



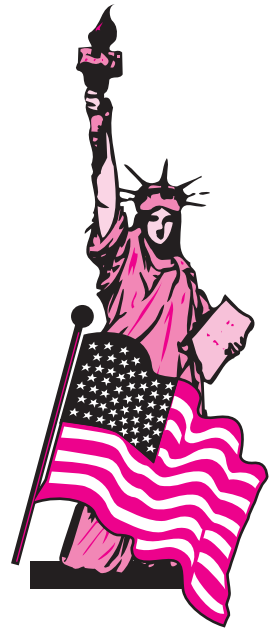
# The Voice

IN THE

# Wilderness

*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight."*

**Mark 1:3**



CONTENDING FOR  
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

Published Monthly  
Free Subscription

CONTENDING FOR  
AMERICAN FREEDOMS

**July/August 2007**

## Our Banner of Trust

The Star-Spangled Banner in triumph does wave  
O'er this land of the free and this home of the brave.

Tho' some still try this truth to deny  
Thank God in America our colors still fly;

As a beacon aloft in a world of night  
To stand for right and to hold forth the light.

Then conquer we must when the war be just  
And this our motto be: "In God we trust!"

RLW

# MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Subscriber:

Hundreds of signatures have already arrived in this office in support of the Redress of Grievance Petition. Others have notified us that they are working on their list and will soon mail theirs in also. If liberals extend power into the presidency, be assured greater tragedy emerges for this nation. Higher taxes are certain, even bigger government, a rise in unemployment, a slowed economy, and a retreat from the war on terrorism. It is time for patriots to wave the flag and sound the charge. The next dozen months are critical. Write letters, send e-mails, and kindly but firmly state your position and prayers for a stronger America. Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards are receiving tens of millions of dollars to fund campaigns financed by corrupt special interests. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Yes, and God's people must be salt and light or else. Terry and I will soon travel to Washington D.C.

with a declaration on behalf of those who signed the redress. It's not too late. Mail your list in as soon as possible, and please pray for this effort.

Only a few have responded to the "Pray for a Country" request. Can I count on you to join us as together we lift the needs of the multitudes that sit in great darkness before our heavenly Father? It is possible to completely obey His commission. The Voice in the Wilderness has thousands of readers each month and with only 200 countries to pray for, our intercession can make an eternal difference.

The unreached people groups must receive the gospel. The potential lies within the readership of this little "Voice." The opportunity and timing is urgent. Next month the CrossVue study will help you better understand God's provision. We can be the connection.

This is war time for the U.S. and certainly includes American allies. Extremists, terrorists, and liberals cause

significant challenges for grass roots in this country and particularly for ministries like The Voice in the Wilderness. Thankfully, with the missions philosophy held by The Voice in the Wilderness, nationals will continue soul-winning and church planting regardless whether American missionaries can remain in a region and regardless the actions of men like Chavez. May God help us all to be found faithful. Please read the enclosed letter titled "Your reply is critical." This is an urgent matter. Thanks for caring.

For Christ and Souls,

*Bro. Ronnie*

Isa. 40:31

Happy Trails

## IS GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

A bequest in your Will to Voice in the Wilderness can assure that the outreach of the ministry at home and abroad will continue after you have gone to your eternal reward. Prayerfully consider us in your Estate Planning. Thank you!

# A LETTER TO YOU

## *Please Read Carefully and Prayerfully*

***With this letter goes fasting and prayer that our Great God and Saviour will once again empower His people to Contend for the Faith and hold forth the Word of Life!***

**YOUR REPLY IS CRITICAL**

Dear Friends:

Please give me a few moments to update you concerning The Voice in the Wilderness ministries. My wife and I have been privileged to serve the Lord through The Voice in the Wilderness for eleven years now. With the five-year-illness of founder, Dr. J. Royce Thomason, and then his homegoing in 2006, challenges for the ministry have arisen on many fronts. This week I was listening to Christian radio while working outdoors on a maintenance project. Three of the four preachers are names you would recognize. All concluded the broadcast with an appeal for support. Their budgets were staggering. One ministry needed three million dollars just to cover operational needs for summer months. The Voice in the Wilderness' total annual budget is "pocket change" compared to such "mega ministries." However, at present, it is a critical time and your prayers and

partnership are urgently needed.

