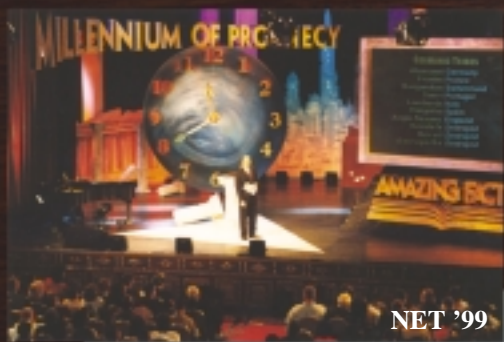


AMAZING *Inside Report* FACTS

September/October 2002



Who Will Be Left
STANDING?



Amazing Facts evangelists at the WTC

Amazing Facts feels a special sense of loss connected with the September 11, 2001, terror attack, due in part to the energy and emotions we poured into the city during NET '99.

On this first anniversary, we dedicate this issue to those who lost their lives that day ... many while helping others.

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

John 15:13

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Amazing Facts is a nonprofit Christian ministry that utilizes literature, radio, television, the Internet, and public evangelism to bring the saving truths of Jesus Christ to a lost world. For its operation, Amazing Facts depends on the gifts and prayers of concerned, likeminded Christians.

**FREE FROM
AMAZING FACTS**

Amazing Facts offers a free 27-lesson Bible course. To enroll, log on to www.amazingfacts.org and click on "Bible School." Or to take the course free through the mail, just send us your name, address, and phone number and specify that you would like to begin the course. (Printed lessons are in English and are available only in Canada, the United States, and their territories.)

A free, color catalog of materials sold by Amazing Facts is available on request. It contains information and prices on all books, videotapes, CDs, audiotapes, and other soul-winning materials available through the ministry.

For more information, please call Amazing Facts Monday through Thursday 9 A.M. to 6 P.M. Pacific.

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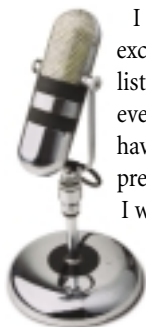
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Mail Bag

Heartfelt Excitement



I write you with a great deal of excitement in my heart after having listened to your radio program last evening. What a blessing it is to have such an anointed, well-prepared radio program on the air! I was truly blessed by your views, and am looking forward to joining you again in your studies. *JR, Georgia*

Yeah ... That's Cool

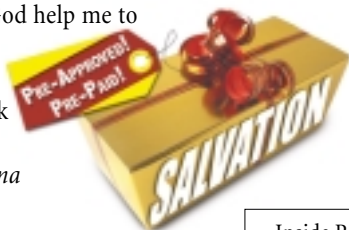
Hey all you guys out there at Amazing Facts! I just want to say thanks for having these *solid* Bible studies online for people to look at. And they're free too—Yeah, that's really cool. I need to learn more about the Bible and these studies are simple, fun, interesting, educational, easy to access, and most important, have the potential to save lives. *JT, e-mail*

Stepping Up

I thank you very much for bringing the *Millennium of Prophecy* tapes out; I've been waiting for someone to step up to the plate in God's time. It's great to see someone has the guts to bring this to light! *JM, Montana*

Selling the Gift

The February 2002 issue of *Inside Report* carried an article that touched me more than anything I've seen in quite some time. Scott Steward's article "Selling the Gift" was the best presentation of my relationship to the gospel as a "salesperson" that I've ever read. He really got me to think deeply on "how" I ought to be selling and why. May God help me to be a salesman for Him. Thank you, Scott. *RA, Montana*



Answering Tough Questions

Thank you Pastor Doug and Amazing Facts for giving answers to questions that most people don't know how to answer or are unwilling to answer. May God continue to bless you in your ministry. *M, e-mail*

Finding the Truth

I surely enjoy your *Inside Report* magazine. It is all so interesting. I am also thankful for the many who are finding the truth through your ministry. God is surely blessing! *CK, Michigan*

A Reason for Everything

I want to tell you why I am so amazed. I had to move from my home, so I was no longer able to get reception to watch your program. I was devastated! Shortly after, my VCR broke, so I bought a used one. I let it auto search the stations for viewing, and it picked up Pastor Doug! I feel so lucky to be able to watch him again, as I have learned a lot of Bible truth since I started viewing your programs. I was at first angry that my VCR broke, but there is a reason for everything. Thank you for sharing so much Bible truth in such a great way. *DB, Wisconsin*



Enriching Caveman

I have to thank you for Pastor Batchelor's *Caveman* story you have online. I felt compelled to forward the link to a friend who's been going through some difficulties since the 9/11 tragedy. The next morning, he told me it was the best show he's ever seen in his life—that it was the biggest religious influence in his life to date. I invited him over to watch an Amazing Facts video, and he liked it so much that he stayed for more. He's now even praying by himself! *IA, New York*

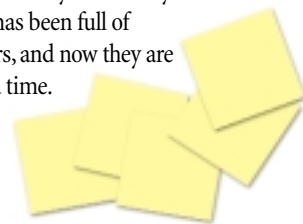
Remembering Reverence

I was recently shown a copy of the *Inside Report* by a fellow inmate. The issue I saw was a blessing to read! The main article, "Remembering Reverence," [March 2002] really helped me to put my Sabbath keeping into even greater light. Please keep coming with the great articles. *BB, Indiana*

No More Sticky Notes!

Words can't express how grateful I am to have found Amazing Facts on the TV and the Internet. When reading my Bible, and I don't understand something, I place a little yellow sticky note to the area. My Bible has been full of these notes for years, and now they are coming off one at a time.

KK, e-mail



Riding the Spiritual Tide

I want to thank you personally for coming to Johannesburg and speaking at our meeting. We are still and will be riding on the crest of the spiritual tide set by you. *CB, South Africa*

Editor's Note: *This letter, in response to Pastor Doug's trip to Africa in preparation for Hope for a Hemisphere, shows the incredible anticipation for that global evangelistic project. We still need your help, and so does the world. Please consider helping this project financially.*

Hello Amazing Facts

I would like to say how wonderful your organization is and how well you have helped me realize the truth of God's Word. I am currently going through the Bible studies with my pastor and am working toward baptism.

God bless you, and I pray for your continued mission to teach the world of God's everlasting message of love. *SB, Michigan*

Corrections

In "Hope in the Midst of Sadness" in the last issue of *Inside Report*, we incorrectly identified the name of the academy as Quachita Hills Academy. It is actually Ouachita Hills Academy.

In the Evangelism Update, we reported that Hildelisa Flickinger was the last of 24 children. It's really her mother!

Inside Report welcomes all correspondence regarding the magazine and other Amazing Facts ministries. Letters and other materials sent to Amazing Facts may be used—in whole or in part and edited for content, grammar, and readability—in future publications unless otherwise requested. We thank you for your thoughts, suggestions, and financial and prayer support in our endeavor to reach others for Jesus and equip them to do likewise.

Amazing Facts is gearing up for its worldwide evangelistic broadcast event in November, a satellite meeting from central Africa that has the potential to reach millions of searching souls all around the globe.

The local title for this massive, soul-winning event is *Visions for Life*—and the project has already paid big dividends, with thousands baptized in March through preliminary meetings in Ghana held by Gary Gibbs, evangelism coordinator, and AFCOE graduates coordinated by Annie Kjaer, AFCOE assistant director.

Recently, Pastor Doug Batchelor returned to Africa with Gary and other team members to conduct a special prayer initiative and lead a revival among local church members. The response was overwhelming, and volunteers learned how to witness and distribute literature more effectively. African church members have expressed a deep commitment and appreciation for the meetings, and churches from Europe and South America are also joining us. In addition, volunteer Jim Ayers is leading a medical team in October for important pre-work, reaching hearts by physical healing.

Amazing Facts' goal is 150,000 baptisms in central Africa alone, and we expect nearly 500,000 baptisms worldwide as a direct result of the seminar and follow-up work! By God's grace, the ministry is contributing to dynamic church growth in Africa and is shining the light into difficult areas there.

Unfortunately, funding for the project has been coming in more slowly than expected, but we are remaining faithful to God's call and are making great progress as we move closer to the Cameroon event! (See center bar detailing how you can make this project our most successful harvest ever!)

"There are millions, even billions, of people who do not know the Lord. Each one is precious to Jesus, and we must do all we can, while time lingers, to bring salvation to as many as possible," says Pastor Doug.

With the help of Light Bearers ministry, Amazing Facts has already shipped 80 tons of literature, including 500,000 sets of Bible studies, to equip local members with the tools to advance the gospel and lay a strong foundation.

Much planning and effort has gone into these meetings. "In many ways, this is the most challenging project Amazing Facts has ever taken



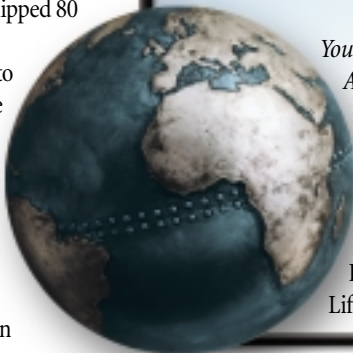
These Spirit-led believers (above), holding a translated Storacles of Prophecy lesson, are conducting more than 100 personal Bible studies alone in preparation for Pastor Doug's seminar. More than 10,000 studies with Amazing Facts literature are ongoing in Yaounde, Cameroon!

If you're wondering how Amazing Facts will ever pull this off, you're not alone. We too have wondered, much like Paul must have wondered how he was going to deliver the gospel to the world. The key element is that God said to do it—and where God gives an order, makes a request, or offers a promise, He provides a way (Hebrews 10:34–39; 1 John 2:24, 25).

Paul had to ask the believers for their support for his mission. In doing so, he reminded them of the blessings in store for them in heaven as well as in this life (Acts 20:32–35; 1 Corinthians 16).

Like Paul, we are counting on our faithful supporters for a final financial boost for *Hope for a Hemisphere*. If you haven't yet included *Hope* as part of your offerings to the Lord, now would be the perfect time! We need gifts **above and beyond** your regular giving for this international soul-winning effort. Your extra giving will make a huge impact and reap eternal results.

*You can make history with Amazing Facts. Millions of souls are at stake, so please consider a special gift **designated** for this project. Call 916-434-3880 to take part in Hope for a Hemisphere: Visions for Life. www.hopefor2002.com.*



on," says Pastor Doug. "The technical logistics of conducting it are daunting, but this project also has the greatest potential for an enormous harvest of souls. If ever a meeting was dependent on prayer for success, this is the one."

Past outreach efforts in Africa show that satellite evangelism really works. So Amazing Facts' friends can be assured that their help will reach many unreached souls throughout Africa and the world—even in countries where Christianity is outlawed!

The live event will be beamed to a satellite from the largest stadium in Cameroon, miraculously provided free of charge by the country's president. The signal will then rain down on the eastern hemisphere—from Norway to South Africa to China and Australia. North American viewers will be able to see the program on 3ABN.

"We're not going to finish the work of getting the gospel to the world with just our evangelists and Bible school," adds Gibbs. "Somehow, we must multiply our efforts. The way to do that is through technology and training the laity. We must empower our churches around the world. The impact will be absolutely astronomical."

Pastor Doug asks all our friends and supporters to pray that others will find the broadcast through the Internet and short-wave radio advertising, and ultimately find a life-saving relationship with Jesus.

Find more information on this exciting, Spirit-led effort by visiting www.hopefor2002.com or by calling Amazing Facts at 916-434-3880.

Who Will Be Left STANDING?

by Pastor Doug Batchelor

An Amazing Fact:

Ancient Roman coliseums hosted brutal blood sports in which slaves, trained to be fierce fighters called gladiators, would battle one another to the death. Julius Caesar ordered large-scale exhibitions with 300 pairs of combatants on one occasion. But the largest contest of gladiators was given by the emperor Trajan as part of a victory celebration in A.D. 107. It featured a staggering 5,000 pairs of fighters! And sometimes, to provide spectators a little more "entertainment thrill," hungry, wild animals were released into the mix. The gladiators would then have to battle one another and the fanged creatures. Despite near-impossible odds, these slaves fought fiercely because they had a glimmer of hope: If they could survive the assaults of their fellow gladiators and wild animals, the emperor just might release them. The goal was simply to be the one left standing.



A Consistent Theme

Who is going to be left standing? What is going to truly last?

The Bible clearly says that, in the last days, only a few will be left standing. Revelation 6:17 poses this important question: "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" And Malachi 3:2 affirms this: "But who can endure the day of His coming? *And who can stand when He appears?* For He is like a refiner's fire [and] like fuller's soap" (NKJV, emphasis added).

The Bible tells us that a great judgment day is coming. The last chapter in Daniel begins with Michael standing up, and after a great time of trouble it concludes with Daniel standing. "Thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days" (Daniel 12:13).

The screens of our minds are burned with that picture of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego threatened with a fiery furnace. Yet they stood tall as the rest of the world bowed down to Nebuchadnezzar's image. They stood for Jehovah when everyone else fell.

