



March 2009

The Book of Books *Isaiah 66: 1-3*

The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to mankind. In the Scriptures, we find the records of His spoken words, His interventions in history, and His coming to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. From this book, we derive our knowledge about God.

How amazing to consider that the full work was compiled from the pens of 40 men writing in 3 languages on 3 continents over the course of 1,500 years! Gather a group of historians from just one generation, and you will have neither the consistency nor the unified philosophy and mission found in Scripture.

Each book of the Bible reflects its human author's personality and background. For example, Moses was the political leader of the Israelites in the desert; Daniel rose to the rank of prime minister while a captive in Babylon; and Paul, the highly educated former Pharisee dictated letters from prison. Yet every word remained true to God's central theme--that His love redeems those who call on His name.

Second Peter 1:21 tells us why Scripture is cohesive: God Himself spoke through each human writer. In some cases, the Holy Spirit brought to mind essential details (John 14:26), as when certain material was passed down orally for the Old Testament or the gospels. For the writing of prophecies, psalms, and letters, God's Spirit revealed important truths (John 16:15).

The heavenly Father loves you and wants you to spend eternity with Him. For this reason, He used men from every walk of life to record His gospel message. Read His invitation for yourself. - Dr. Charles Stanley.

*As Appeared in the February 23, 2009 Daily Devotional Newsletter-
In Touch Ministries with Dr. Charles Stanley - www.intouch.org and Crosswalk Ministries www.crosswalk.com*

LEAVE A TRACT AND HELP SAVE A SOUL - PASTOR JOE M. ORTIZ

The bible tells us that "wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and MANY are they that find it". This tells us that the chances and probability of many souls going to hell are great. This should cause us to do and be creative in doing whatever possible in reaching as many as we can with the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. At Bloomingdale, the gospel is communicated by the preaching of our pastors, the sharing of it one on one with those God is placing in our daily walk, and by leaving the message of God's love and forgiveness in a gospel tract with someone. We have since experienced God's saving power through the use of our tract distribution. I believe it is an underestimated tool that can have a great far reaching success today as we speak to literally dozens of people each day. Visit the tract table in the foyer and take a few tracts and leave them with people. If you're too shy for that, then leave them at restrooms, gas pumps, on top of items at stores. Thousands of people are coming to Christ through gospel tracts. Pray for those you leave behind and begin to lay up treasure in heaven.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal."

—Matthew 6:19

Daily Word

From Dr. Jack Graham

POWER
POINT



February 17, 2009

In the current financial crisis, almost everyone has been impacted in some way.

Some have seen their portfolios plummet in value. Some have seen their retirement funds dramatically decrease. And some, in fact many, have lost their jobs.

In times like these, it's easy to see why putting our faith in financial security or a career is so dangerous--and why God warns us against it. Because neither can buy real joy or true contentment... and both can be gone in an instant!

That's why it's so important that you and I... as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ... invest in things of eternal value.

Things that moth and rust can't destroy and things that thieves can't break in and steal.

One of those things is investing in the lives of others. What might that look like in your life?

Maybe it means serving your spouse in some unexpected way today. Or maybe it means getting down on the floor and playing with your children or grandchildren--giving them your undivided attention. It could mean finally befriending that neighbor across the street.

Whatever it looks like in your life, investing in the lives of others is a conscious choice you make every day.

So the question is will you invest yourself in the life of someone else today?

IT'S VITAL THAT YOU INVEST IN THINGS OF ETERNAL VALUE.



Church Events For March

Sunday, March 1st Kids Church will begin meeting each Sunday Night at 6:30 pm and Birthday Fellowship at 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 7th Upward Basketball/Cheerleading Awards visit www.bloomingtondalealliancecma.org/upward.html for details

Monday, March 9th Elders Meeting at 7pm

Wednesday, March 11th BAC Youth Girls Help with Dinner

Saturday, March 14th Alliance Women's Ministry Meeting 7:00pm And St. Patrick's Day Tract & Water Event 8am-12pm visit www.bloomingtondalealliancecma.org/evangelism.html for details

Sunday, March 15th Baby Shower for Joy Mitchell 3:00 pm

Wednesday, March 18th Evangelism Training 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 26th Governing Board Meeting

Sunday, March 29th Seed Sowers 1:30 pm

In God's Economy

"The world's economy is in trouble. We are told. Unemployment is rising, between seven and eight percent. We are told. Government will bail us out. We are told.

Doom and gloom.

Do we have a right to be worried? What do we tell ourselves, our children, our family, and our friends?

We can tell about a different economy, God's economy, in which we can trust and be secure.