First of all, this last United States Postal increase has raised the bulk mail cost of *The Voice in the Wilderness* publication an additional \$900.00 per month! With this increase in rates, our U.S. and foreign mailings translate into over \$10,000.00 in additional costs for The Voice in the Wilderness ministry per year for materials distributed around the world **free of charge** to subscribers. The Voice in the Wilderness, quite frankly, DOES NOT HAVE THE FUNDS to do this.

Presently, on my desk is material for the July and August edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness*. However, we still owe our printer for the May/June edition, and that **bill must be paid** before another edition can be run. So, I chose to write you this letter because it is far less expensive than the full magazine, and funds are not even available for this appeal. However, through the sacrifice made by a few individuals this urgent request is being made. Important articles that I feel need to be available to our friends across the world will still be posted on The Voice in the Wilderness website. Please go to [www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org](http://www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org) and read our July/Aug issue.

Now, if you choose to

keep on reading, please let me give briefly some background information. At the passing of The Voice in the Wilderness founder, Dr. J. Royce Thomason, hostiles launched an aggressive campaign of attacks against this ministry. It has been devastating to our missionary support. The Voice in the Wilderness budget has been reduced far below the last five to ten year numbers. In spite of these attacks, the Lord has indeed blessed. New missionaries have been supported, a new church building constructed, Bible Clubs conducted, support of two new church plants, meetings held in a dozen churches and states plus the printing and teaching outreach efforts have proven that HE alone has answered prayer. We also praise the Lord for providing and protecting us all during the many thousands of miles traveled. For all those that have prayed and supported these efforts, we are deeply grateful. May God richly bless you!

The next crucial point is this – With only 1 to 2% of total readership actually supporting (financially) this missionary enterprise, The Voice in the Wilderness CANNOT continue. We have no foundations, bake sales or such, funding this work. It is a "by faith outreach"

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## A Letter to You (Continued)

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supported only by the generous gifts of those who care. Bro. Royce always said, "We operate on a shoestring budget." I have letters where Bro. Royce made appeals during "lean" times in our office files. Often it is the mid-night hour when the need is met. Our God is always faithful (Psalm 40:10). Will you please help us? If only 50% of those reading this letter would send \$10.00 over your regular gift to The Voice in the Wilderness, needs could be met for June, July and August. By the way, I would like to thank our local church and Pastor Page along with several other pastors, churches and individuals who have faithfully given this year to keep the work afloat. Some of you have yet to give in 2007. Please let us hear from you now! We are traveling, preaching and sharing the vision on a weekly basis, but often it takes a church months or even a year to place a missionary or ministry in the budget. Of course that does not solve an immediate need. Your help is crucial for the next several months.

I feel you have the right to know the origin of this financial shortfall. Six or seven years ago, Bro. Royce and I met with The Voice in the Wilderness board. We knew a transition time was soon to come and when Bro. Royce was no longer in the saddle, typically a drop in support was a potential. However, I never anticipated an individual professing Christ would join Hell's forces as Satan's instrument against the Lord's work. Gossip

and discord are of the Devil. When a professing Christian corresponds with a lost man in a third world country waving thousands of U.S. dollars to buy that unsaved man's loyalty, it is ungodly and wicked. That unsaved man's soul may now be doomed for a Christless eternity. This hostile is a champion of Hell's cause. That individual has done great harm to the Kingdom's work, and with that, The Voice in the Wilderness is ever committed to do God's Will and continue the call He has given.

Finally, it is a **joy to share the opportunities** the Lord has placed before The Voice in the Wilderness recently and during the remaining six months of 2007.

1. Weekly The Voice in the Wilderness through literature, preaching, teaching, music and ministry will be a blessing to thousands around the world.

2. Over \$10,000.00 has been given through The Voice in the Wilderness by faithful brothers and sisters for church construction in South India.

Thank You!

3. The summer Bible Club and Bibles have been fully funded. Praise the Lord!

4. Aquila/Priscilla ministry hopes to complete certification for teaching English as a Second Language by September 2007.

This will open the door for work in many countries. We are thankful for the individual who funded this entire program of study for Steve and Rebekah Lilly.

5. Check out [www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org](http://www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org) and the *new* teaching modules for CrossVue School of Missions. This is an opportunity to provide study material for many national missionaries. It is still in the developmental stage.