Revelation 13 warns us of a coming storm similar to the one they faced—a day of reckoning. Most will bow down, but some will be left standing.

Fame and Fortune Will Fall

We often call it "Custer's Last Stand," but we should really say "Custer's Last Fall," because he didn't stand. It was the Indians' last stand, for standing means you're victorious—that you survived and are still around.

So maybe we should apply the process of elimination and learn what isn't going to stand or endure to the end. I think most of us already realize that some things people build on make pretty shabby foundations. Money is one of them—it's not going to last. Proverbs 11:4 says, "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death." You will not be able to bribe the Judge when Jesus comes.



Proverbs 11:28 adds, "He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch." And then there is Isaiah 2:20, 21, speaking of the day of judgment, "In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; . . . for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth." Money is not going to last.

How about fame? The Bible is very clear. "The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot" (Proverbs 10:7). "The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth" (Psalm 34:16). And Daniel 12 tells us that the names of the wicked are covered with everlasting contempt. Instead of fame, they'll have infamy or obscurity.

Water of Life Is Thicker than Blood

Can we always count on our friends and family standing by us to the end? Sadly, we can't. Job 19:14 says, "My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me." And Jesus adds, "A man's foes shall be they of his own household" (Mathew 10:36). Have you ever considered how many stories in the Bible are of a man's adversaries being his own relatives? Cain killed his brother. Who betrayed Joseph? His brothers. And Jesus? His own disciple, and His own people handed Him over to the Romans. And in the last days, we'll probably see a repeat performance of that familial betrayal.

I sometimes get exasperated because some Christians still believe that in the last days, we need to fear pagan religions, the New Age movement, and such. But I'm not nearly as concerned about the obvious enemies on the outside as the ones on the inside. Prophecy tells us whom we need to watch; it's going to be those who share a common faith with us: the neighbors, our friends, our families. In the end, our neighbors will be our enemies. I've always wondered why Christ said to love your neighbors and then again love your enemies; could it be because they are often one and the same?

Failing Foundations

One would think that we could certainly trust the earth, right? It's pretty big; the solid ground we're standing on must be dependable. But the Bible says, "The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage" (Isaiah 24:20). Have you been in an earthquake? I've experienced a few while living in California. The ground trembles and rolls under your feet as if you were standing on a waterbed. It's very disconcerting, but it helps you realize there's very little in the world you can count on, including the very earth on which you stand. Matthew 24:35 warns, "Heaven and earth shall pass away." And 1 John 2:17 adds, "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

Samson's Fight

So what does it take to stand? First of all, you need to be filled with the Spirit. We have a story that vividly illustrates this in the book of Judges. In chapter 15:14, it says, "And when [Samson] came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and the cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands." The Philistines went to Israel with a price on Samson's head. So the fearful Israelites took Samson captive, tied him up, and abandoned him in a valley called Lehi. (Yet another case of family betrayal.) When the Philistines saw Samson bound and apparently defenseless, they surrounded him and shouted victory. But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Samson, and he snapped the ropes like thread.

He reached down and picked up a donkey jawbone, and the Bible says he commenced fighting against the continuous wave of armed forces seeking to arrest him. There were 1,000 soldiers—a ratio of 1,000 to one! And the one won. "And Samson said, With the jawbone of [a donkey], heaps upon heaps" (v. 16). What do you think the scene looked like when Samson was done with that battle? He was surrounded with piles of slain Philistines. He was the only one left standing.

"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked" (Psalm 91:7, 8).

This event was also a fulfillment of a prophecy. In Joshua 23:10, the Bible says, "One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you."

How did Samson remain standing? Notice it was after he was filled with the Spirit and his bonds were burst, which is a symbol for us. If we remain bound with sin, the enemy can easily torment and overcome us (Jeremiah 30:8). However, if we are liberated by Jesus and filled with His power, we are invincible!



An Empty Sack

It's hard to make an empty sack stand up, but when you fill it, it will stand much more easily. It's the same principle with us. If you want to stand in the last days, you can't be an empty sack. We must be filled with God's Spirit.

The Bible tells us of a powerful threefold confederacy that will oppose God's people in the last days. The saints will be greatly out-

numbered. Yet they will stand. Remember that when the Egyptians came against Israel, God's people asked, "What are we going to do?" God answered them, "Stand still. I'll fight for you" (Exodus 14:13). And in 2 Chronicles 20:17, 21–24, a confederacy of evil nations arises to annihilate Judah and Israel. It looked impossible to Judah's king, Jehoshaphat. His army was greatly outnumbered. (It is again interesting to note that the confederacy was made up of the Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites—nations related to Israel; i.e., family.)

This axis power surrounded Judah on three sides. It looked hopeless, until God spoke through a prophet. He said to the king, "Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you." And do you know what the king did next? "And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness." Would you go into battle choosing the choir as your first wave of attack? Yet that's exactly what Israel did. "They went out before the army, and [said], Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever."

And when they began to sing and to praise the Lord, their enemies "were smitten. For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the [Edomites], the inhabitants of mount Seir, every one helped to destroy another. And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped."

Three entire nations stood against the armies of Israel, and they self-destructed. They became suspicious and turned on one another. They became confused, as everybody's sword was against his comrade, until the last two stabbed each other simultaneously and fell over dead. No enemies were left standing. Only the children of Israel were standing after the battle. All they had left to do was collect the spoils of war.

Last-Day Stand

So how do we prepare to stand? Well, first we've got to ensure that we're wearing the whole armor of God. Open your Bible to Psalm 91—a beautiful, extraordinary promise for those who don this armor to stand in the last days. The Lord says that for those who abide and trust in Him, "under the shadow of the Almighty," will be spared from the "snare of the fowler"—that's the devil trying to trap us. Not only will we stand with Him, we also won't be afraid, for His truth will be our "shield and buckler."

And don't miss again, "A thousand shall fall at thy side," like Samson, "and ten thousand at thy right hand." Just picture that if you



will. A thousand at your side and 10,000 at your right hand—all fallen; yet you're standing taller than ever before.

But how is it that so many could fall, yet you be left standing?

Psalm 91 continues, "But it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither



shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling." During the seven last plagues, God will protect those who are faithful to Him, who abide in Him. And how will He do this?

"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

Angels do more than protect us from physical harm. In fact, I believe God principally sends them to keep us in His will and way. "Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall thou trample under feet." The lion and serpent here are symbols of the devil, a roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8).

This means that you will stand upon a fallen devil. He's below you when you have God's protection. When temptations come, by the grace of God, you can be victorious.

Standing With Love, Faith, and Grace

However, one important prerequisite for standing and deliverance promised in Psalm 91 is often missed. "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him." In this case, love isn't something that just comes spontaneously, like a sudden weather change. Here, love is a choice. And if you make this choice to set your love upon Him, notice what happens: "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

And then we read, "Let all that you do be done with love." Why with love? Because, as 1 Corinthians 13:8 explains, "Love never fails."

Let's continue with Psalm 91. What is another important factor for standing in the last days? "I will set him on high, because he hath known my name." We need to know God. Remember, Jesus declares to the lost, "I don't know you." But even more, it says we need to know His name. There is power in the name of the Lord. Do you utilize that power? Do you pray in His name?

"For by faith ye stand" (2 Corinthians 1:24). How do we stand in the last days? By works? No, because anybody who defeats 1,000 people has something more than physical prowess. They need faith! And 1 Corinthians 16:13 adds, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

And 1 Peter 5:12 tells us, "This is the true grace of God wherein ye stand." We will never fall if we know the Lord and stand in faith, love, and grace.

Standing for the Word

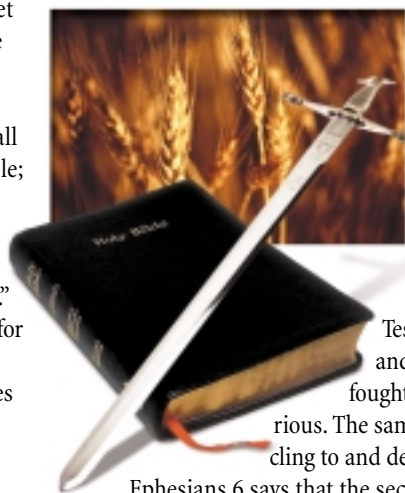
Those who know the Word of God will be left standing. And with this, another unusual Bible battle comes to mind. The Bible speaks of the mighty men of David. In 1 Chronicles 11, it tells about one of these mighty men named Eleazar and his king David. "There the Philistines were gathered together to battle . . . and the people fled from before the Philistines. And [Eleazar and David] set themselves in the midst [of a barley field] . . . and slew the Philistines; and the LORD saved them by a great deliverance" (vs. 13, 14). In 2 Samuel 23:10, it says of Eleazar, "His hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword; and the LORD wrought a great victory that day." Eleazar and David remained, standing back to back, defeating all their attackers, even after their countrymen left. They would not retreat. They took a stand when everyone else fell. And just like Samson, they were left standing. They could only do that because they knew and trusted in God, and the Lord gave them victory.

We are living in a day when many of God's people are cowering and fleeing before the enemy. They are ridiculed for taking the Word of God too literally. You are considered a zealot if you believe you should follow Christ and keep the commandments.

So you may find a day soon when you stand alone. Will you still stand—through the persecutions to come? The word "standards" comes from "stand"—it means you stand for something. And I've got news for you, friend: As we approach the last days, if you don't stand for something, you're going to fall for anything. You'll retreat.

Did you also catch that David and Eleazar took their stand in the midst of a barley field? What is grain a symbol of in the Bible? The Word of God is our bread from heaven. They put their lives on the line to defend a field of grain. They clung to their swords, which are

also symbols for God's Word—which is actually sharper and quicker than any double-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12). And in Revelation, Christ is seen with a two-edged sword coming out of His mouth. The edges represent the two witnesses: the New and the Old Testaments. And because Eleazar and David clung to the Word, God fought for them and they were victorious. The same promises belong to us, if we cling to and defend the Word.



Ephesians 6 says that the secret to standing is being armed for spiritual battles with spiritual equipment. "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil . . . that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth . . . and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (vs. 11, 13, 14, 17).

"Heaven and earth shall pass away," but the Word of God will not pass away. And Isaiah 40:8 offers an even more solid picture:

“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”

What is dependable? God’s Word; it is going to stand.

So if we stand up for God’s Word, the truth—even though it’s not popular—we’ll be left standing. Some truth that’s accepted today will become increasingly unpopular as time ends. You need to decide now if you’re going to retreat with everybody else or if you’re going to stand, fighting back to back with Jesus, the son of David. He will not ever leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:5).

Standing Before the Son

A wonderful story found in John 8 perfectly illustrates this picture. The religious leaders caught a woman in adultery, and they brought her before Jesus to receive the death decree. With self-righteous indignation, they stood pointing accusing fingers, ready and eager to snuff out her life under a hail of stones.

They pressed their question, “What do you say?” But He ignored them. Instead, He stooped down and began to sketch in the dust on the temple floor as though they were not there. Then He stood up and said to the woman who was caught in adultery those immortalized words: “He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.”

And then Jesus knelt down again and waited. Ashamed and bewildered, the leaders pondered their next move. But soon, they began to see what Jesus was writing in the dust; they saw that He was writing out their very own sins.

After recognizing this, the accusers began crawling away one by one—like cockroaches shaken by the light. “And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst” (John 8:9).

Her accusers were gone; they fell, but she was face to face with Jesus—standing.

Who Is Worthy to Stand?

How could this woman, which many believe to be Mary Magdalene, stand under those circumstances? She broke the commandments. She was unworthy. But what does Christ say to her? “Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?” She answers, “No man, Lord.” And Jesus replies, “Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.”

Christ also said, “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21:36). Notice that Jesus doesn’t say you will be worthy—He says that you will be counted worthy. Mary was guilty of sin, but did He count her guilty? No, He gave her mercy. She stood in grace because He would take her penalty.

Who is going to be left standing? The one who loves the Lord. The ones who have faith and stand in grace. The ones not afraid to stand alone with Jesus—they will be left standing. But you might be thinking, “I fall all the time.

How can I know I’ll stand in the end?” Well, Proverbs 24:16 says, “For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again.” Jesus cast seven demons from Mary; she fell into her old patterns several times. But as often as she sincerely repented of it, He genuinely forgave her. The righteous might fall, but they can still stand in the judgment if they have the righteousness of Christ.

So even though you may not be Samson, Eleazar, or David, just remember that they didn’t stand in their own strength. God helped them stand, and He can give you the strength too. Someone once asked Moody if he had enough faith to be tortured for Christ without denying Him. He answered, “Not now I don’t, but when that day comes I trust He’ll give me the strength.” The Lord promises, “As thy days so shall thy strength be” (Deuteronomy 33:25)

Standing on the Rock

Jesus reinforces this truth in His parable about the wise man that builds his house on the rock. It’s not only important to have the right foundation; we need the right materials like faith, hope, and love—materials that He provides us. Will your house stand? By repenting and believing that by Christ’s blood we are innocent, we can be counted worthy for His sake—and be left standing.

