheep, cheep" of the baby birds.

The storm whipped at Mama Starling's feathers, but she somehow clung tighter to the roof. She was blown about, but always managed to come back and hunker low, right over the spot where her nest was. I could imagine the babies crying out for mama, little realizing that she was up above, braving the elements, valiantly doing everything in her power to protect her young.

As we watched, the storm passed abruptly, and the wind ceased. Torn leaves and broken twigs lay scattered about, but Mama Starling and her babies had survived.

The Whisper

At that moment, I felt God speak to my heart. Not an audible voice, but the gentlest of whispers. *That's how it is in the storms of life, My daughter. When you're troubled, when you're buffeted about by the storms of temptation, of sin, of life, trust that I am above. Even if you cannot see Me. I'm watching over you in love.* ☺

It was one of the first hot, humid days of the season. Almost too hot to be outside. Later in the day after supper, I told Greg, "Let's go outside. It's got to be cooler than it was earlier. We can have a nice stroll down the road."

He glanced up from the radar on his iPad. "We'd better go soon. There's a storm brewing."

I grabbed my tennis shoes and stepped into the garage, the heat hitting me full in the face. The temperature gauge on the wall stood at 95 degrees. That's why it felt so stuffy! We walked out of the garage, but the air felt just as warm. Thick. Heavy. Stifling.

The Storm

Suddenly, the wind picked up as we turned onto the gravel road in front of our home. Angry, black clouds churned overhead. Just as we emerged from the trees into the open field, Greg spoke. "Jilly, the rain's coming. We need to go home now!"

I looked ahead, as a curtain seemed to approach us. It looked like the familiar line of heavy rain you often see with a storm, but something was different. We turned and began to hurry home when the wind hit us, detaching leaves, twigs, pollen, branches—tossing them about in the swirling air currents, pelting the side of my head, my arms, my back. I froze for an instant, arms up and over my head, to protect myself in case a big limb came crashing down on me. Greg began to jog, but my legs couldn't seem to move.

He glanced over his shoulder. "Hurry!"

I forced my legs to move, just as the first large drops of rain began to fall. Thunder crackled in the distance. But it was the wind, as it tore at my hair, that seemed to turn the forest into a living, breathing thing. Somehow, we made it to our driveway, and then it was just a few steps to the shelter of our garage.



Jill Morikone is the administrative assistant to 3ABN's president, a columnist for the *Adventist Review*, and involved in teaching Sabbath School and women's ministries. She's married to 3ABN production manager, Greg Morikone.



Thai LINGUINE

From the kitchen of Mollie Steenson



Through the years, several of us have shared our lunchtime together here at 3ABN. One of us will bring an entrée, someone else will bring bread, a vegetable, and fruit or some such combination. So I am always looking for new vegetarian recipes to try out on my ready-made lunch bunch. They've become my willing 'Guinea pigs' to try new recipes, and this one was well received. I hope you enjoy it, too. ☺

Mollie Steenson

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound linguine
- 2 Tbsp olive oil, divided
- 1 medium zucchini, sliced
- 1 medium carrot, sliced in 1-inch matchsticks
- 8 oz mushrooms, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 Tbsp brown sugar
- ¼ cup low sodium soy sauce
- 3 sriracha hot sauce to taste (¼ Tbsp is mildly spicy)
- 2 Tbsp fresh ginger, grated
- 1 bunch fresh cilantro, chopped
- 4 green onions, chopped
- ¼ cup peanuts

Directions

1. Cook linguine according to package directions, drain, and set aside. (I always save a cup or two of the cooking water, in case I need it for extra moisture.)
2. In a separate bowl, combine brown sugar, soy sauce, sriracha, and ginger. Whisk well to combine and set aside.
3. In large skillet, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add zucchini, carrots, mushrooms, and garlic. Sauté for 5–6 minutes, or until veggies are cooked.
4. Combine pasta and veggies and pour sauce mixture over the top. Using a wooden spoon, stir to coat pasta and veggies well. Add peanuts, green onions, and cilantro. Stir again to combine.

It's ready to serve, and the beauty of this dish is that it is equally good, hot or cold!