6. Thus far, 1,500 signatures have been collected for the D.C. trip and redress to Congress. Prayer partners for the countries of the world are coming in. Send your country and signatures ASAP. Don't miss a great opportunity!

7. MissionVue to the U.K. and India is planned for late October to early November. Pray for those traveling.

Open doors are before us. Many wait the gospel of hope and eternal life. Missionaries need support and prayers. The Voice in the Wilderness continues involvement in the country of Venezuela. Pray the Lord's restraint of their president, Chavez, and supply for the brothers that we have been privileged to know. My desire would be that I could look you in the eye, face to face, and heart to heart to share the many needs of gospel work around the world, but that simply is not possible. This letter must suffice. The Voice in the Wilderness needs your help – simply stated. Will you?

Thanks for your friendship and faithfulness. God Bless!

For Christ and Souls,

*Bro. Ronnie*

Isa. 40:31

The Voice in the Wilderness  
needs your help – simply stated.  
*Will you?*

***Please complete the following and mail today!***

***The Voice in the Wilderness***

***PO Box 7037***

***Asheville, NC 28802***

***Your tax deductible gift will be used to further the ministry of  
The Voice in the Wilderness in the battle for the faith.***

The Voice in the Wilderness can count on my prayers for our Lord's provision and victory.

Enclosed is my financial gift for The Voice in the Wilderness missionary work.

I will commit to financially helping The Voice in the Wilderness during this crucial time on a monthly basis. Enclosed is my gift for this month.

I have included The Voice in the Wilderness ministry in my *Personal Will* so that the **gospel can continue** to go out around the world.

# WHILE THE EVIL DAYS COME NOT

At this very moment, I am personally acquainted with a number of families giving care to aging loved ones. In several instances, complex or serious illness presents health and financial issues. The AAHSA website states:

- Between 2007 and 2015, the number of Americans ages 85 and older is expected to increase by 40%.
- Among people turning 65 today, 69% will need some form of long-term care, whether in the community or in a residential care facility. In 2020, 12 million older Americans will need long-term care.
- The average monthly cost for a private room in a nursing home is \$6234.00. The average monthly cost of living in an assisted-living facility is \$2,714.00.
- Medicare, which covers rehabilitation services after an individual is discharged from a hospital, pays for 19% of all long-term care spending.
- Medicaid, which covers health care cost for low income individuals, pays for 49% of all long-term care spending.
- Each month, the world's elderly population of people increases by 795,000.

Medicare and Medicaid Programs are not adequate, and working in the system can be very frustrating. Even among many who have diligently been a part of the work force and presently retired, living on retirement income are finding they have outlived adequate benefits for today's financial demands. Sickness and aging impacts an entire family. By faith, day by day, many brothers and sisters struggle in a difficult place. For some it can be an almost overwhelming journey through a deep, dark valley. Yet when the Christian thinks the sun will never shine, the light of God's Son rises in His dawn of peace and grace through ways amazing. Praise the Lord, a new day is coming.

In our church three elderly sisters arrived at that stage in life when this tabernacle of clay begins to dissolve. I remember distinctly those precious ladies saying, "We all got old and sick at the same time." "Now none of us can take care of each other." It can be frustrating when dear ones suffer and there are no simple solutions to the trial. With modern drugs and so-called "heroic medicine," many live longer but experience extended periods of complicated assistance. For the individual, as well as the family, the challenge brings intense emotion of tears, resentment,

anger, and extraordinary love. Yes, love, love that may seem a bit mixed-up at times, but real, the same.

## I. The Evil Days

Have you ever studied Ecclesiastes 12:1-8? The preacher makes some incredibly accurate and relevant comments on the aging process. In verse one note the startling phrase "...while the evil days come not."

Just this week while door knocking, my wife and I met a man who said he did not believe in God, and the Bible was written by men with over 5,700 different translations. He also stated that men created God just to have hope. Some day that man will be a lonely, hopeless individual. But for me, hope is a precious gift (Romans 8:24, Colossians 1:27, Titus 2:13).

Even so, for many "the evil days" will come. Dr. J. Royce Thomason, Founder of The Voice in the Wilderness, Inc., told me many times he wanted to die in the saddle with his boots on, but that was not to be. The last five years of his life were spent in and out of hospitals and nursing homes. He was never able to deal with confinement and sickness. When the driver's license, independence and meeting schedules were gone,

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his obvious struggle with contentment ensued. Yes, “the evil days” had arrived.