God's economy is revealed in his Word. He says do not worry. He says seek and trust in God. He says give from what you earn or receive.

He feeds the birds and clothes the lilies. "Therefore, be not anxious saying, What shall we eat? or, what shall we drink? Or, With what shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt:6:31-33 KJV)..... "

To read the complete version of this article and others by Carolyn Collins, visit her web page at

www.bloomingtondalealliancecma.org/ccollinsarticles.html

When I first started reading the Bible in my early twenties, I had a great need to know the Truth as only the Word of God reveals. Across these many years, The Bible has become my treasure. The more I read; study; listen; and do; the more I value it. It is my coach, referee, and number one fan. It fits me for life on earth and life after life.

The Bible as Coach:

From the front cover to the back cover, the Bible shows me Jesus, the Word and trains me in the way I should walk.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 (KJV).

The Bible tells me Jesus is:

Creator: John 1: 1,3. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made."

Redeemer: Job 19:25, 26. "For I know my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

Savior: John 4:42. "...and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

Lord: Luke 2:11. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Friend: Proverbs 17:17. "A friend loveth at all times,..."

Protector: Psalm 91: 4. "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

The Bible as Referee:

Life is set in motion by the Creator of life. Just as referees call by a set of rules, the Bible calls the rules and does not condone sin. It calls to repentance and belief in Jesus for forgiveness of sin.

"There's nothing like the written word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another-showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us." (2 Timothy 3: 16, 17 MSG.)

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold. (Psalm 19:7-10, KJV).

"God's Word warns us of danger and directs us to hidden treasure. Otherwise how will we find our way? Clean the slate, God, so we can start the day fresh! Keep me from stupid sins, from thinking I can take over your work, then I can start the day sun-washed, scrubbed clean of the grime of sin. (Psalm 19:11 MSG).

The Bible as Number One Fan:

Much as a fan coaches; calls the fouls; and encourages the players, the Bible tells me of the Lord's great love, interest, and encouragement.

"What shall separate us from the love of Christ? ...Nor height, nor depth, more any other creation shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord." (Romans 8: 35, 39).

The Bible is a treasure that fits me for the challenges of living day to day.

The Bible is a treasure. May its riches never be buried to us.

Visit Carolyn on the web at www.bloomingdalealliancecma.org/ccollinsarticles.html

**Coach,
Referee and
Number
One Fan**
- by Carolyn Collins
*From An Address Given During An Upward
Halftime*

Student Outreach Center Opens in Mongolia

[Tue, 17 Feb 2009 15:15:18 -0700]

An Alliance outreach center in Ulaanbaatar (UB), Mongolia's capital, is poised to reach thousands of university students with the love of Jesus. The grand opening of the Grain of Wheat Student Center took place on February 16, 2009.

Each year, 250,000 students pour into UB, the cultural hub of Mongolia from across the country. "The center is located in the heart of the city, close to several major universities," says **Bernie Anderson**, who serves with The Alliance in Mongolia. "It exists for the benefit of students who come to the city to study." Alliance workers hope to share the love of Jesus with the students through tangible acts of compassion.

A Strategic Beachhead

When they arrive in UB, many students enter the university dormitory system, which consists of up to 10 students sharing one room with no furniture. "They have no quiet place of their own to study," says Anderson.

In addition, there is no place in the city to simply hang out with friends, with the exception of numerous bars and pubs. "Alcoholism is a huge problem in Mongolia, and much of the time it begins with university students," Anderson adds.

The Grain of Wheat Student Center will help meet some of these needs, providing a warm and inviting environment for students to gather. It will feature a library and eventually computers for research, a quiet study area, and a coffee shop. Students will be able to attend English and vocational classes as well as movie and music nights.

The Alliance ministry team in Mongolia believes that the best way to build relationships with the people of UB is to have a visible presence in the city. **Dennis Maves**, field director for Mongolia, says, "Our first priority is to establish a beachhead in this strategic city by purchasing a permanent location for a multipurpose ministry center that will serve as **a tactical hub for student outreach and outreach into communities throughout the city.**"

"We're excited and grateful to God for His help, direction, and wisdom," says Anderson. "We're [also] grateful for all of the support, prayers, and gifts that we have received from our partners!"

What You Can Do

Pray that many students will respond to God's love through this cutting-edge outreach that meets the needs of the whole person. Pray also for His protection for staff members who work at the center and for ongoing provision of financial needs.

Donate to Alliance Great Commission Ministries; help sustain dedicated field workers like the Andersons and the Maveses.

Learn More

Check out our Alliance work in **Mongolia**. www.cmalliance.org