Mollie is 3ABN's vice president and general manager. She says, "When my son Jeremy was young someone asked him what his daddy did, and he said, 'He's a preacher.' Then they asked what his mother did, and he replied, 'She's a cooker!' Cooking has never been a chore to me. Instead, it's a joy!"

PHOTOS: SVETLANA CHRISTIAN



BACK PAIN

by Dr. James Marcum

In last month's edition of *3ABN World*, I discussed chest pain, and how important it is to seek help immediately. Pain is the body signaling, through nerves, that something is not right.

Now it's time to learn about a pain that is less dangerous in the "here and now," and back pain is the most common cause of chronic pain, afflicting one in four in the United States. It causes missed work-days and numerous prescriptions to be written to treat the symptom.

THE BASICS

There's not enough room to cover all its aspects, but I do want you to understand the basics. At least 70 percent of people will experience back pain at some time in their life. In fact, one in four have experienced back pain in the last three months. Most of these individuals improve with rest and time, since their pain is related to musculoskeletal pain in the lower back. However, too many times I see people with low back pain continue to work and not allow healing to occur simply by resting. They take a medication so the pain isn't so bad,

and continue onward. The mechanical problem is not addressed, so it frequently worsens. More and more pain medication is needed to function, and the problem worsens, sometimes leading to a pain medication addiction.

If you have low back pain, rest. Do not continue working the part that hurts. This may prevent a much more serious problem. Statistics have shown that 40 percent of low back pain sufferers become well within a week, 80 percent within two weeks, and 90 percent within two months—regardless of the treatment.

If the pain persists and radiates to the legs, this is more serious. If weakness, impaired sensation, or loss of bladder or bowel function occurs, immediate evaluation should be considered.

Too many times I see people with low back pain continue to work and not allow healing to occur simply by resting.

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM/MILAND089/LIGHTSPRING

COMMON CAUSES

Some common causes of back pain are:

STRAIN ON THE PARTS – The back consists of vertebrae, discs (shock absorbers), muscles, ligaments, and a blood supply. Too much sitting, poor posture, trauma, twisting and lifting can strain these parts, causing pain.

DISC DEGENERATION – Aging and strain can cause this, and those shock absorbers wear out.

DISC HERNIATION – The disc bulges outward and may put pressure on the nerves.

RADICULOPATHY – A spinal nerve root is compressed, inflamed, or compromised.

SKELETAL PROBLEMS – This may be genetic or even acquired by poor posture.

DISC HERNIATION – back pain with fever, or back pain after a fall (especially in the elderly) could be more serious and need further evaluation. A good history and physical exam are still the most important elements in the evaluation. Further testing may include X-Ray, CT, or MRI scans to image the back.

COMMON SENSE AND TREATMENT

The chances of developing low back pain can be minimized by common sense. Good posture, shoes with good arch support, sleeping with the legs bent, avoiding cigarettes, and regular movement are mainstays of prevention. Many people sit for long periods of time and this can put a strain on the low back. Stretching, maintaining the correct body weight, and lifting correctly all lower the risk of developing low back pain.

Treatment depends on the cause, but remember, do not take risks until

necessary. Remember that if the cause is addressed, long-term medication is usually not needed. Conservative approaches include rest, hydrotherapy, heat, physical therapy, weight loss, manipulation, braces, and exercise of certain muscle groups. A short-term medication might be needed to help with inflammation or pain. Nutrition will also help. Adequate hydration, greens and beans, and avoidance of animal products and processed food will decrease inflammation.

The good news about back pain is, if you respect the cause, get rest, and avoid stressing your back, the symptoms usually improve. Do not forget to include the Great Physician in all aspects of your life. He is interested and will be there to help. ☺



James L. Marcum M.D. FACC is a board certified, practicing cardiologist who also serves as speaker/director for Heartwise Ministries. His latest books, *Medicines that Kill*, and *Ultimate Prescription*, are available from 3ABN.



www.heartwiseministries.org

SPIRIT OF UNITY, OR UNITY IN THE SPIRIT

by Hal Steenson

The ecumenical movement is calling for denominational walls to come down and a spiritual mountain of unity to be climbed. The battle cry of this movement is, “All for one, and one for all,” with equality as its banner. Their ultimate goal is to reach the top of the mountain by whatever means of approach—Buddha, Mohammad, or Christ—as long as you reach the pinnacle; that’s all that matters. They believe when all the sails of this false movement are finally windless, their harmonious flagship will be fixed on the rocks of unified love, and they will be eternally secure.