My dad lived ten years after a very serious stroke. Mom was his primary caregiver, and it was not easy. For both of them, long days and nights of testing came all too often. Physical limitations, prescription drugs and side effects, personality changes, financial constraints, bureaucracy, red-tape, added sickness and a host of complications defined the “evil days” of Ecclesiastes. Mom and dad were not alone in that struggle. But friends, relatives, and acquaintances that came by to keep them company, help, or assist, still could not make this time of life easy.

Less than a month ago a pastor friend called my office. In our conversation he stated emphatically, “I will never get involved in someone else’s Power of Attorney or as Executor of a Will again.” He had been placed in an ugly, complicated situation. People you would never think to have a vicious, vengeful bone in their body can, in the last chapter of a loved one’s life, become greedy, bitter and absolutely unreasonable, to put it kindly. The “evil days” have come.

## II. The Critics

Then, some will make it a spectators’ sport. Onlookers have all kinds of advice and always know how it ought to be done, and are always compelled to tell you. With

that, their criticism can be so unkind. Stories are told and well-meaning people will believe an utter lie. However, they would certainly never want such things said about them. Yet, they will take the tale and run with it knowing the circumstances but preferring to spread gossip. Just as Job experienced the extreme, his suffering was compounded by his “friends.” Listen to Job 30: 1,2. “But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock. Yea, whereto might the strength of their hands profit me, in whom old age was perished?” To add insult to injury, Job received no respect or understanding from the younger. The pain is both physical and psychological. My KJV study Bible has this header for Job Chapter 30 “The humiliation of Job’s present state.” Dr. J. Royce Thomason said to me several times after his debilitating strokes, “These golden years aren’t what they were cracked up to be.” Some may agree that their golden years have tarnished or as Job felt, they had gone to the dogs.

“Christians” can be some of the most critical know-it-all’s imaginable. Just like Job’s friends, there will be those who know exactly what is going on in your life. Be forewarned.

This is the very reason we all need a good church home and church family. I have heard it said many times, every person needs three homes. Of course, there is our family’s home.

Thank God for husbands, wives, children and parents that love each other. Then there is the church home. So very special is the truly New Testament church home! And most importantly is our eternal home. For the young and old alike to trust Jesus Christ by faith, having one’s sin forgiven by His precious blood with our names written in the book of life is the home we all need assurance of. During those times of suffering and especially during the aging process, the counsel we need will come from our church family and friends. Three C’s are so very essential:

Church, Counselors and contentment -

1. Church – The Apostle Paul speaks so lovingly of the church at Thessalonica. He remembers with thanksgiving and prayer their “work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father...” What a church described in I Thessalonians 1:1-10. This was a church comforting one another with words of godliness, resurrection and Christ’s second coming. They were hope, a crown of rejoicing, glory and joy. May God help us to be that kind of church.

2. Counselors – Please note point V for important Scripture references. Read carefully Psalm 1.

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3. Contentment – Have you ever heard it said that the little baby is so contented? What a blessing – contentment. “...for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am therewith to be content” Philippians 4:11. I Timothy 6:6 says, “But godliness with contentment is great gain.” We can say that Jesus is all we need – “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” But do we know Jesus is all we need until Jesus is all we have? When the evil days come we will be tossed by every wave of worry and care unless we practice contentment in Christ. This is not complacency, not apathy. But it is indeed confident faith in Him who is able and worthy – Hebrews 4:15,16. To sing the song of Contentment, one must practice, practice, practice. While the evil days come not practice the song of contentment in Christ.

From a biblical standpoint, there are many reasons for suffering:

1. Sin – Keep a short account. I John 1:9
2. Satan - Take unto you the armour of God. Ephesians 6:16
3. Self - Remember now while the evil days come not. The choice is yours. I John 2:15, 16.
4. Sowing - You sow, you reap. Galatians 6:7-8
5. Sweetening – We can be better not bitter. James 1:4

6. Sanctifying – He is still working on me. John 17:17

When the final chapter of our life is written, may we say with the Apostle “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” II Timothy 4:7.