We Christians have some trials ahead. The last thing we need is our church becoming complacent during a time when our lamps should be trimmed. And we need to have something genuine; we need to know Him to stand. We need to be able to sing like Jehoshaphat’s choir, singing God’s praises and standing still in His salvation.

Let’s look again in our Bibles. Revelation 14:1 says, “And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount [Zion], and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads.” But if we’re going to be able to stand with Him then, we need to stand in faith now. I want to be among those. How about you? I want to stand before the Lord, clad in His armor and covered by His blood.

There may be some of you who realize that your foundation is made of the wrong stuff and today you’d like to begin building on Christ. So I’d like to end on this last promise, found in 1 Thessalonians 3:8: “For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.”





“HELLO?

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The Most Amazing Story

CONTEST

Amazing Facts wants to hear how God has used our TV, radio, Bible School, Internet, evangelistic seminars, and other ministries to touch your life or the life of someone close to you.

In Revelation 12:11, we're told, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Our testimonies are a wonderful way to encourage others to hang in there as they go through trying times.

We will compile many of these stories into a book that will be perfect for sharing with those who need encouragement.

Deadline: Submissions must be postmarked or received via e-mail by November 1, 2002.

Contest Guidelines & Information:

1. Submit as many entries as you like.
2. Your story must be about how Amazing Facts has touched your life and/or helped you touch the lives of others—especially for those of you who have come to God's Sabbath-keeping church!
3. Each entry must be a true unpublished work by you.
4. Entries should not be longer than 650 words.
5. Entries must be typed and double-spaced with 12 pt. font size (no handwriting should appear on the manuscript).
6. Entries must be postmarked or **preferably e-mailed** by November 1, 2002.
7. Include title of entry and your name on the manuscript.
8. Send a cover sheet with each entry. Include: a) title of the entry; b) name; c) address; d) phone number; e) Church name, city, and state; f) e-mail address.
9. All submissions become the property of Amazing Facts.
10. All entries may be published by Amazing Facts.
11. If your entry is chosen for publication, all persons mentioned must sign a release provided by Amazing Facts, authorizing publication of their name.
12. Prizes will be given to the top three stories.
13. Winners will be notified by mail February 2003.

Prizes

1st Prize: \$250 catalog gift certificate

2nd Prize: \$100 catalog gift certificate

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Send entries to: amazingstory@amazingfacts.org

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Bible Study Tools

A HOW-TO GUIDE FOR EVANGELISM

BY SCOTT STEWARD

Have you ever seen those home-improvement magazines and catalogs? Their covers feature dazzling homes that can't possibly exist anywhere but in a computer graphics-enhanced world. They show a smiling, spotlessly clean man in new work clothes and hardhat painlessly building a gorgeous tri-level redwood deck trimmed with flowerboxes, masonry, sparkling fishponds, and exotic flowers—in just three easy steps. Personally, it's intimidating. And I don't think it's even possible.

Maybe you feel the same way about giving Bible studies. Maybe you think, as many do, that you lack the training, skills, or tools to even start a spiritual improvement project, let alone complete a glorious transition in a soul worthy of a magazine cover—or the Lord's notice.

You might even fear that you'll cause more damage than good along the way.

Fear no more.

THE STEPS

Naturally, you'll want some training before using the big tools, but anyone can pick up a few basic tools and get to work. First, however, we must let the Master Craftsman guide and direct the project.

So let's get started. First step: pray! Ask with a humble heart for God to show you whom to approach, which tools to use, and how to use them. (This is the part where you receive and study the blueprints). Then watch and listen. Watch who the Lord puts in your path and find out what their heart-level needs are, and pray for them—a lot.

Soon, you'll need some tools. Depending on the person's needs, may I humbly suggest the Amazing Facts Bible Study Guides or the *Storacles of Prophecy* lessons? These are good, solid, basic tools, proven effective in a multitude of situations. I've used them myself to great avail—and without doing any damage. They're like one of those pocket tools that have 27 different instruments in one easy-to-use package, and I know from personal experience how good they are.

A CASE STUDY IN EVANGELISM

My wife Ann and I had been praying for someone to do Bible studies with. And God answered. One of Ann's co-workers became intrigued with her understanding of the Bible. And as a single mom, she wanted to get her four-year-old daughter involved in a safe, wholesome Christian environment.

We began by getting acquainted and visiting her home one evening a week, taking the Bible Study Guides each time. We went through the questions in one Study Guide and then left the next in the series for her to study before our next visit. Sometimes we'd leave one of the *Storacles* or Joe Crews' pocket books as supplemental reading. There were always questions—many of which we couldn't answer without researching them and returning the next week, but her eager curiosity was encouraging to us.

TALKING SHOP

Thankfully, God has given us a workshop full of promises to draw from ... that we'll know in that very hour what to say (Mark 13:11), His Word will not return void (Isaiah 55:11), and that which He has begun He will be faithful to complete (Philippians 1:6). If we would only get started, He will take care of the rest. If we would simply share what we know of our own experience with Jesus (our testimony), He'll fill in the gaps and touch people's hearts.

To claim these promises, remember that the fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much (James 5:16). Pray to be established with God before you start studying with someone, then count on Him to provide.

ADVICE FROM AN EXPERT

I recently interviewed Annie Kjaer of our Amazing Facts College of Evangelism (AFCOE)—she's sort of a Bob Villa of spiritual remodeling projects. She knows a lot about giving Bible studies and teaches it very well. Here are some of her insights on giving Bible studies.

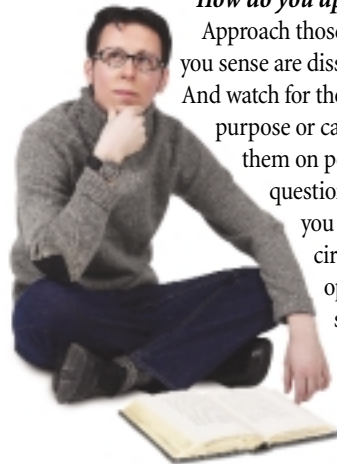
How do you find an interested person?

Make your first efforts with those whom you have relationships, such as work associates and neighbors. They know you, and they'll have confidence in your influence. You're also better able to see their needs. Seeds grow best in ground that is prepared.

I recommend selecting about five people to focus on and pray for over the next 12 months. Earnestly pray for an opportunity to minister and study with them. God might add or subtract from your list, so be open to Him. Watch for these divine appointments with people—God orchestrates them. There are no accidents.

How do you approach them?

Approach those going through crises or people you sense are dissatisfied or even bored with life. And watch for those making inquiries about life's purpose or catastrophic world events. Approach them on points of common interest, asking questions and showing interest. The more you watch and pray for those in your circle, the more easily you'll find an opening. Then you can share a personal story or experience of common interest—and then offer literature that addresses their need. Follow up within a week with a discussion. Start by asking



Pray to be established with God before you start studying with someone, then count on Him to provide.

what they thought of the booklet. Did they enjoy it? Then listen without taking personally any disagreements they might have, and don't ever argue with them! From their feedback, you'll be able to find areas of interest to discuss as your friendship grows.

How do you get started?

You don't have to start with lesson number one of our Study Guide series. They may have questions on making their marriage better, and you could offer "Has Holy Wedlock Become Unholy Deadlock?" Then, if they enjoyed it, or have more questions, offer them "Is There Anything You Can Trust?" (Study Guide #1).

Continue to give them a new lesson every week or so, and as you feel the opportunity opening, ask if they'd like to do the study together. Determine if they learn best through printed, audio, or video lessons—some people learn better with different formats than others. Keep casual and friendly; don't "sign them up" for a course. Ask if they have a tape player in their car. Amazing Facts has the whole NET '99 program on audiotape and CD, as well as on videotape!

How do you keep it going?

Once you're involved in an active exchange, stay connected with them and find non-threatening events to attend together, like a music concert at church or even a community event. Look for short, positive, one-time events. Be yourself, relax, and make room for the Lord to lead, then watch for their openness (the ripening fruit).

In one of my favorite books, *Ministry of Healing*, it says, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired

their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'"

What do you do during the study itself?

Once you sit down with them, at their home, stay no longer than an hour—and only allow the study to go for about 30 to 45 minutes. Start with prayer. Keep your study time separate from social. Make it serious, focused, and leave in an atmosphere of reverence by closing in prayer. This is sacred time for God to work, and socializing could water it down. Keep it sharply focused, and guard their time.

If your friend bombards you with lots of questions, don't be tempted to answer them all at once. You'll risk killing their curiosity and desire by overwhelming them. Just because they're brimming with enthusiasm, it's not good to "overfeed" them. You risk burning them out. If you stay two or three hours, they might forget how thrilled they were with all the answers and remember that you stayed too long the last time—then they start finding excuses *not* to meet with you. Respect their time for them, and keep them hungry.

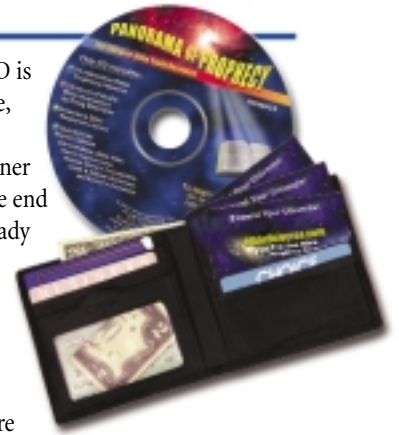
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

No doubt you've heard something about the *Panorama of Prophecy* Bible study CD. Many people give these to friends or family members who have questions about the times in which we live. They're interested in prophecy. Others might want more on your beliefs and why Jesus is so important to you. Still others are intrigued by all the information available on the CD, and will be introduced to Jesus

through the lessons. The "POP" CD is affordable, captivating, easy to use, and even easier to give away.

One person set some on the corner of his desk at his office, and by the end of the day several people had already started investigating it and arranged to start meeting on a weekly basis to study more.

Would you like something even easier? How about the BibleUniverse.com cards? These are small, fit in your wallet, and are almost too easy to give to someone. Give them to parking lot attendants, grocery store clerks. Leave them at the gas pump and in the seat pockets of airplanes ... everything short of littering. You could say, "Hey, you know what? I found an excellent website. In fact, I help support it. It answers tons of spiritual questions and has daily inspirational writings and very helpful links. Check it out." Most people can't refuse it when it's offered with the enthusiasm of a "happy customer," sort of like recommending a good restaurant—but be sure you're well acquainted with the website first.



IN REVIEW

So to review—first, pray. Second, be friendly. Keep your studies short, don't argue, and follow a logical sequence of topics for their interest. It's probably not a good idea to jump right into a study on the mark of the beast without first establishing the Bible as credible and dependable. Let the lessons, not their

questions, lead your conversations.


Third, respect their time. Assure them that you will cover the topics of their interest as you progress, and build their confidence and trust. Also seek to make the study topics relevant to their life and circumstances.

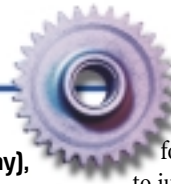
Most of all: focus on the relationship with Jesus and let the doctrines come with the Holy Spirit's leading.

GOOD RESULTS

So what happened to the young lady from our study? We kept her in prayer, and Ann continued to answer her questions from time to time while they were at work. She was invited to join a young adult group at our church, and her daughter enjoyed the weekly Sabbath school class for her age group. They made friends and started studying some of the deeper doctrinal truths with a pastor from our church. A little over a year later, she was baptized—and God gets the glory!

You can only give what you've received, so "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). The Holy Spirit can only bring to memory what is already in there, so read and study for yourself in preparation, as well as for your own benefit. Then do the bold and daring thing: ask God for directions, pick up the tools, and get to work.

And may God bless your efforts! 



If we would simply share what we know of our own experience with Jesus (our testimony), He'll fill in the gaps and touch people's hearts.

BIBLE Answers



with Pastor Doug Batchelor

What form does God take? The Bible says He is a spirit, but then man was made in His image.

In John 4:24, we read, “God is a Spirit.” And those who worship Him must do so in spirit and truth. But keep in mind that because God is a spirit, it does not mean that He is just ethereal vapor or that He can’t have a body. Many believe that spiritual things cannot be physical. That’s a misconception. God wants you to be spiritual, and yet you still have a physical body.

Angels are spirits living in a spiritual realm, but the Bible repeatedly identifies them as having a form. “Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?” (Hebrews 1:14). God the Father is a spirit, but Daniel sees God on His throne and describes what He looked like in that vision (Daniel 7:9).

Of course, Jesus now has a physical, human body. When He rose from the dead, He received a glorified body. Remember what Jesus said to His disciples: “Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have” (Luke 24:39). He said a spirit, or ghost, does not have flesh like Him. He had a spiritual body, yet He ate in front of them to emphasize that He was real. When we get our new bodies, they will be real but also spiritual—like Jesus now has. “It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body” (1 Corinthians 15:44). And Philippians 3:21 adds, “Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body.”