The Spirit of Compromise

However, their movement is built on nothing more than man’s feeble attempt to gather those who are willing to compromise their beliefs, along with the godly principles their forefathers held dear through the ages. The modern ecumenical movement is nothing more than an attempt to blaspheme the blood of Christ and discredit the Cross of Calvary by laying aside biblical truths for the so-called cause of the “spirit of unity.”

The enemy of our souls has duped us into believing

that if we can inbreed denominational truths with error, we’ll have the right to make a proclamation of peace and a declaration of divine unity because we can agree to disagree.

But in fact, the outcome will be a man-made manifestation that will produce no fruits, and actually cause more division in the body of Christ by creating confusion. Why is this so? Because a spirit of unity is nonscriptural.

This spirit of unity can be found in any inner city street gang that’s about to murder a rival member of another gang. Someone yells, “Should we kill him?” and the entire gang responds in unity, “Yes, kill him, we all agree; we want to kill him.” That’s a spirit of unity. It is born of the flesh, and can be satanically motivated, as are many of the man-made gatherings and forums that are being promoted today as the means of bringing the body of Christ into unity.

Spirit of Unity vs. Unity of the Spirit

A spirit of unity is neither born of God, nor led by God. Wherever you may find a religious group under the umbrella of a spirit of unity, no matter how good their intent, God may not be in the midst of it. Why? Because there is a difference between a *spirit of unity* and the *unity of the Spirit*.

A spirit of unity may be the spawn of man, but the unity of the Spirit is always born of God. It is accomplished when the Holy Spirit begins to draw us around one common denominator. The unity of

the Spirit draws us toward one universal truth. The unity of the Spirit leads us to one eternal goal, and it is Christ, and Christ alone.

In these last days, the unity of the Holy Spirit is fitly framing Christ’s body as one mature perfect man, and contrary to many prevalent beliefs, it will never meet on a hill or valley somewhere, or in a mega stadium led by one human personality. It will be a many-membered-body in total unity of the Spirit, yet, at the same time, scattered worldwide in diversities of ministries, a multiplicity of

A spirit of unity may be the spawn of man, but the unity of the Spirit is always born of God.

peoples of different kindred and tongues, keeping the commandments of God and having the mind of Christ.

“I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:1–3. ☉



Hal Steenson is a part of 3ABN’s pastoral staff and presenter of the program, *Heaven’s Point of View*. Hal is married to Mollie Steenson, 3ABN’s vice president.

A Gift of Personal Sacrifice

by By Joe O'Brien

When Nancy fell head over heels in love with Jesus, she only wanted to know Him personally, so she prayed that God would not allow any man to come into her life to distract her from Him. For the next seven years, their relationship grew. She studied the Bible, and even spent a year in Israel, visiting the places where Jesus had lived and ministered. During this time, she committed her life to God totally and taught in parochial schools for six years because she had the opportunity to teach and introduce children to their Savior and Friend, Jesus.



Joe O'Brien has worked in 3ABN's Pastoral Ministries Department since 1999. His wife Nancy works in our Planned Giving and Trust Services Department. Their daughter Kalie and husband Andrew Saunders are finishing their Master's Degrees at Andrews University.

Nancy inquired of God if He wanted her to be a nun, although she had always hoped to marry and have a family someday. But more than anything, she wanted to live for God, doing only His will. Getting no definite answer, she began asking God to please bring a godly man into her life, if it was His will; and just days later, the Lord introduced her to the man she would marry.

I believe this is the personal relationship God wants with each of us. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33.

A Beautiful Example

This principle is also beautifully exemplified in Scripture. There was "a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day." Luke 2:37. These long years speak eloquently of the love with which Anna served the Lord.

