

# SAVING PEOPLE DYING IN THE DUMPSTER

May 2018

An Amazing Fact: In March 2017, more than 100 people, mostly women and children, perished in Ethiopia when they were buried under an avalanche of garbage. They were living in homes adjacent to the 75-acre mountain of refuse outside the capital city of Addis Ababa, where they survived by combing through the trash for anything of value.



Dear friend,

Can you even imagine living in the shadow of a towering mountain of trash?

I used to get food out of dumpsters. Living on the streets in the 1970s, quite a few hippies would join me in "dumpster diving" for food and other items. At first, I thought it was disgusting—but the more I saw people doing it, and participating with them, the less offensive it became, until I actually grew accustomed to the sight and smell of garbage.

This is happening right now on a spiritual level to an entire generation. We are living in times so morally bankrupt that, I dare say, it would cause the residents of Sodom to blush. The rotten values broadcast by worldly media are pouring into our culture and eroding away any sense of virtue. The most troubling thing is that many professed Christians seem to have grown accustomed to living next to mountains of garbage.

### **Resisting the Rubbish**

The devil is always working to discourage believers to think that there is nothing we can do to combat the tsunami of sin that is drowning people. Nehemiah faced this problem in his day: "The strength of the laborers is failing, and there is so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall" (Nehemiah 4:10).

However, Nehemiah did not concede defeat! He inspired God's people to keep building and, eventually, the rubbish was removed and the wall completed.

Today, *you* can stand as a bulwark of purity against the landslide of trash pouring into people's homes when you support Amazing Facts. <u>Your gifts really do help sanitize lives with the cleansing blood of Jesus</u>.

People desperately need wholesomeness in their lives. All media today is saturated with sexual immorality, violence, and profanity. The daily news exposes another celebrity's or politician's scandalous behavior seemingly every day. It's enough to make you want to start building another ark! That's why God has called us to "carry out the rubbish from the holy place" (2 Chronicles 29:5).

### **Mountain Moving Faith**

What happens when Amazing Facts dares to preach pure truth like this?



A garbage landslide in China claimed 75 lives in 2015.

Roger and his wife were longing to watch something wholesome. One day, while searching online for a movie free from violence and profanity, they found Amazing Facts and began watching the programs you make possible. "We fell in love with the preaching and discovered our upbringing had not taught us the true gospel!"

Then there's Rocco, who received uplifting resources from Amazing Facts. After committing her life to Christ, she explained, "It was like my mind, body, and soul were cleansed. I felt as if I received a whole new life when I asked our Father for forgiveness." She is now studying the Word through our online Bible course and calls the work of Amazing Facts "priceless."

Amen! Every week, you help people like Rocco and Roger find solid, uplifting gospel messages that lead them to the highway of holiness.

That's why Amazing Facts fearlessly calls sin by its right name! <u>How can we stay silent about sin when God's truth is being compromised</u> and people are drowning in waves of wickedness—trading God's gold for worthless garbage?

We must tell them about the treasure "that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys" (Luke 12:33). You can turn searching souls from the garbage pits of the world to the clean, heavenly truths of the Bible through Amazing Facts. His soul-winning truth is "more precious than rubies" (Proverbs 3:15).

### **Preaching Like Paul**

I greatly admire the apostle Paul. Though beaten to within an inch of his life, he refused to compromise. He didn't beat around the bush. Yet we live in an age of lukewarm preaching, when many ministers are too afraid to preach the straight truth.

Over the years, <u>Amazing Facts has been a target of substantial criticism because of our direct, bold approach to sharing the everlasting gospel</u>. But this ministry isn't called "interesting trivia"—it's called Amazing Facts! I make no apologies for presenting God's noble, life-giving principles. Paul also cut to the chase:

"Preach the word! ... Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables" (2 Timothy 4:2–4).

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### **Courage to Preach Boldly**

As our partner in God's work, you deserve to know that we intend to clear away the walls of garbage by sounding the holy trumpet of truth!

The Bible teaches that the Spirit comes upon His people to empower us with a holy boldness. The disciples even prayed for it as they preached the truth in the face of opposition: "Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word" (Acts 4:29).



Don't miss what happened next: "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness" (v. 31). Pray that we never waiver!

Over and over, I hear testimonies of how people have been reached and converted by the bold—but always loving—teaching of Amazing Facts.

Katherine, a faithful supporter like you, believes we must not give in to worldly traditions. Why does she give? "Because you don't compromise the truth for popularity and you are proactive in reaching out." And Nick gives because Amazing Facts "dares to preach the truth ... [and] is <u>unrelenting in standing for truth</u> and doesn't give consideration to being popular."

Testimonies like these remind me to stand firm and present the Bible in a dignified yet uncompromising way.

## **Daring Evangelistic Endeavors**

The devil is not relaxing (Revelation 12:12), and neither is Amazing Facts. Knowing his time is short, Satan is devoting all his energy into new methods that destroy people. Christians should be equally energetic about pushing back the gates of hell.

This is no time to be idle. We must pursue daring evangelistic endeavors to reach souls with God's truth! Here are just a few of the bold undertakings in which you can make a difference ...

- **Kingdoms in Time.** This powerful prophecy DVD will capture the attention of seekers looking for reasons to trust the Bible. Look for it this summer.
- **Final Events Magazine.** We are getting ready to publish a brand-new sharing magazine that boldly teaches the end-time truth.
- More Media Programming. We're investing \$7 million annually into broadcasting the three angels' messages into homes. Each month, more than 700,000 people are hearing and watching the bold, distinctive truth!
- **Expand Multimedia Reach.** We're also developing exciting new ways to reach seekers through their smartphones and on social media, with new and improved websites, mobile apps, and more.

### **Moving Boldly Together**

People are being buried by the world's garbage. We must offer them the Bread of Life to satisfy their hunger. So I'm asking you to let me know that you still support our holy boldness preaching. Will you prayerfully give a sacrificial gift this month to bless others? I promise that you will make a lasting difference in countless lives.

A gift of \$50 helps more than 1,800 people discover great Bible truths on our websites; \$100 helps over 650 souls watching our television programs to receive additional soul-winning materials. And \$300 helps more than 3,000 Chinese-speaking people learn eternal truth through one of our online videos.

As a special thank-you for your gift today, I want to send you a challenging new message I shared with my congregation called "When the Devil Goes to Church." Put on your seat belt, friend; it's as bold as you can get! Be sure to share it with someone who needs it. And, as always, please don't forget to write down your prayer requests on the back of the enclosed card.

Your gift today will let me know that you still believe in the direct proclamation that has come to characterize Amazing Facts. We are living in the days of Noah. People like Roger and Rocco still need to hear God's final, undiluted message. Let's not let them down.

Yours in the final, bold work ahead,



Pastor Doug Batchelor President, Amazing Facts

P.S. As the virtual mountain of immoral refuse buries people in sin, we must do all we can to rescue them with the pure gospel. Will you join me in boldly proclaiming that there is still power in the saving and sanctifying blood of Jesus Christ? Your gift will change someone's life forever. Thank you!