Hebrews 1:3 says, “Who being in the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person . . . sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.” Now, doesn’t it ring true that God must have a form if Jesus is sitting at His right hand?

Who are the 144,000? Are they the only ones saved?

First, about 99 percent of all the information on the 144,000 is found primarily in Revelation 7 and 14. There are many strange ideas regarding this special group of people, so one must be careful when dealing with this subject matter. In that light, it’s also important to note that I don’t believe that this is an issue of salvation, but it is still a very important one.

Many people believe that because the Bible says the 144,000 are not defiled for they are virgins, it must mean that all 144,000 must be vir-

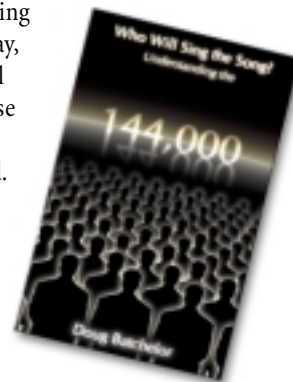
gins. However, I believe the term “virgin” here is a symbol for the theologically pure. It means that they are not defiled with the false doctrines of the woman in Revelation 17.

The 144,000 are also not the only ones saved; they’re not even the only ones saved in the last days. In chapter 7, there is a great multitude that no man can number. So the 144,000 represent a special group, the same way the 12 apostles were specially chosen by the Lord, filled with the Spirit, and commissioned to work for Him. In the last days, the Lord is going to have not 12 apostles—but 12 times 12,000! They will do a similar work of preaching the gospel around the world before the second coming. The Lord also said that there would be a special position for the 12 apostles, saying they would sit on 12 thrones, reigning with Him (Luke 22:30). In the same way, Revelation 14 is saying there’s a special position, a special relationship, for these 144,000 last-day people who are filled with the Spirit and working for the Lord.

Who Will Sing the Song? Understanding the 144,000

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See ordering info on page 25.



Satan was cast away from heaven, so why do Job 1:6 and Revelation 12:7 seem to say he’s got fairly easy access there?

Well, first of all, Satan was cast out of heaven after Adam and Eve chose to listen to the devil instead of God. The devil basically took the earth hostage as his staging grounds to fight God. Paul says earth is now a theater to the universe; we’re a spectacle (1 Corinthians 4:9). The universe is watching what’s happening here on this planet.

But when you get to Revelation 12, where it mentions the war between Michael and the dragon and how the dragon is cast out, it’s not all regarding future prophecy. Some prophecy looks back, and this is an example of that. Satan did not just come to earth when Revelation was written. He started working and fighting man on earth with his fallen angels way back when man fell, so Revelation 12 is a prophetic picture looking backward.

Pastor Doug uses the **QuickVerse®** Bible-search software during *Bible Answers Live*. This dynamic resource enables you to simplify your biblical research with powerful searching capabilities, an easy-to-use interface, and innovative options for expansion and personalization—all at an extremely affordable price. Find it at www.quickverse.com.

I also believe Satan could have been cast out of heaven in degrees. When Christ completed His ministry and said, "It is finished," (John 19:30), Satan's access to heaven was even more limited. Yet Satan still works as an accuser of the faithful and in some way he can discourse with God. God is everywhere, so Satan here on earth can shake his fists at God in heaven and say, "You know the only reason Job serves you is because you protect him." Satan also accused Joshua the high priest in Zechariah, so he still accuses God. But he can't go to the gates of heaven and tempt the angels of heaven anymore.

Based on Colossians 1:15, many say Christ was created or born. Does this mean He's not deity?

I believe Colossians 1:15, which reads, "[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature," is very clear reference about the awesome nature of Christ, which is a belief under attack in many Christian churches. The Messianic prophecy in Psalm 89:27 also reads, "I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth," showing that Christ was not the firstborn prior to the creation narrative in Genesis, but rather He was to be made firstborn after the Psalmist penned his words. "The firstborn of every creature" is explained in Colossians 1:18 as "the firstborn from the dead."

We can also use a modern-day example. In America, we call the president's wife First Lady, but that doesn't mean she was the first lady born. It merely designates her role in America. Colossians should be read in the same way.

The word firstborn in Greek does not mean first one given birth to. Instead, it means the one who has priority—the one who has first position. A more accurate translation might say, "Who is the image of the invisible God, the first of every creature, or the highest of every creature?"

Another thing we need to remember is all of the times Jesus called Himself infinite. You can't ignore those Scriptures when understanding His nature! For instance, Christ said, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). He also calls Himself the Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8). Jesus is from everlasting to everlasting (Isaiah 63:16; Psalm 90:2). And one of the best Scriptures to explain that Christ is eternal is in the gospel of John: "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made" (1:3). If Christ made everything that's made, He couldn't have made Himself. He's always existed!

Let's look at another verse where we find a similar problem. Many take John 3:16, which says, "his only begotten son," and say that Jesus was begotten. Yet these people forget that when the Holy Spirit came upon Mary, it was the first time that God was born as a man. Christ is the only one of the Godhead who became a man, and so that's one way you can look at this.

Also, when we translate from Greek the phrase "the first begotten" or "the only begotten" or "the firstborn," that word can be translated as "the one who has preeminence over every creature." It doesn't necessarily mean He was born. Does it mean that the Father has a womb and gave birth to Jesus? Of course, this is an utterly ridiculous idea, but it helps illustrate the trouble in taking some passages of Scripture too literally.

Jesus has always been and will always be. He is divine and one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8).


My church displays a nativity for Christmas and a cross for Easter. Is that right?

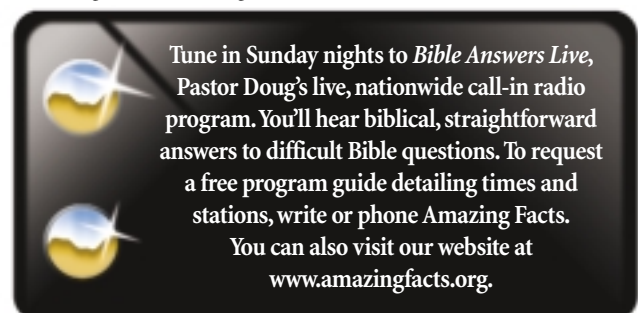
I get a lot of these questions before and after both Easter and Christmas, and it's something to honestly consider. If your church is promoting these kinds of activities, choose your battles cautiously and be careful to not major in minors.

Biblically, there is no command for us to worship the figure of the cross; but the principle of the cross is something Christians should cherish even though the world despises it. But the Bible never even asks us to make crosses and carry them around as symbols. There is no record that the disciples did this either. In fact, the cross probably didn't become a prominent Christian "logo" until about 400 years after Christ, and the fish image was used more for identification in times of persecution.

Yet the cross has become the major symbol of Christianity. I don't make a big issue over it being used as a figurative emblem, so to speak, to identify the faith. But we are not to worship it. Nor are we to wear it as jewelry; instead we are commanded to bear the cross, which is a whole different concept. I think many put up crosses in their churches and around their necks because they don't want to truly bear it. If we would just bear the cross as Christ asks us, we wouldn't need to have all these external symbols.

And as for nativities, well, first of all, most of them are simply inaccurate. They usually show the shepherds and the wise men together at the manger. However, in the Bible, the wise men came into the house (Matthew 2:11) to worship Jesus. The shepherds and the wise men probably never saw each other, at least, not at the stable. Their visits were also probably a year apart.

However, if someone wants to portray a scene that helps young people and others to visualize and remember the sacrifice of Christ, I believe that's okay as long as we remember the second commandment: "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them" (Exodus 20:5). It's still very important to remember that there is no mandate in the Bible to have a nativity, or even celebrate Jesus' birth. But if somebody wants to keep a day unto the Lord, let him or her keep it unto the Lord (Romans 14:6). So if people are going to celebrate the day of Christ's birth, then I would let them. Of course, Christ was not born on December 25—we're not sure exactly when He was born—but many people regard that day with sincerity. And as long as they are honoring that day unto the Lord, and not Visa or MasterCard or unto popular or pagan traditions, I think we should remember to keep the main thing the main thing. 



Tune in Sunday nights to *Bible Answers Live*, Pastor Doug's live, nationwide call-in radio program. You'll hear biblical, straightforward answers to difficult Bible questions. To request a free program guide detailing times and stations, write or phone Amazing Facts. You can also visit our website at www.amazingfacts.org.

PERSONAL PENTECOST

BY ANTHONY LESTER

“Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.” —Matthew 5:8

For nearly 16 years I shared a room with him—played and went to school with him. Many nights, I would lie awake watching him, imagining what it might be like without him and preparing for a day I knew would surely come. But I was not prepared at all.

I remember vividly the last time I saw him awake. I walked past his room and glanced in. During that brief moment, I saw his small, sickened body hunched over on his bed. As my mother attended to him, she looked grieved. Something was very wrong.

My heart raced; tears began to form. I wanted to say, “I love you.” But instead, I passed him by. I went straight into my bedroom, closed the door, and in depression and fear, I cried. Paul would not hear my voice that day, his last day of consciousness.

On March 17, 1990, after scrubbing my hands and donning a medical mask, I walked into Paul’s critical-care room. I was upset, because the nurse had just said, “It must be hard to wait for someone to die.” I wanted my brother to live, not die. I wanted another chance to reach out to him, look into his eyes, embrace his warm body, and feel him respond. But it was too late for that—now I only had regret.

I took a seat by his bed and held his hand. He lay quietly, swept up in a coma. I was told I could reassure him, that he would hear my voice, though he could not physically respond. I had nothing I really wanted to say that day; I only wanted to hope he would live. But for some reason, I opened my mouth and said words that still surprise me today.

“Paul. You’ve done so well. You’ve been so strong—you outlived all their expectations. I’m so proud of you; we all are—Mom, Dad, CK, and Davy. You don’t have to keep fighting. You’ve done enough. I love you.”

I quietly watched him for another moment and stood to go when the machines began making different, faster noises. I immediately knew what was happening, and in shock I could not move. (Had he taken me seriously?) An alarm sounded, and suddenly the nurse’s voice jarred me, “You need to get your parents now.” When I returned with them to Paul’s room, the nurse confirmed what I had witnessed.

“He’s gone.”

Eventually, I’d suffer severe depression as a result of this tragedy. I even hated God. But today, I see this moment in a new light, even though its truth has always been there. It has become a new, hot fire—my own personal Pentecost.

Paul was born with hemophilia, a disorder that prevents clotting of the blood. Doctors said he wouldn’t make it past one year—but

when he did, they kept setting dates: two years, and then five, and on and on. He beat them all! Why? God had other ideas—and a purpose for him.

At the funeral, I learned the story of a man who happened to be a construction worker for a few months at Paul’s school. Socially rejected because of learning disabilities and handicaps, Paul would not often play with other kids at recess. But one day, he began to visit this unsaved man. Each day, Paul would talk about his faith to this stranger.

Paul did not know doctrines, like the Sabbath or state of the dead. He spoke simply of Jesus’ love and how He could save

people. Slowly but surely, the unsaved man’s heart began to melt—until one day he gave his life to Jesus.

Not long after this Paul became ill with the measles, which with weakened immunity, he simply could not overcome.

Though he lived a meek existence, Paul lived a powerful, effective life. God kept him in the world to reach that one man—to pull him from darkness. Of course, Paul helped save me too so many years after his death. Paul wasn’t perfect; he sinned as we all do. But God helped him do something amazing; he was born for a reason. So am I—and so are you.


My Pentecost, a Spirit-given moment of revelation, is realizing that Paul did so much with his weakness, and I have done so little with my strength.

Yet I believe God still has plans for me. Though I may never match the magnificent, singular accomplishment of my brother, I will gladly do now what I can for God and the people around me. I’ll let go of fleeting moments, fear, and anger to reach out to the unsaved and the discouraged. And I know with all my heart I will be a part of something wonderful. I cannot hold back, as I did on that day I last saw my brother awake.

Looking into eternity, you and I have nothing to lose in speaking of our faith. Paul wasn’t afraid; I’m not afraid—don’t you be afraid. God is with you, so let each of us find our person and speak of Jesus to him or her. On the cross, Jesus showed us that one soul is as valuable as a million souls combined.

I believe God used me that day to tell Paul that he’d done what God had asked of him. I also want to hear God speak to me when my life is over, saying, “Well done, my child. You’ve been so strong; you’ve outlived all their expectations. I’m so proud of you. You’ve done what I asked of you. I love you.” Looking forward to those words, I know my life has purpose. So does yours.

Time is short. This work is too important to stay quiet—and too important for regretting.

Keep the faith. 

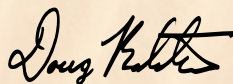
Elisha's Bones

The truest measure of a great life is a person's positive influence being felt long after he or she enters rest in Jesus. We all want our lives to make a difference—a lasting blessing to others for generations to come.