### III. Physical Changes

Our text notes the physical changes brought on by aging. Matthew Henry makes an important point here for us all. There are calamities in old age. If we live to be old, Mr. Henry says there will be times of no pleasure. “...which is a good reason why we should return to God, and make our peace with Him, *in the days of our youth*, and not put it off till we come to be old; for it will be no thanks to us to leave the pleasures of sin when they have left us, nor to return to God when need forces us. It is the greatest absurdity and ingratitude imaginable to give the cream and flower of our days to the devil, and reserve the bran, and refuse, and dregs of them for God...” It would be worth your time to read Mr. Henry’s commentary on Ecclesiastes 12:1-7. What a pungent question he gives to ponder – “How can we expect God should help us when we are old, if we will not serve Him when we are young?” See Psalm 71:17,18.

Ecclesiastes 12 outlines the physical failures of aging:

1. Verse 2 – Failing eyesight, diminished faculties and repetitious episodes of pain.

2. Verse 3 – The head and body shake, tremble, and grow feeble. Discouragement and depression easily sets in. The legs and mobility is hampered and halted. Arms and hands become weak. The teeth rot, brake and deteriorate with old age till digestion is affected.

3. Verse 4 – Here is our term for “shut-ins.” Old age make for “shut-ins,” “shut-outs” and sleeplessness. The mood, attitude, personality, disposition and total perception of life may dramatically change. Hearing fails and the voice cannot sing.

4. Verse 5 – Fears in life of heights, falling, and all the little worries are overwhelming and large. Gray hair has come and life ebbs away.

It is true that some age better than others. A friend said to me recently that her father had always been an easy-going and very kind individual. But now in old age, he was grumpy and demanding. Yet, another friend said their parent had always been a critical and difficult person to get along with. However in old age, they had mellowed and were now such a joy to be around. Isn’t that such a curiosity? What would make the difference? Years ago a pastor’s wife assumed the care of her sister dying with cancer. The sister had been such a beautiful person, but now age and disease made the change. She was rude, unkind and even used foul and abusive

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language. The sister-caretaker was often brought to tears and heartache by this loved one's vile outburst. How can that be?

Time does not permit me to recount the multitude of stories over my 30 plus years of ministry. I cannot explain all the complexities of old age and sickness. But "Remember now thy creator...while the evil days come not..." Verses six and seven remind us that "the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Matthew Henry says, "Death will fix us in an unchangeable state." We will go home "for here [we are] a stranger and pilgrim. Why should we not long to go to our Father's house?"

MY KJV study Bible has this footnote for Ecclesiastes 12:6-8 "The silver cord, golden bowl, pitcher, and wheel symbolize life's fragility. How easily death comes to us; how swiftly and unexpectedly we can return to the dust from which we came. Therefore, we should recognize life as a precious resource to be used wisely and not squandered frivolously. Stripped of God's spirit, our bodies return to dust. Stripped of God's purpose, our work is in vain. Stripped of God's love, our service is futile. We must put God first over all we do and in all we do, because without Him we have nothing. Knowing that life is futile without God motivates the wise person to seek God first." That must throughout life bring us to the scripture "...seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and

His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). It is framed in this view of life that by faith we trust Christ. Ultimately it is He who will set the record straight. Our spirit will "return unto God who gave it." Then and only then will there be no more tears, no more sorrow, no more crying, no more pain and no more death (Rev. 21:4). There is a remedy. God has provided for those who believe.

#### IV. Do you always get what you want?

Dr. J. Royce Thomason told me many times he wanted to die in the saddle with his boots on. In other words, it was his desire to depart this life actively involved in the ministry. However, that was not to be. After his strokes in 2001 until his death in 2006, an agonizing five year struggle with limitation

and deteriorating health made for a difficult journey to the finish line. Much of that time was spent in the hospital, rehab center, and several nursing homes. That was in no stretch of the imagination what he wanted.

Over the years repeatedly I've hear family members echo the same story. He or she did not want to be placed in a nursing home. He or she did not want to die in the hospital. Never did he or she want to be bed-ridden and a burden on family or anyone else. Today the growing population of the aged and infirmed has created a strain on family, finances, and available resources. Medicine and science has given longevity but all too often, quality is a challenge. Yet for Christians and the local church, a door of opportunity lay open. No,

#### ***Never Too Young or Too Old***

*The Sword of the Lord 4/2007 recorded the following WSJ article*

*Golda Meir was seventy-one when she became prime minister of Israel. William Pitt was twenty-four when he became prime minister of Great Britain. George Bernard Shaw was ninety-four when one of his plays was first produced. Wolfgang Mozart was just seven when his first composition was published.*

*Now how about this! Benjamin Franklin was a newspaper columnist at the age of sixteen and a framer of the United States Constitution when he was eighty-one.*

Neither transition nor retirement means quit. In all of life, whether young or old, "Remember now thy Creator while the evil days come not."