During this time, she surely experienced great periods of joy and refreshment of spirit, to remain so disciplined. Her devotion to the Lord was rewarded with great spiritual perception, being gifted as a prophetess.

When Mary and Joseph brought Baby Jesus into the Temple to consecrate Him to God "according to the custom of the law" (Luke 2:27), God rewarded His faithful servant with the special honor, giving her the desire of her heart. With inspired insight, Anna recognized the child Jesus as the promised Messiah. Ellen White, in her book, *The Desire of Ages*, says, "Her face lighted up with

"Her face lighted up with the glory of God, and she poured out her heartfelt thanks that she had been permitted to behold Christ the Lord."¹

the glory of God, and she poured out her heartfelt thanks that she had been permitted to behold Christ the Lord."¹

Having studied prophecy, she knew the fullness of time had come, and shared this testimony with others who were

Having studied prophecy, she knew the fullness of time had come, and shared this testimony with others who were studying Scripture.

studying Scripture, concerning the time of His coming. "And she spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem." Luke 2:38.

Anna provides incentive for us all to be ready for the return of our Lord. As she was lovingly faithful in looking forward to His first coming, let us be lovingly faithful in looking forward to His very near Second Coming.

Is there a personal sacrifice we'd like to make to show Him our love? ☺

¹ Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 55.





Disbelief, Rebellion, and JUDGMENT

by Dr. R. Dean Davis

The Hebrews depart Mt. Sinai and travel through the wilderness to Kadesh Barnea, in preparation to enter Canaan. Here, the people propose sending twelve spies into the land, and when Moses brings this to the Lord, He approves.

After forty days, they return with wonderful fruit, reporting “the land flows with milk and honey.” However, ten of them say the land cannot be taken because the people are strong, their cities are fortified, and there are giants! The people cry out against Moses and Aaron, saying, “Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”

Faithful Spies

Moses and Aaron fall on their faces before the congregation while Joshua and Caleb tear their clothes and run through the people, begging them not to rebel against the Lord. But the mob picks up stones to kill them.

Suddenly, the glory of the Lord lights up the tabernacle, and the people are terrified. God says to Moses, “I will strike them with pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.” However, Moses pleads for his stiff-necked people, arguing that their enemies will say, “The Lord was not able to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness.”

God accepts Moses’ argument, instructing him to take the people back out into the wilderness. As punishment for their rebellion, all who are 20 years and older will die there, while the younger ones will enter Canaan. Because of their apostasy, the forty days of spying become forty years in the wilderness, where they will die.

The ten wicked spies die in a plague, and the people mourn deeply. The following day, they directly disobey God’s orders, and decide to enter Canaan, afterward. Moses reminds them that the Lord is not with them,



and that the ark of the covenant will stay in the camp. These defiant ones go anyway, and die by the sword of the Amalekites and Canaanites.

Outright Rebellion

The rebellion is not over, but takes another twist when Korah, a Levite, conspires with Dathan, Abiram, and 250 leaders to organize a jealousy-based revolt against Aaron. They declare that *everybody* is holy, and therefore able to minister as priests within the tabernacle.

Moses chastises Korah and the others, commanding them to appear with their censers at the tabernacle the next day. Then he calls for Dathan and Abiram, who refuse to even see him, making him very angry! The following day, he approaches the tents of the three ringleaders, and warns the people to step away from them. He then declares that if their accusations against him and Aaron are true, they’ll die a normal death; but if not, the ground will swallow them up. Instantly, the earth opens, and then closes over them. Meanwhile, back at the tabernacle, a fire comes out from the Lord and consumes the 250 leaders who are offering incense!

The following day, the congregation accuses Moses and Aaron of killing the Lord’s people, and suddenly, the glory of the Lord reappears, and a plague begins to spread. Moses tells Aaron to grab his censer and make atonement, however, by the time he reaches the edge of the plague, 14,700 of them have died!

To settle whom God chooses as priests, Moses has each tribe leader bring a rod inscribed with their name to be placed in the tabernacle. The next day, Aaron’s rod is in full bloom and has produced ripe almonds.

There are many lessons in this story, but one is very clear: it is a terrible thing to rebel against the Lord, and when we do, we may become our own individual sin offering! ☹



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