The Bible tells us that the prophet Elisha had a double portion of Elijah's spirit. And his life was so completely devoted to God that he brought a dead man back to life even after the prophet was buried!

“And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulcher of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet” (2 Kings 13:20, 21).

A man was brought back from death simply by being touched by the bones of Elisha! Would you like to know that you would be giving life to others even after your death? When you remember the ministry of Amazing Facts in your will or with a gift annuity, you can rest assured that your planning will continue to give life to the lost long after your passing.



Doug Batchelor

Have you remembered Amazing Facts in your will or trust? May we help you do so?

Have you considered a gift annuity? By placing cash, securities, or real estate as an irrevocable gift in your annuity, you or a loved one can receive:

- A guaranteed fixed rate of income for life
- A rate of income higher than your CDs
- Many tax advantages
- Satisfaction in funding God's work

If you would like more information on estate planning, wills, or gift annuities, contact Amazing Facts at 800-436-2695.

John Bridges, ext. 3005
Planned Giving Director

Judy Schachten, ext. 3029
Planned Giving Secretary

SINGLE LIFE			
GIFT ANNUITY PAYMENT RATES			
AGE	RATE	AGE	RATE
60	6.4%	76	8.0%
61	6.5	77	8.2
62	6.6	78	8.4
63	6.6	79	8.6
64	6.7	80	8.9
65	6.7	81	9.1
66	6.8	82	9.4
67	6.9	83	9.7
68	7.0	84	10.1
69	7.1	85	10.4
70	7.2	86	10.8
71	7.3	87	11.1
72	7.4	88	11.4
73	7.6	89	11.7
74	7.7	90+	12.0
75	7.9		

Recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities, July 2001

NEW BOOKS!

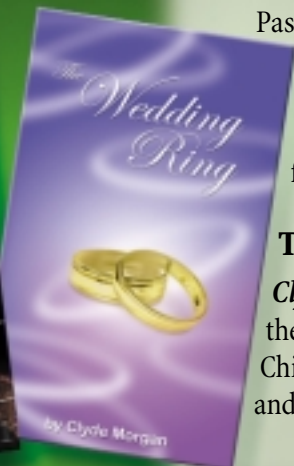
HOT OFF THE PRESS!



The Book of Amazing Facts, Volume 1

Pastor Doug has used amazing facts to make the gospel message more approachable for millions. Now he's compiled nearly nine years of his best into one comprehensive volume! A unique and wonderful resource that can be used to delight friends and family while bringing them closer to Jesus.

BK-BOAF.....\$9.99



The Wedding Ring

Clyde Morgan. An inside look into how one church is addressing the growing controversy over jewelry and the wedding ring in the Christian life. Morgan sheds new light using God's unchanging Word and calls believers to godly simplicity and purity.

BK-WR.....\$4.95

See ordering info on page 25.

Behind the Scenes

What's new at Amazing Facts...

AFCOE Gets New Leadership

Alan Parker joined our team as the new director of the Amazing Facts College of Evangelism (AFCOE) in February. Alan will be teaching biblical theology, public evangelism, and church leadership, as well as helping to grow and develop the college.

He replaces Gary Gibbs, founder of the college and now its chancellor. "I am extremely pleased that Alan has joined our faculty. He brings a wealth of academic and practical experience," says Gibbs. Alan has served the church as evangelist, pastor, church planter, and college lecturer. He is currently finishing his Ph.D in practical theology from the University of Stellenbosch.



Alan recently married Nicole Crosier, an English teacher who worked for the ministry during NET '99, and they spent several months in pastoral and evangelistic work in Africa before coming to Amazing Facts.

Alan grew up in Southern Africa in a non-Christian home. Yet he would cycle 16 miles to church and back each week, even though his parents opposed it. Alan is excited about AFCOE because he believes it's a place where anyone can learn to do evangelism. "This is a dynamic training school, and I'm glad to be a part of it."

Bridges Joins Amazing Facts

Pastor John Bridges is the new director of planned giving at Amazing Facts. He helps friends and supporters with their estate planning, giving them the knowledge they need to pass their assets to family and the Lord's work, while avoiding probate and unnecessary taxes. He can also help them increase their present income with their current assets.

John grew up in Ohio, becoming a Sabbathkeeping Christian when he was 18. He graduated from Southern College with a degree in theology. He has also served as a literature evangelist, teacher, pastor, and evangelist. He served as a planned giving director for more than seven years before joining this ministry.

He is married to Tama Jo Hall, from Shreveport, Louisiana. They have children who live in Montana, Idaho, and California.

John recognizes that whenever people become sensitive to being the best steward they can be, they enter into a deeper covenant relationship with God and find lasting fulfillment. He is anxious to help our friends and supporters be the best stewards of God's resources, as together we lift up Christ and His last-day message through the soul-winning ministry of Amazing Facts.



New Amazing Facts Catalog to Arrive This Fall

You've probably noticed that among the recent changes in the *Inside Report* is the addition of several pages of new and special Christian resources. Amazing Facts has been hard at work hunting down more resources for you to enhance your walk with Jesus and to help you lead others to Him. So far, in 2002, we've added more than 200 new books, audio-

tapes, videotapes, music selections, and software—showing once again that Amazing Facts is your trusted treasury of truth.

We want to be your one-stop resource center for uncompromising, dependable products that you can feel confident in sharing with family and friends.

In October, start watching for the new and improved Amazing Facts catalog to arrive in your mail. The exciting 2003 catalog will be bigger than ever, newly organized, and full of the kinds of resources you've come to rely on from Amazing Facts. Also, visit our website often to see what's new in our online store; and if you haven't already done so, sign up for *The Clarion* while you're there. *The Clarion* is your e-mail newsletter from Amazing Facts with ministry news and special offers on new and popular products.



BibleUniverse.com Affiliate Program

Web designer John Quade has developed a unique and exciting program that lets you partner with Amazing Facts to win souls . . . wherever you live! It's just another example of the ministry equipping the laity with powerful Christian resources.

The Affiliate program enables you to use your website to spread the good news. You will be able to see and pray for truth seekers who enroll in our online Bible prophecy course as a result of your referral.

When you sign up, we'll generate a code that gives you access to your own special report that shows the number of students you have referred and other helpful statistics. (Of course, Bible students' private information is kept strictly confidential.) You'll have the satisfaction of knowing that your website effort is reaping benefits. So don't miss your opportunity to participate in this exciting program!

John is also adding an advanced search program and much more, so go to BibleUniverse.com today and "Expand Your Universe!"



Media Makes Strides

In July, Amazing Facts launched "Joe Crews Classics," a new version of Joe Crews 15-minute radio sermons. And the best of Joe Crews will be available in a box set in Spring 2003!

The ministry is also reaching out to the world, touching lives in Israel, Jordan, Egypt, and other Arabic countries through Middle Eastern Television. We're also in India and China with programs broadcast in Hindi, Tamil, Cantonese, and Mandarin.

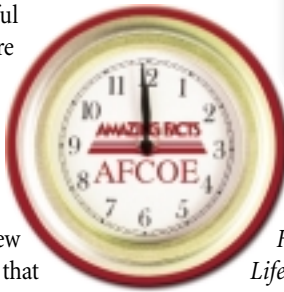
We need volunteers to help translate our *Millennium of Prophecy* series into Spanish, Russian, Mandarin, and Japanese. And we're looking for a media intern to help the ministry for at least three months.

And remember, you can *bring truth home!* Partner with Amazing Facts by sponsoring a radio or TV broadcast in your area. For more information, contact Karen at 916-434-3880, ext. 3042.

AFCOE Fall Session Begins

The newest session of Amazing Facts College of Evangelism began July 18, and the class of 48 is our biggest ever. The average age of our students is 36, and many have come from foreign countries to learn the art and science of evangelism. Annie Kjaer, assistant director, says, "This is a wonderful group of students; they are excited, enthused, and committed Christians giving four months of their lives to learning effective evangelism."

So please keep these new students in your prayers, that God will encourage them to make great strides for Him.



AFCOE Graduates Can Help Your Church Grow!

Our current AFCOE class, an eager and talented group ready to serve the Lord, will graduate on November 23. If you are interested in having one of our graduates come to your church as a Bible worker, please call Annie Kjaer at 916-434-3880, ext. 3093.

How to Give Bible Studies—NEW TIME!

Due to the ministry's focus on *Hope for a Hemisphere: Visions for Life*, Gary Gibbs' "How to Give Bible Studies" class at Sacramento Central Church has been moved to another date.

Direct from one of AFCOE's most popular courses, this two-day event will show participants how to share their faith, give Bible studies, and understand the Bible better.

The course is free, but a final date hadn't been established by press time. Please look in the January/February issue for details and times.

New Evangelists Make Big Impact

In June, Jason Morgan arrived in Muscatine, Iowa, with wife Misty and daughter Abigail, for a prophecy seminar. More than 40 non-church members attended the series. Many enjoyed Jason's rapid-fire style as he quoted the Bible extensively! Church members prayed continually for the meeting's success. The local church has since been re-energized. Contacts have been made with former members and a number of them regularly attended the meetings and are now back at church. So far, 10 new members have joined the church, nine by baptism and one by profession of faith. Four others are in serious study and attending church, but not quite ready for baptism.

And Hidelisa Flickinger reports great success from Mountain Home, Arkansas, with her husband Eric. "God had people ready to be reborn into His transforming grace, and many were amazed to discover God's precious truths for the first time. And others were blessed to rediscover His Word and holy day." Here is just one story:

Dorene and Joe were received into the local church by profession of faith after attending the seminar. Dorene writes, "After attending the meetings, I was convinced I wanted to keep the Sabbath. Eric does so well explaining His Word. It was a wonderful gift from God."

And many more have joined the church, and with God's grace, many more will as a result of hard work from our newest evangelists. "Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven" (Psalm 85:11).

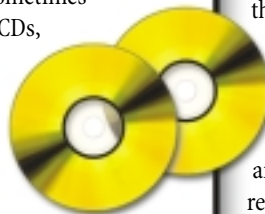
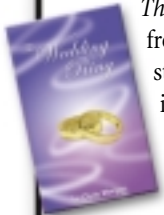
Publishing Update

The ministry is hard at work bringing you more resources for growing in Christ and soul-winning. In fact, we have two new items hot off the press.

The Book of Amazing Facts features nearly nine years of unique facts from Doug Batchelor designed to make the Bible easier to understand. And *The Wedding Ring*, by Clyde Morgan, is an inside look into how one church is handling a growing controversy.

And even more is on the way! We are now recording Pastor Doug Batchelor's *The Richest Caveman* on audio CD, so you'll be able to play it in your car or on your stereo at home, or better yet, share it with that busy friend. And Joe Crews' tremendously popular and sometimes controversial *Creeping Compromise* will be available on four audio CDs, read by the author himself! These powerful messages have led many people, and entire congregations, to genuine revival.

Also look for Pastor Doug's sermon outlines on CD. This powerful resource features his most beloved sermons in easy-to-follow outline format. It's a great way to get ideas for your own soul-winning presentations or sermons. That's just the tip of the iceberg—there are more great resources on the way! Please pray that the Lord will continue to bless the ministry in our efforts to reach souls for Him.



Doug Batchelor

At Jesus' Feet—The Gospel According to Mary Magdalene

Doug Batchelor. All she really wanted was someone to love her—just like anyone else. She was a prosperous prostitute with a sad and sordid life story—until she met Someone who loved her with a pure, unconditional love. Author, pastor, and evangelist Doug Batchelor unveils the beauty of the gospel with original insights through the eyes of Jesus' most dedicated disciple, Mary Magdalene. An imaginative yet biblical retelling of her experience using her examples of great love, tenacious loyalty, and perfect devotion to provide a fresh picture of our gentle, loving Savior. Offers life-changing insights to sin and salvation that apply to your life.

Softcover, BK-AJFS.....\$10.95

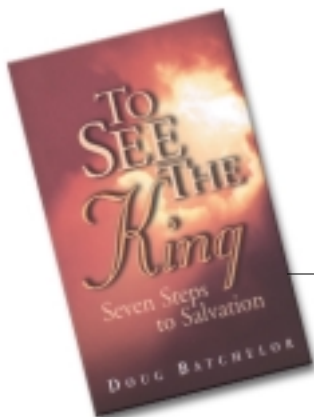
Hardcover, BK-AJFH.....\$14.95



To See the King

Doug Batchelor. Gives you seven compelling steps to salvation with stories only Pastor Doug could share from his life experience. Inspiring, amusing, and persuasive views that will encourage your heart.

BK-TSK.....\$2.49



The Christian and Alcohol

Doug Batchelor. Thoroughly documented and presented in his own straightforward manner, Pastor Doug clarifies confusing verses and explains the types of wine and alcohol in the Bible, what happens when God's people drink alcohol, and gives inspiring biblical reasons for abstinence.

BK-CA.....85¢

Who Is Michael the Archangel?