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this may not be the most glamorous of endeavors. Yes, it will cost the church a lot of time and money. Yet so many Bible preaching, fundamental churches have missed out or even neglected the responsibility to assist elder members and their families. It is time to urge our congregations to reach out and help this precious, vital and needy segment of membership. Primary care-giver relief assistance is urgently needed. Visits just for fellowship are so important. Transportation, shopping trips and doctors appointments can be a challenge when no help is available. Calendars, schedules and medication management can be a daunting task when eyesight fades and mental acuity wanes. Young people can get involved with errands and lawn care. An army of volunteer rescue workers are presently sitting idle in church pews that could mean the difference between life worth living and a slow sad death for elder saints.

Your church could even build an assisted living facility for the aged in your congregation. Or maybe it would take several churches working together to pool resources for such a facility. Liberal denominations have done it. Cults have done it. What about fundamental Bible preaching churches? Maybe it is not what we want, but could it be the right thing to do? For

decades Pastors and churches have built gymnasiums and beautiful sanctuaries with the monies of those now neglected and forgotten. Talk about a debt we owe. And have we even missed a wonderful evangelistic tool by failing in this highly visible opportunity to demonstrate love in action to the lost world around us?

### V. Sit down and talk

Don't assume anything. There comes a time for a family meeting. Families within a family have issues, and for all individuals involved life can be complicated. There are work schedules, financial constraints, even health considerations for caregivers and other family members. Often those involved live away and travel distances which will be factors of consideration. Personalities and opinions vary. Sitting down and talking things out will not always cure all. But ill-feelings may be averted if people take time in a considerate, loving manner to discuss details, needs, plans, and options. It is good to have a pastor and godly individuals to give objective, impartial counsel. The family should have a support group of Christians, particularly in the local church that can help work through issues and challenges. All of us need brothers and sisters in Christ we know that pray and have God's wisdom in their lives. It is biblical to seek counsel (Prov. 11:14, 12:15; 13:10; 15:22) and bear one

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## Bolder Not Older

We are in the refining process. With trials, testing and tribulation, may we come forth as gold. After all, intense heat and fire is used in the refining process of metals. In the liquid form, impurities rise to the surface of the molten quivering material. Once the impurities are skimmed off the artisan's image can be seen in the smooth, pure surface. Do we willingly submit to His refining fire that our Creator's image may be reflected in us?

Malachi 3:3

Let us not be older but  
*golder*  
Not bitter but better  
May the later years be the  
greater years.

RLW '07

## The Weekly Voice

To receive weekly ministry updates, nuggets of gold, prayer requests and praises, send a blank e-mail to: [membersnp@thevoiceinthewilderness.org](mailto:membersnp@thevoiceinthewilderness.org)

# NEWS BITS

## FROM HERE AND THERE

**SUPPORT BASE** – In his book, *The Great Omission*, Robertson McQuilkin points out that in the days before William Carey, the father of the modern Protestant missionary movement, the Moravians from Herrnhut considered a support base of four adequate to keep one missionary at the front. Using that formula, America's forty million evangelicals could support ten million overseas workers.

Using a more modern standard, it was said that during WWII fifteen personnel were needed to keep one man at the front. Using that as a basis, the American evangelical church could support a missionary force of 2,666,666.

But evangelical churches of the US, perhaps the wealthiest group of Christians in history, now have about 37,000 career foreign missionaries, about 9,000 of whom are engaged in full-time evangelism.

"The truth is," says McQuilkin, "less than 1% of full-time Christian workers are engaged in evangelistic ministry among the unevangelized of the world. Is this the way the Commander-in-Chief would assign His troops? Or is someone not listening?" *Nelson's Complete Book of stories, illustrations, and quotes* p 566.