Doug Batchelor. Who is this being? Was he created? Is he to be worshiped? What's in a name, rank, or title? The answers will surprise and delight you.

BK-WMA.....85¢



The Sign of Jonah

Doug Batchelor. The scribes and Pharisees wanted a sign from Jesus that He was the Christ, so Jesus likened His ministry to the story of Jonah. This enriching book highlights the importance and gives clarity to both the story of Jonah and to the ministry of Christ.

BK-SOJ.....85¢

144,000: Who Will Sing the Song?

Doug Batchelor. Understand the symbolism and literalism behind this often-misunderstood group. Learn more about the 12 tribes, the 12 apostles, the 24 elders, the true Israelites, who will be saved in heaven, and more.

BK-WWSS.....85¢



Prophecy

The Antichrist Chronicles

Steve Wohlberg. The author follows up his powerful *Truth Left Behind* with another book that sets the popular, error-filled *Left Behind* series on its ear! This thoroughly researched, biblically supported new release uncovers what other prophecy teachers aren't telling you.

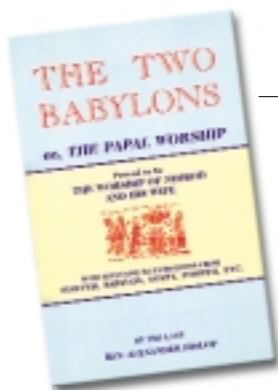
BK-ACHR.....\$4.95



Christ and Antichrist

Samuel J. Cassels. It seems the waters of time have swept away the knowledge of the Protestant interpretation of Scripture. The Antichrist power has usurped the place of Christ to direct His church by asserting its authority to change God's law, forgive sins, and determine who will be saved or lost. A challenge to modern Protestants to think again about their past and the Christ who calls them to proclaim the gospel.

Hardcover, BK-CAAC....\$24.95



The Two Babylons

Alexander Hislop. Identifies modern Babylon of Revelation 17:5 and explains from where their practices, traditions, and beliefs came. This scholarly classic reveals how many Christian rituals and trappings did not originate with Christ or the Bible, but were adopted from ancient pagan Babylonian religion ... and given Christian names.

BK-TTB.....\$14.95

The (New, Illustrated) Great Controversy

Ellen G. White, with illustrations by James Arrabito. This classic has stood the test of time, its pages proving more breathtakingly relevant than your morning newspaper. Arrabito's 192 pages of dazzling photographs have brought it even more dangerously alive.

BK-GCI.....\$14.95



History of the Waldenses

J.A. Wylie. Thrilling portrayal of sacrifice and courage. The Waldenses were among the first peoples of Europe to obtain a translation of the Scriptures. Hundreds of years before the Reformation, they had the unadulterated truth and declared the Church of Rome to be the apostate Babylon of the Apocalypse, and at the peril of their lives, stood up to resist her corruptions of idol worship and observance of the false Sabbath.

BK-HOW.....\$9.95



The Reformation and the Advent Movement

W.L. Emmerson. Get the fascinating story of the full recovery of "the faith, which was once delivered unto the saints" from apostolic times, to the great Reformation of the 16th century, to today. Clearly presented, well-documented, excellent historical work.

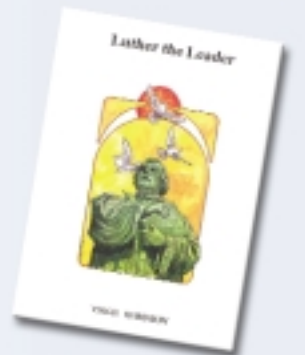
BK-TRAMM\$12.95

History

Luther the Leader

Virgil Robinson. Martin Luther's life is truly an inspiration to every Christian boy and girl. He was a pioneer among the Christians in his day, and he stands out among men in history as one who would not compromise his conscience.

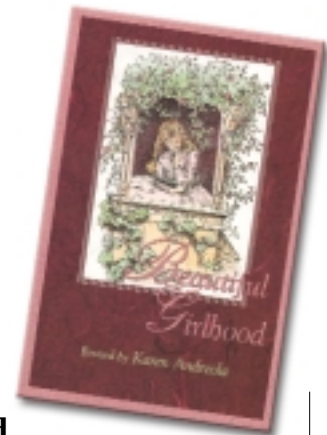
BK-LTL.....\$6.95



Guide's Greatest Miracle Stories

Compiled and edited by Helen Lee. The God of the Bible is still in the miracle business. These thrilling reports from around the world show that He still reveals His power and care today. Whether you wonder if God cares about His people, or if your faith needs a boost, these believe-it-or-not style stories show that our God is there.

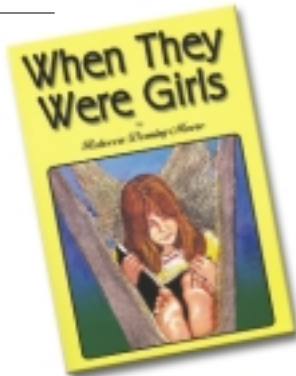
BK-GGMS.....\$9.99



Beautiful Girlhood

M. Hale, revised and expanded by Karen Andreola. The years of transition from childhood to womanhood are filled with wonderful interest and promise. But young feet that travel this way may be unsteady and unsure. Each could use guidance and a helping hand along the way. Author encourages girls to a nobler life and truer ideals through the stories of Christian example.

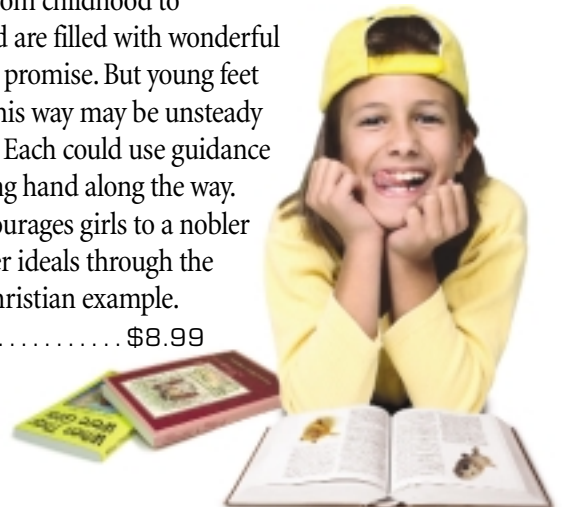
BK-BGIR.....\$8.99



When They Were Girls

Rebecca Deming Moore. What kinds of homes did famous women like Clara Barton, Louisa May Alcott, Jane Adams, Susan B. Anthony, and Evangeline Booth grow up in? What advantages did these strong leaders have as children? What was it like when they were girls?

BK-WTWG.....\$6.95

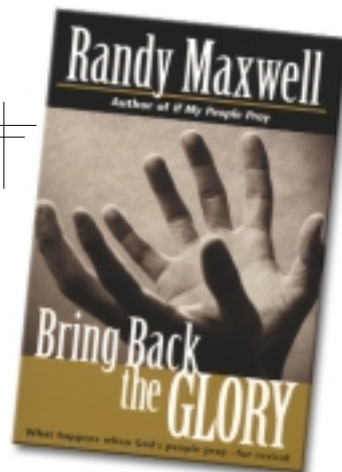


Inspiration

Bring Back the Glory

Randy Maxwell. The author's newest call to the church to seek and possess the revival of true godliness we desperately need in this Laodicean age. Maxwell warns: This book may upset you, disturb you, rouse you from complacency and drive you to your knees—precisely where you need to be—in prayer for revival for your personal life and the life of your church.

BK-BBG.....\$12.99

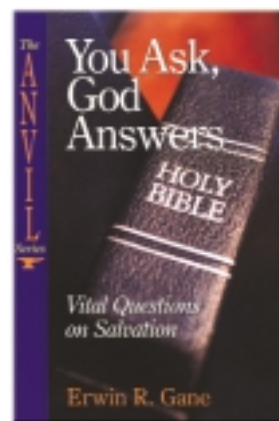
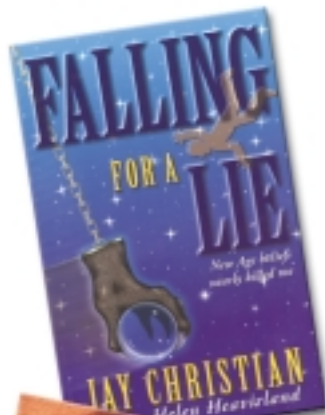


Falling for a Lie

Jay Christian with Helen Heavirland.

New Age beliefs nearly killed Jay as he pursued an understanding of reincarnation, karma, psychic powers, and spiritism. Discover how this one-time top-ranked DJ found his way from the suicidal depths of deception to Jesus, and a rich life of service to Him.

BK-FFL.....\$10.99



You Ask, God Answers: Vital Questions on Salvation

Erwin R. Gane. This important book addresses many questions that have dogged the church's unity for centuries. Immortality of the soul, Marian apparitions, predestination, judgment, and the issues surrounding God's law. Highly recommended.

BK-YAGA.....\$14.95

Jewels in the Sand

Peggy Dameron. If you have considered the sanctuary and its services as complicated or irrelevant, your perception will certainly change as you read this book. Discover from this easy-to-understand presentation the vital, urgent significance for Christians ... and Jews ... living in these exciting end-times.

BK-JISA.....\$9.99



Ransom and Reunion Through the Sanctuary

W.D. Frazee. There is an important work being carried out on our behalf, right now, in the sanctuary in heaven ... and it's to our great benefit to know about it. Understanding of the sanctuary service gives us a deeper appreciation of what our salvation is all about as we approach the judgment and the return of our loving Savior.

BK-RR.....\$6.99



Audio & Video

The Sabbath, Sunday, and the New Covenant

Get answers to one of Christianity's most hotly debated topics! Pastor Doug Batchelor presents this fast-moving, captivating presentation with many beautiful graphics, amazing facts, and lots of Scripture to help you proclaim and defend your beliefs. Pastor Doug uses a simple, concise, and entirely biblical approach to answer many of Christianity's most perplexing questions regarding the Sabbath. You'll uncover ancient history, rediscover God's blessings, and see present truth revealed as never before. An excellent videotape to share with friends.
VD-SSNC.....\$14.95



Video

The Desire of Ages

Ellen G. White/Remnant Publications. More than six billion people on the planet all want the same thing ... happiness, an elusive nebulous that all relentlessly pursue. But this inexpressible desire of all ages cannot be found in things, fame, power, or pleasure-seeking. It is only found in Jesus. This book on CD is His story, and is the end of your search. Narrated by Eddie Hernandez.

CD-DOA.....\$99.95



Audio

Keys for Answered Prayer

Doug Batchelor. Get the knowledge, understanding, and inspiration to supercharge your prayer time, and see results in your life, and in the lives of those you love.

AD-KAP.....\$9.95

Joseph—From the Pit to the Palace

Doug Batchelor. Learn from his example how to look beyond your present sufferings to the day when God's promises will be realized. Three audiotapes.

AD-JPP.....\$14.95

Job—A Man Who Feared God

Doug Batchelor. A panoramic view of the battle between good and evil—on Earth and in the spirit realm. Answers commonly asked questions about suffering, God's character, and Satan's plot to destroy us. Two audiotapes.

AD-JMF.....\$9.95



The Beast, the Dragon, and the Woman

Joe Crews. An excellent overview of the struggle between truth and error as revealed in prophecy. Convenient, portable audio version of his very popular book.

AJ-BDW.....\$7.95

Audio & Video

Health

Becoming Vegan

Brenda Davis & Vesanto Melina. The latest nutritional information for you and your family. Includes vegan food guide, practical tips, disease prevention, and a complete guide to adopting a healthy, balanced, plant-based diet for all ages.

BK-BVEG. \$15.99



Food for Thought

Susan Jen. This provocative book tells you what kinds of foods are the most conducive to robust health, fitness, and well being in all dimensions of our life. Discusses balanced diet, causes and solutions to diseases, and examines what current research is discovering about the benefits of plant foods and how they fit into God's design.

BK-FFT. \$10.95

Uses of Water

J.H. Kellogg. As relevant today as it was in 1876. Presents the nature of water and its physiological benefits, its effects when used as a remedy for disease, and exposes absurd and erroneous practices. Water is not a panacea, but is one of many powerful agents of healing.

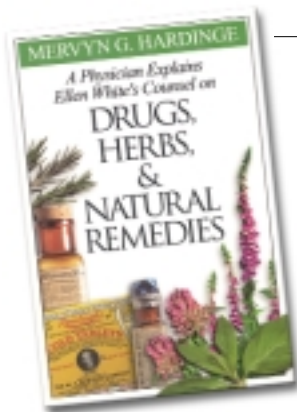
BK-UOWA. \$8.95



A Physician Explains Ellen White's Counsel on Drugs, Herbs, & Natural Remedies

Mervyn G. Hardinge. Highly credentialed M.D. discusses the principal drugs in contemporary use and ransacks the entire history of medicine, clarifying and placing Ellen White's counsel in its historical context. Modern science continues to prove the accuracy of her counsel. Includes extensive glossary of terms and botanic medicines.

BK-DHNR. \$12.99



Health

Important Ordering Information

CALL TODAY!



OR ORDER ONLINE

If items ordered total:	Add for shipping and handling	CA residents add 7.25% sales tax.
Up to \$20.	\$4	For orders shipped outside USA, add 20% of order total for postage.
\$20.01 to \$50.	\$6	
\$50.01 to \$100.	\$8	
\$100.01 & up.	\$10	

800-538-7275

www.amazingfacts.org

Amazing Facts

EVANGELISM TEAM



You are invited to meet the members of Amazing Facts evangelism team at any one of the following locations. This schedule is subject to change without notice, so please call Amazing Facts to confirm appointments or get more information.



Doug Batchelor



Gary Gibbs



John Bradshaw



Richard Calderon



Rich Cavaness



Byron Corbett



Eric Flickinger



Lowell Hargreaves



Brian McMahon



Jason Morgan



Rawel Morninglane



Jack Pefley



Dennis Priebe



Verne Snow

Doug Batchelor

September 20 – 22
Many Hands—One Mission
Ministries Convention
DoubleTree Hotel Convention Center
10100 College Blvd
Overland Park, Kansas
For details, call 402-484-3000.

September 26 at 7 P.M. Pacific
3ABN Live

November 8–30
Visions for Life: Hope for a Hemisphere
Yaounde, Cameroon

Your church can be a part of these meetings! Go to www.visions4life.com for more information or call Jim Ayers at 530-926-6677.

Gary Gibbs

November 3 – December 2
Visions for Life: Hope for a Hemisphere

December 8 – 11
WestPoint of Evangelism

John Bradshaw

September 6 – October 15
Red Lion Hotel
1929 4th Street
Eureka, California

October 17 – November 22
El Centro Church
El Centro, CA
Call 760-352-3545

Rich Cavaness

September 8 – October 12
Southern State Community College
100 Hobart Drive
Hillsboro, Ohio

October 24 – November 30
Dan Emmett Conference Center
150 Howard Street
Mount Vernon, Ohio

Eric Flickinger

September 6 – October 12
Columbia Church
870 Mooresville Pike
Columbia, Tennessee

October 18 – November 23
Gardener Auditorium
1000 Arkansas Ave
Russellville, Arkansas

Lowell Hargreaves

September 6 – October 12
Century II Convention Center
225 West Douglas
Wichita, Kansas

October 18 – November 23
Rapid City Church
Rapid City, South Dakota
Call 605-721-7518

Brian McMahon

October 11 – November 9
Auburn Church
12225 Rock Creek Rd
Auburn, California

David Morgan

September 6 – October 5
Lincoln High School Auditorium
201 E. School Street
Lincoln, Arkansas

October 18 – November 16
Burkesville Church
1344 S. Main Street
Burkesville, Kentucky

Jason Morgan

September 7 – October 5
Holidome Inn
2032 NE Evangeline Thruway
Lafayette, Louisiana

October 19 – November 16
Woodland Park Church
Woodland Park, Colorado
Call 719-687-4030 for details

Rawel Morninglane

October 18 – November 23
Hohenwald Company
Hohenwald, Tennessee
Call 931-796-4000 for details

Dennis Priebe

September 6–7
Castle Rock Church, Washington

September 13–14
Chiloquin Church, Oregon

September 20–21
Oroville Church, California

Verne Snow

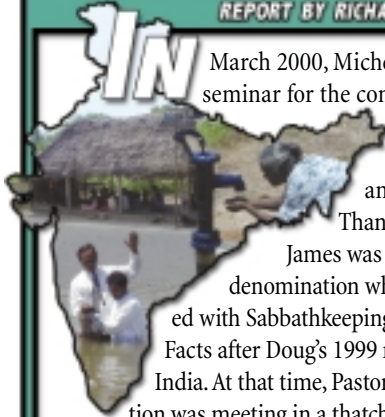
September 6 – October 12
Eau Claire Church
Altoona, Wisconsin
Call 715-834-1782 for details

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like to schedule an Amazing Facts evangelistic series or a weekend of revival meetings in your church, please contact the evangelism department at Amazing Facts by phone at 916-434-3880 or by mail.



REACHING INDIA

REPORT BY RICHARD CALDERON



March 2000, Michelle and I held a seminar for the congregation of newly baptized Pastor James Manavalan and the villagers of Thaneerkulam. Pastor James was a pastor for another denomination who became acquainted with Sabbathkeeping through Amazing Facts after Doug's 1999 meetings in Madras, India. At that time, Pastor James' congregation was meeting in a thatch chapel.

Even though we later relocated to central India, we never forgot Pastor James' and the villagers' request that we help them build a new church. While we were in the United States on furlough in 2001, I shared our burden for building a church for them. Through the kindness of many generous supporters and with some funds of our own, we were able to build the villagers a new church. The church is about 20 feet by 30 feet in size and cost only \$2,500 to build! In April, we had the church dedication. It was a glorious day. I couldn't help but get choked up when I offered the dedication prayer. Before us stood the precious souls for which we had labored and prayed. And the church turned out so beautiful!

The land was purchased through funds from the Southern Asia church. The property is on the main road passing in front of the village. This site was chosen so that the church would be seen as belonging to all the people in the surrounding villages—not just Thaneerkulam.

With some funds still left over, we were able to build a bore well for the community. So they have ample water available in this dry and arid land. Interestingly, the name Thaneerkulam means "water pool." Her people can now come to this beautiful church and receive the water of life!

On the day of the church dedication, eight more precious souls accepted the Sabbathkeeping truth and were baptized in the afternoon at a nearby pond.

On Friday evening, when you are welcoming the Sabbath in North America, James' congregation is lifting up their voices in praise and worship to the wonderful God in heaven who heard their prayer for a church.

A CHURCH REBORN

BY
SAM PALMER

India is steeped in false religion, and the entire nation is wandering in darkness. They don't understand that true happiness comes from knowing Jesus. Amazing Facts' goal there is "to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6). We want to help their churches reach out more effectively in this very important time.



Thanks to your sacrificial support, and the Father's leading, here's just one example of how we are accomplishing great things in India.

An important facet of our ministry is training our Indian brethren to be dynamic soul winners. We designed a six-month cycle of evangelism—a continuous process of evangelistic outreaches culminating in a soul-reaping event, such as a prophecy seminar or Bible school graduation. Our church-centered program includes intense follow-up work, for a total of six months with each project. We want to leave each church family fully prepared to carry on this important work, and we give them practical tools and methods for self-sufficient service for long after we leave.

One such church is Mettuguda, with Pastor Jesin Israel. Unfortunately, this 150-member church had little participation, and Jesin was considering leaving pastoral work. He was discouraged because his nonstop work seemed fruitless. Yet he was open to new methods, so we sat together to pray and discuss crucial evangelism principles I learned from the Amazing Facts College of Evangelism. The new ideas excited Jesin, and he couldn't wait to begin putting them to practice.

As we began to implement these godly principles, we saw the Lord working. We started five small-group Bible studies, plus 20 personal Bible studies. This groundwork laid the foundation for my upcoming evangelistic seminar. Because of our efforts and the Holy Spirit's leading, we had so many attend opening night that we didn't have enough seats! And it stayed that way during the entire seminar. We baptized 25 souls as a result of that effort.

It was wonderful to see this church grow and strengthened. Many stopped working on the Sabbath and others stopped wearing jewelry. It was also exciting to see the Lord performing so many life-changing miracles. Praise God!

One attendee, Ruby, was raised a Sabbathkeeper. Unfortunately, her culture influenced her to make work a priority over church and Sabbath. But she came almost each night. Ruby later said she had never understood the Bible so well. And soon the Holy Spirit began to convict her, and when she attended my service one Sabbath, she was thoroughly convinced to keep the day holy. Amazingly, I hadn't planned on preaching the sermon that convicted her, but the night before the Lord impressed me to keep this divine appointment. I'm glad He did!

Pastor Jesin was completely changed by our program, and he continues the soul-winning work enthusiastically. He says, "By following this Christ-like method of evangelism, I feel I have a purpose and can accomplish something for Jesus." He extends his gratitude to you for making our work there possible. Pastor Jesin is now attending our AFCE program to do even more soul-winning in his country.

Working in India isn't without problems, but through it all, the Lord continues to bless our efforts. Please continue to pray and support our work there!

Due to the dangerous conflict between India and Pakistan, we called back our evangelists working there. Please pray that the situation calms enough so we may return and continue reaching these precious souls for Jesus.

Special Recognition

In Loving Memory

9/11 Victims from Donna C. Solomon

Louis H. Alberti, Sr., from Jeanette Alberti; from Sharon Burk

Eleanor Anderson from Thelma Herzberg

Leslie Anderson from Jim and Judy Blackwood

Leona Andregg from James Lewis

Lorine Baker from Sadie Jauch

Marlin Bakke from Martena Bakke, his mother

Walter Barker from Jerry and Karen Johnson; from Bonnie Loreny

Wes Barnes from West Coast Amateur Radio Bible Study Group

Julius and Molly Bartelson from Stan Reesman

Micah Batchelor from Eileen Bristol; from Sharon Burk; from Dr. and Mrs. C. Eugene Chrowl; from Beverly Cook; from Michele Hackley; from Alleen Lynch; from Don Park; from Ardatha Pederson; from Barbara Riddell; from Jacqueline Schoen; from John and Anita Silvestri; from Virginia Simon; from Bette Whitfield

John Becker from Dorothy Becker, his wife

Marie Rose Bellerose from Pranee Terry, her grandmother

Cecil Beltz from Joy Beltz, his wife

Joe and Katie Beregsasi from Betty and Timothy Waxter

Forest I. Berry from Jean Ortman

Albert Binder from Olga Binder, his wife

Emma Binder from Olga Binder

Bernice Bradbury from Sadie Jauch

Thomas Brophy from Lillian Brophy

Hilda Hoagland Bruce from Jacob and Joyce Joyner

Emily Buckingham from Evelyn Curtis

Bruce Bush from Lucille Bush, his wife

Glen Byers from Bonnie Byers, his wife

Baby Joseph Calkins from Ed and Bonnie Ensminger

Mary Calloway from Bonnie and Henry Lloyd

Barbara Carper from Mr. and Mrs. Howard Marks

Derwood Chappell from Jean Chappell, his wife

George Coffey from Jim and Jane Hayward

Dale Cook from Daisy Davis

Sarah Cooney from Sarah Wolff, her daughter

Evelyn Cornwell from Virginia Gladden

Virginia Cowgill from Ruby Byers, her daughter; from Betty

Haines' Sabbath School Class

Joe Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his wife; from Gwendolyn Knight; from Mr. and Mrs. William Lowe; from Ruby Shields

Ronnie Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his mother

Tor Dahlberg from Sylvia Dahlberg, his wife

James Darby from Wilma Darby, his wife

Robert Darnell from Lu Ann Crews

Herb Davis from Stan Reesman

Katie Davis from Edith Lomeland and Ruby Person, her sisters

David De Paepe from Roger and Betty De Paepe, his parents

Helen De Puy from Kent and Dee Dickinson

Marjorie Dickinson from Kent and Dee Dickinson

Barry Doles from Mr. and Mrs. Don Doles, his parents

Winnie Dorgan from Eileen Bristol, her daughter

Jane Duncan from Betty Adams

Nettie Eden from Ruby Willey, her sister

Bob Ensinger from Paul and June Giarde

Lynn W. Fox from Drusilla Fox, his wife

Albert Frank, O.D. from Association of SDA Optometrists

Jerry Freeman from Hazel Freeman, his wife

Penny Freund from Chris and Elda Ensminger

Maryetta Fullbright from Lucille Harden, her sister; from Dorothy Hughes

Bill Fulton from Edith Fulton, his wife

Melvin Furtado from Leon Clark; from Lee B. Iverson; from Nancy Lavea

Alden Gandy, Jr. from Thelma Gandy

Alden Gandy, Sr. from Thelma Gandy

Lorna E. Golladay from Elizabeth Marcussen, her daughter; from Howard Seely

Harold Gray from Dorothy Gray, his wife

Olga Grede from Olga Binder, her daughter

Sarimay Griesman from Betty Jacoby

Mode Griffith from Beulah Griffith, his wife

David K. Gross from Floyd, Dorothy, and Jesse Walters

David Hadley from Dorothy Becker

Edna Hagele from Olga Binder

David Haines from Ollie Haines, his wife

Alex R. Hall from Alyce Hall, his wife

Chase Hall from Alyce Hall, his grandma

Willis Hargreaves from Maxine Hargreaves; from Wilbur and Vera Hargreaves; from Vuvuan Black; from Gregory and Roberta Buck; from Mr. and Mrs. Claridge; from Paul E. Giarde; from Paul and Lois Helle; from Beulah Griffith; from Margaret and Lois