**IMMIGRATION MISTRUST** – Cal Thomas in *The Washington Times* June 2007 writes: In a recent

interview with the Wall Street Journal's Kimberley Strassel, the president again asserted there will be economic benefits to the country from permitting millions more foreigners to live among us. Miss Strassel writes, "Studies have shown that immigrants add some \$10 billion annually in net economic output." **That is misleading.** A new report by the Heritage Foundation says the American taxpayer pays for tens of billions of dollars in services and other benefits to households of low-skill immigrants, many of them illegal.

Analysts Robert Rector and Christine Kim write that on average, each of these 4.5 million households receives nearly \$3 in taxpayer-funded services for every \$1 it pays in taxes: While low-skill immigrants paid an average \$10,573 in taxes in fiscal 2004, they received nearly threefold as much--\$30,160 per household—in government benefits and services for a "fiscal deficit" of \$19,587.

That deficit might be tolerable were it for a short and fixed term and if illegal immigrants were required to learn English, receive a good education and improved their lot beyond manual labor. But the chances of illegal immigrants doing that are equal to politicians telling the truth about the immigration bill.

**HYSTERIA OVER GLOBAL WARMING** – Lead paragraph in the German publication Deutsche

Welle: "Former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt called for an end to the 'hysteria' over global warming in the lead-up to the [Group of Eight] summit. The topic is 'hysterical, overheated, and that is especially because of the media.'"

Mr. Schmidt reasoned there's always been climate change on earth, "warm [ages] and ice ages for hundreds of thousands of years." To assume that global climate change can be altered by world leaders attending this week's G-8 summit, he said, is "idiotic." *The Washington Times*, June 11, 2007

**AMERICAN MORALITY** – Most Americans have significant concerns about the moral state of the country according to a Gallup survey reported in *The Washington Times* June 11, 2007 issue – 82% say the state of moral values in the country as a whole is growing worse – 74% say their overall perception of our moral values is negative – 16% say our values are good, 39 percent describe them as fair, 44 percent as poor – 67% of liberals and 29 percent of conservatives say abortion is morally acceptable – 54% of liberals and 73 percent of conservatives approve of the death penalty – 83% of liberals and 23 percent of conservatives approve of homosexual relationships – 83% of liberals and 59 percent

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of conservatives approve of having children outside marriage – 84% of liberals and 48 percent of conservatives approve of the use of human stem cell research.

**WHAT HAPPENED TO ETHICS REFORM**

– Remember the last election campaign, when the Democrats attacked the Republican “culture of corruption,” and went to town on the Abramoff, Ney, Cunningham and Foley scandals? Remember when the Democrats took control of the House in January, and pledged to clean up Congress after the massive ethical abuses of the past several years? Now, do you know what has happened to ethics reform in the House of Representatives since the Democrats took over in January? Absolutely nothing. *Judicial Watch ‘07*

**SOME ISSUES THE ACLU SUPPORTS** – Legalization of homosexual marriage, child pornography, prostitution; removing “under God” from the Pledge of Allegiance; forcing the Boy Scouts to accept homosexual scout leaders; physician assisted suicide, tax supported profane art, partial birth abortion.....

**SOME ISSUES THE ACLU IS AGAINST** – Parental notification for minors having abortion, student led prayer in schools, nativity scenes on public property, sex offender registries, posting of the Ten Commandments on public property, “Abstinence before marriage” sex education.

**THE GREAT AMERICAN TRUCK OUT** – Is America waking up to globalism not understanding the prophetic implications? The One World push has many pieces to

the puzzle. In “World Focus” by *Midnight Call* Frosty Wooldridge a former head trainer and safety officer for United Van Lines said: “The goal of the rally is to have a common statement by American truckers that this is our country, this is our trucking industry – and that we don’t need tens of thousands of Mexican drivers taking jobs away from American workers.” He suggests the president is trying to demonstrate that Mexican carriers will do the jobs that American truckers will not – to which Wooldridge responds: “Well, that’s true – if they’re going at 18 cents a mile.” Wooldridge says the pilot program for Mexican trucks – signed into law by President Bush – was shortsighted because it does not involve safety or qualifications checking and show no appreciation for American standards used for and by truckers.