Johnson; from Alvin and Ella Mae Neumiller; from Robert and Idana Noel; from Dr. and Mrs. Paul Saarinen; from Dr. and Mrs. Howard C. Seely; from John and Perle Westerberg

Calvin Harkey from Kathryn Griffin; from Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Priest; from Betty Richards

Fred Hase from Olga Binder, his daughter

Emma Hauck from Anna Hauck

Chris Hayden from Bert and Shirley Dennis; from Peter Handke; from Sandra McCourry; from Randy Meyer; from Dorothy Porter; from Marta Prato; from Fall Creek Christian Church

Roma Hays from Brenda, Mike, and Zach Cantrell, her daughter and grandsons

Mr. and Mrs. John Hayward from Jim and Jane Hayward

Russel Heinbaugh from Jerry and Karen Johnson

Herbert Heinke from Mr. and Mrs. Leon Rich

Ralph Hendershot from Paul and Marie Krall

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hensley from Lucille Bush

Harry Herlein from Howard and Dolores Bixler

Joseph Herzberg from Thelma Herzberg, his wife; from Debra Fechik, his daughter; from Kathy Woodhall; his daughter

Mary Anne Hickak from Iris Fincher

A.C. Hiebert from Betty Hiebert, his wife

Margaret and Ted Hoffman from Donna, Stephen, Stephanie, and Matt Dickie

Ruby Holden from Alyce and Charles Hadley

Clyde Hooper from Beulah Griffith

Helen Sunderland Howe from Helen M. Howe, her niece

Luella Slack Howe from Helen M. Howe, her daughter

S. Duke Howe from Helen M. Howe, his niece

D.W. Hunter from Olga Binder

Nicholas Ilchuk from Daisy Davis

Ernest Jauch from Sadie Jauch, his wife

Ben Johnson from Donna, Stephen, Stephanie, and Matt Dickie

Vera Johnson from Jerry and Karen Johnson

Pratt M. Judd from Ruth Duncan

Elvan Keightley from Oleta Keightley, his wife

A.T. Kennedy from D. Williamson

Helen Kimura from Sadie Jauch

Ellaline E. King from Molree Ngose Williams, her granddaughter

Glen E. Kingery from Nellie Kingery, his wife

Dorothy Kisling from Alice Wagenleitner

Ruth Knapp from Jacob and Joyce Joyner

Clarence Kreiter from Loretta Kreiter, his wife

Ed Kungel from Edward Swanson

Horst W. Kunze from Leo and Helen Warren

Amazing Facts is happy to recognize contributions to the ministry that are made as a tribute to the deceased or as an honorarium celebrating significant milestones in the lives of friends or family members. Listings normally appear two to three months after requests are received. Please type or print all requests legibly to ensure correct spelling. We are unable to verify confusing spellings due to volume received. Due to space limitations, a maximum of four names will be printed per donation per issue.

Ross and Joyce Lauterbach from Eugene and Donna Dorsey
Dorothy Lawrence from Beulah Griffith
Katherine Lazarakis from Gertrude Lazarakis
Paul and Bertha Leatherman from Stan Reesman
Spur and Amanda Leatherman from Stan Reesman
Alex Lefore from John and Iris Mason
Mr. Bert Lilly from Bert Lilly
Glen Linebarger from Faustina Purdie
James and Pearl Livingston from their children
Alan Dean Long from Pauline Long, his mother
J. Murray Long from Pauline Long, his wife
Loved Ones and Friends from Irma H. Isuha
Jack S. Lucas, M.D. from Beverly Jean Lucas and Betty Jo Brownlee, his sisters
Jack and Thelma Lucas from Beverly Jean Lucas and Betty Jo Brownlee, their daughters
Lisa Lungu from John and Helen Lungu, her parents
Rose Lutes from Jean Chappell, her sister
Earle E. MacPhee from Roselyn MacPhee, his wife
Lawrence Malin from Faustina Purdie
Fritzie Maples from Wayne Maples, her husband
Lester J. Marcussen from Elizabeth Marcussen
Earl and Edna Marlin from Helen Marlin
Hugh Marlin from Helen Marlin, his wife
Julie Marlin from Kathleen Marlin; from Helen Marlin, her grandma
Cecil May from John and Iris Mason
William May from Kent and Dee Dickinson; from John and Iris Mason
Alva R. McElhany, Jr. from Ella McElhany, his wife
Catherine McRedmond from Fran McRedmond, her daughter; from Mable Towernton; from Charlotte Tusker; from Lillian Davis Prayer Group
Charles Melvin from Celia Melvin, his wife
Cynthia Joan Melvin from Celia Melvin, her mother
Del Miller from Connie Miller, his wife
Hazel Moe from Allene, Carol, and Jean, her nieces
Helen Moon from Mr. and Mrs. S.L. Alvarez; from James Gilbert
Edward Morgan from Joyce Morgan, his wife
Jay Mortenson from Ramona Mortenson, his wife
Gary Andrew Myers from Naomi Laurence
Judy Myers from Paul and Marie Krall
Emma Nelson from Colleen M. Squibb
Wilmer Neumiller from Alvin and Ella Mae Neumiller
Sophie Norhton from Paul and Darlene Karmy
Adele Nystrom from Mr. and Mrs. Leon Rich
Jack Orr from Mr. and Mrs. Homer Lynd
Cindy Patterson from Beryl Patterson, her mother
Nellie Paullus from Mary Pollack
Oscar C. Payne from Beulah M. Payne, his wife
Stanley Pedersen from Dora Mae Pedersen, his wife
Mac Phelps from Lucille Bush
Orrin Pierce from Stan Reesman
Frank Pollack from Mary Pollack, his sister
Pauline Pollack from Anne E. Cameron, her sister; from Mary Pollack, her sister

Thomas Pongborn from Shirley Turner, his mother
Jessie S. Potter from Lucille Bush, his daughter
Ralph Powell from Hilda Powell, his wife
Helen Pullman from Dorothy Becker
Donald Purdie from Faustina Purdie, his sister
Mary Purdie from Faustina Purdie, her daughter
Loris Qualley from Max and Barbara Qualley
Jessie Quance from Joy Beltz, her daughter
Edward Rebok from Mr. and Mrs. Leon Rich
David Reesman from Stan Reesman, his father
Jessie Reesman-Roberts from Stan Reesman, her brother
Walter G. Reesman from Stan Reesman
Sam Renk from Helen Renk, his wife
Earl and Grace Reuss from Barbara Qualley, their daughter
Roland Rhynus from Stanley and Roberta Chaffee
Dova Roberts from James Gilbert; from Bob and Clarine Nordell
Earl Rollins from Dorothy Becker
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Wilburt Ruhl from Sadie Jauch
Irving Saunders from Mrs. Irving Saunders
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Harold Schneider from Elsie Schneider, his wife
Leroy Schreiner from D.M. Kirkwood
Annabel Sevison from Virginia Eakley, her sister
Joyce Sherwin from Stan Reesman
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Virgil Shaffer from Velma Shaffer, his wife
Albert Shilt, M.D. from William and Hattie Tyler
Bill Shobe from Roy Shobe; from Virginia Shobe; from Bob and Diana Bishop; from Doug and Carol Dietrich; from Jeanette Huseby; from Hope Mathwig; from Daris Perske; from Eileen Speak; from Ethel Wilder
Gerald Silvestri from John and Anita Silvestri, his parents
Peggy Silvestri from John and Anita Silvestri
Bill Simmons from Ruby Willey, his sister
Ann E. Simpkins from Jewel B. Foutch, her father; from Mr. and Mrs. I.H. Pierce, her grandparents; from Mr. and Mrs. James Howell, her grandparents
Loleta Simpson from Wilma Spiva
David Sinclair from Cleo Alexander; from Sarah Kate Ross; from Mr. and Mrs. Roland Thompson; from First State Bank in Keene, Texas
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Walter H. Smith from Helen Smith, his wife; from Linda Fisher
Ken Snider from John E. Mann
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Heidi Snyder from Shelly Lowe
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Minnie Lou Swisher from Mr. and Mrs. S.L. Alvarez

Sam Thornton, Jr. from Samuel and Donna Thornton, his parents
John Tiel from Dorothy Hughes
Terry Tims from Eileen Bristol, his mother
Bertha Bender Travis from Esther Dunton, her daughter
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Mary Von Kronerberger from Louise Wood
Etta and George Waddell from Goldie M. Hein, their daughter
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Roger Wilcox from John and Anita Silvestri
George Willey from Ruby Willey, his wife
Mary Willey from Ruby Willey
Weldon Wise from Jacob and Mildred Mittleider; from Jean Wise
Velda Woods from Willard and Mildred Hunter; from Maralyn Wileman, her step-daughter
DeWitt W. Young from Norma and Paul Niemi
Bill Zima Jr. from Patricia Zima, his mother
Bill Zima Sr. from Patricia Zima, his wife
Happy Anniversary
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson (50th) from Dan and Cathy Salyers
Kathy and Nathan Brigger
Paul and Marie Krall
Frank and Virginia Merryman (52nd)
James and Virginia Shobe (60th)
Elden and Ruth Slauter (60th)
Happy Birthday
Bob Babcock from Ota Babcock, his wife
Ed Beans (100th) from Joel and Peggy Tompkins
Mary Butler from Dennis Faria
Patricia Jones (72nd)
Martha Sumner (100th) from Carroll Sumner
In Honor of
Ruth Hays from Brenda, Mike, and Zach Cantrell
New Life
Samuel Calkins from Ed and Bonnie Ensminger
Weddings
Lavolla and Joe Dickerson from Eileen Bristol
Norman and Angela Harebottle from Norman and Julie Harebottle
Charles B. Hirsch and Althea Lorraine Hudgins from Mr. and Mrs. Eldon E. Stratton

Health Bite

Exercise: Just the Facts

by Frances Piper de Vries, ASN

Several thousand years ago, a simple proverb declared what scientists have been researching and verifying in recent years: "Telling the truth gives a man great satisfaction, and hard work returns many blessings to him" (Proverbs 12:14).

For most people in past eras, physical work was as much a part of life as eating. Its benefits were reaped as a matter of course. In contrast, modern humans have invented so many labor-saving devices designed to make our lives easier and give us more leisure time that, in some ways, we might have been better off if we were a little less ingenious.

Our couch-potato lifestyle has robbed us of the blessings inherent in regular physical activity. Many of us don't bother with it at all, while those who do, often have to squeeze exercise into the calendar just to meet minimum health requirements. But those who have succeeded in making physical activity a fundamental part of their lifestyle can testify that Solomon's words are true. In fact, the documented positive effects are so many that exercise even rivals proper diet in terms of health benefits.

If you need a little motivational boost in the form of cold, hard facts in order to make yours an active lifestyle, here are just some of the ways that regular exercise returns blessings to you:

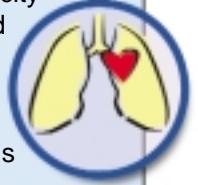
Brain/Mind



- 1) Boosts energy levels
- 2) Lowers stress level and improves ability to cope with stress
- 3) Reduces feelings of depression and anxiety
- 4) Increases endorphin levels, improving mood and promoting a sense of well-being
- 5) Improves sleep quality
- 6) Increases mental acuity
- 7) Improves self-image

Heart/Circulation

- 8) Lowers resting heart rate
- 9) Increases heart efficiency and strength
- 10) Increases lung efficiency and capacity
- 11) Lowers "bad" cholesterol and blood lipid levels
- 12) Increases "good" cholesterol levels
- 13) Lowers blood pressure
- 14) Increases elasticity of blood vessels
- 15) Reduces risk of varicose veins
- 16) Decreases clotting rate
- 17) Increases hemoglobin levels, increasing oxygen capacity of blood
- 18) Increases endurance



Muscles/Joints/Bones

- 19) Increases muscle strength, tone, and elasticity
- 20) Increases capacity for work
- 21) Reduces lower back pain
- 22) Improves range of motion
- 23) Increases circulation to joints
- 24) Reduces joint stiffness
- 25) Lowers risk of arthritis
- 26) Increases and maintains bone density (weight-bearing exercise)
- 27) Improves posture
- 28) Decreases rate of injuries



Metabolism/Digestion/Hormones

- 29) Increases metabolic rate, reducing excess weight
- 30) Improves digestive functions
- 31) Regulates blood sugar levels
- 32) Lowers risk of diabetes
- 33) Regulates hormone system
- 34) Strengthens immune system, lowering risk of infectious disease
- 35) Lowers risk of cancer



General Health

- 36) Slows aging
- 37) Increases life expectancy



May you too prove Solomon's claim!

Frances Piper de Vries is the editor for Weimar Institute's NEWSTART® Lifestyle Newsletter and was co-editor of the NEWSTART® Lifestyle Cookbook. For information on the NEWSTART® Lifestyle, please call 800-525-9192 or log on to www.NEWSTART.com.

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Harry Sharley, MDiv, MPH, BSN, Pastor Waynesboro, VA

See page 25 for ordering information.





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