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**NOTEABLE QUOTES AND NUGGETS OF GOLD**

1. I should as soon attempt to raise flowers if there were no atmosphere, or produce fruits if there were neither light nor heat, as to regenerate men if I did not believe there was a Holy Ghost. – Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)
2. Children are creatures that disgrace you in public by behaving just like you do at home.
3. To forgive is to set the prisoner free—and then discover the prisoner was you.
4. You who have endured the stinging experiences are the choicest counselors God can use.
5. A Sunday School class was being quizzed on the story of the prodigal son. The teacher asked one child, ‘Who was sorry when the prodigal son returned home?’ The boy gave it some thought, then answered, ‘The fatted calf.’
6. Some people are walking the second mile—in the wrong direction.
7. It costs less to train one hundred children in Christian living than it costs to deal with one average criminal.
8. Just a little horse sense would mean a stable government.
9. Spotted on some church signs: A cynic smells flowers and looks for a coffin.....Ignorance needs no introduction. It always makes itself known..... Ingratitude curdles the milk of human kindness.....The worst prison is a closed heart..... Prepare and prevent instead of repair and repent.....Don’t resent growing old; many are denied the privilege.

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### THE EYE IS THE WINDOW OF THE SOUL

– The eyes really are a window to the soul, according to scientists. Patterns in the iris can give an indication of whether we are warm and trusting or neurotic and impulsive, research has found. Everyone has a different structure of lines, dots and colors in their iris. The speed and accuracy with which irises can be mapped means there is growing interest in using photographs of eyes for security as well as research purposes. *Midnight Call 2007*. Again the Bible, the Creator's Word understands "we are fearfully and wonderfully made." The eye is spoken of often (Luke 11:34,36; Genesis 3:6)

### CHRISTIANS IN CHINA

**GROWING** – The number of Christians in the communist Republic of China is estimated to have reached the 100 million mark. These consist of smaller groups who meet in private apartments or houses. Some estimates state that over 70 million Chinese are members of such house churches. According to the Frankfurter Allgemeinen Zeitung, house churches are conspicuously watched by government agents and sometimes persecution is evident. In Peking alone, there are between two and three thousand house churches. In contrast, there are only eight official registered Protestant churches. Estimates about the number of Catholics in China run between 12 and 18 million, of which about 6 million, according to the report, are faithful to their government policy. *Midnight Call 2007*

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another's burdens. Regardless of what you think, your opinion is not always best. Be willing to listen to others. Above all, sit down and talk with the Lord. Read his Word and allow His Spirit to guide you in all truth. If we will be still and wait on the Lord, He will bring the right people and resources into our lives. By the way, Psalm 116:15 is still true. Therefore make preparation for your earthly estate to continue to be of eternal worth via your will. Vollmer said, "One of the most important documents a man ever signs, is his will. I can tell better what a man had in his heart by reading his will than I can by reading his obituary. His obituary tells the world what his friends thought of him; his will reveals what he had in his heart."

### VI. The END - TRUST

In 2005, *New Scientists* magazine reported that Italian researchers were developing a six-legged robotic camera that crawls around inside the body and attaches itself to the intestine wall.

At the time, researcher Dr. Ariana Menciassi, of the St. Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa said, "All the indications are that this will be far less uncomfortable than a colonoscopy or gastroscopy in which the intestine is inflated, causing much pain to the patient.

Men are looking to medicine and technology for the answer. Government should fund all our needs. But reality

is – the body wears out, the government cannot fund or fix all, and "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Hope for eternity free from sickness and death is available to all who believe. Thank God for His love, grace and mercy that provides the answer to this decaying body and inequities of this life. Our Creator will in the conclusion of all make things right for His Children.

The numbers are rather curious. It has become a complicated situation for many. Reports are that 4.5 million children live in grandparent headed households in the United States. The first of 78 million boomers have passed age 60. Then the aging population costs big bucks and extended care. It sounds callous, but sadly scores are outliving their retirement and savings. Medicare and Medicaid simply are not adequate. Reports say there are 34 million unpaid caregivers providing an average of 21 hours of care per week. These caregivers spend an average of \$2,400 out of pocket each year to help their relative. Of course, politicians prey on the emotions and ignorance of voters looking everywhere and sometimes anywhere for relief.

Nearing the end of life, the great pioneer missionary, Hudson Taylor, said, "I am so weak, I cannot work; I cannot read my Bible; I can hardly pray. I can only lie still in God's arm like a child and trust." -

### The Beginning