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# TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

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*Rest in Him.*

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GOD IS *SATISFIED*  
WITH WHAT JESUS DID  
FOR YOU ON THE CROSS.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



**THRU** the **BIBLE**

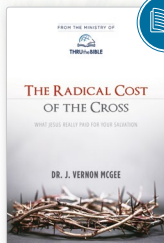


# WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

## OUR SACRIFICIAL LAMB



Dr. J. Vernon McGee  
THRU the BIBLE Founder



This article is an excerpt from Dr. McGee's booklet **The Radical Cost of the Cross**. Download yours [here](#).

*He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.* –Isaiah 53:7

All the way from Abel to John the Baptist, Scripture uses the figure of the lamb. This verse from Isaiah was what the Ethiopian eunuch was reading when Philip climbed up into his chariot. The Ethiopian asked Philip, "Who is the prophet talking about, himself or another?" Philip said it was Another who was yet to come, and he told him about Jesus who had come as the Lamb led to the slaughter. (See Acts 8:32, 33.)



When Abel brought his sacrifice to the Lord, it was a lamb. If you'd asked Abel why he was sacrificing a little lamb if he knew it wasn't going to take away his sin, I imagine he would have responded, "God has asked us to do it. He promised my mother that One is coming who will be our Savior. This little lamb is depicting Him, and I offer it as a substitute. But there is coming One who will give Himself in voluntary, vicarious death. I don't know much about it yet, but I trust God that He is coming."

Centuries passed, and at last one day John the Baptist marked out Jesus and said, "*Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world*" (John 1:29). This is God's Lamb—the One to pay the penalty for the sins of the world, including yours and mine. Then the apostle Paul could look back at that cross and say, "He loved me, and gave Himself for me" (see Galatians 2:20). Jesus didn't die to win your sympathy. When He was on His way to the cross and the women of Jerusalem were weeping for Him, He said, "*... Do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children .... For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?*" (Luke 23:28, 31). He did not want their sympathy, and He does not want ours. Oh, we would be cold-blooded indeed to read the story of the crucifixion of Christ and not be moved.

When Clovis, leader of the Franks, first heard about the crucifixion of Christ, he was so moved that he leaped to his feet, drew his sword, and exclaimed, "If I had only been there with my Franks!" But our Lord didn't want Clovis and his army. He told His own disciple to put up his sword. He could have the protection of legions of angels, but He was not here to be delivered—except to death for you and me. He did not die as the martyrs did, singing praises and conscious of God's presence with them. Rather, Jesus cried out in that awful moment, "My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?"

He was forsaken of God! He died because *“all we like sheep have gone astray ... and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”* He had to do it to save you, my friend. Isaiah 53 opens with suffering, but it closes with satisfaction: *“He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities”* (Isaiah 53:11).

Don't feel sorry for Him. If you think He was caught between the upper millstone of Roman power and the nether millstone of religious greed, forget it. He was not. He says, *“No one takes [My life] from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father”* (John 10:18). The book of Hebrews says, *“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God”* (Hebrews 12:2).

Jesus made adequate provision for the sin of the world. He is satisfied. The cross is not an ambulance sent to a wreck. It is not first aid. It is not a temporary arrangement. The Lord Jesus is *“the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world”* (Revelation 13:8). And when you look into eternity you see what John describes: *“... behold, in the midst of the throne ... stood a Lamb as though it had been slain ...”* (Revelation 5:6).



*God has a remedy*

FOR EVERY SIN, EXCEPT THE SIN  
OF REJECTING THE REMEDY:

*His Son.*

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

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Scripture tells us He sat down at God's right hand, and do you know why? For the same reason God rested on the seventh day after He had created the heavens and the earth. He wasn't tired—He sat down because He had finished the job. When Jesus went back to heaven, He had finished everything that was necessary for your salvation and mine. Everything.

How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? Do you have the answer to that? God has a remedy for every sin, except the sin of rejecting the Remedy: His Son. God is satisfied with what Jesus did for you on the cross. Are you satisfied? *"He shall see the labor of his soul, and be satisfied."* Oh, the restlessness of men and women today! My friend, rest in Him. He paid a tremendous price for you.

## MY TURN

- ① In the Spring season, especially around the Easter holiday, we will see many images of lambs—in stores, online, in every kind of marketing. This year when you see a lamb, let it prompt you to remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). **Right there, wherever you are, have a private worship service and praise God for the gift of His Son.**
- ② Dr. McGee shares in this article, "Don't feel sorry for [Jesus]. If you think He was caught between the upper millstone of Roman power and the nether millstone of religious greed, forget it. He was not." **In preparation for remembering Jesus' death, read these passages and consider Jesus' intent and the source of His joy:**
  - John 10:1-30 (especially v. 18)
  - Hebrews 12:1-2
- ③ If ever you're tempted to believe the lie that you need to do something to earn God's love and approval, review this truth: "Jesus made adequate provision for the sin of the world. He is satisfied .... God is satisfied with what Jesus did for you on the cross." You can rest in the reality of your salvation, made possible because of God's love for you in sending His Son to die in your place. Now, believing this, serve God out of love. **What will you do for Him today to express your love for Him?**

# G 2024

## GOOD NEWS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE EARTH

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" –Isaiah 52:7*



### FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

Wonderful things can happen when you study God's Word with a friend. That's what Darith in Cambodia recently shared. Here's his story:

*"I found your program and began to listen every day. My life improved both physically and spiritually. **I soon chose to receive God's mercy and became His child. With His grace working through me, I was able to lead one of my neighbors to faith in Jesus Christ. Now we have joined forces.** Your programs take us very deep and our conversations after are invaluable. We challenge one another's attitudes and actions and support each other with God's Word when it is needed. We push one another to continue. **In the end, we've learned more and have become stronger in our faith together than we would have on our own.**"*



### FROM CENTRAL AFRICA

*"My spiritual life felt idle." That's the beginning of a phone call we received from Serena in Gabon. Here's more of her story.*

*"I'm 45 now and gave my life to Christ in June of 2012. At first, I was zealous, constantly seeking ways to serve the Lord and fellowship with other Christians. But recently things changed. My daily tasks became my focus, and I had no goals in my life. I questioned myself and realized I'd only read the Bible superficially and I felt the desire to do a real Bible study. That's when I found you. I'm beginning to learn that without studying and meditating on the Word of God, I'll never grow up. I won't be a mature Christian and I won't be fulfilled. **Please pray I make it through the entire Bible with you. I want to keep my spiritual life focused and fruitful.**"*



## FROM SOUTHERN EUROPE

In Croatia we meet with a fellow Bible Bus passenger named Ana. She says:

*“I live in a beautiful town on the coast of the Adriatic Sea. When I started listening, I was searching for meaning. Your deep biblical lessons and stories of other believers were crucial. **I decided to follow Jesus and through this study I have made a lot of progress in my understanding of His Word. I have applied many biblical principles to my life and relationships, becoming a better version of myself.** Thank you for guiding my spiritual growth.”*



## FROM CENTRAL AMERICA

“I went to church every Sunday, but I was far from God.” That’s the beginning of a story we heard from Maria in Honduras. Here’s more:

*“Religion was important to my family growing up. We went to church every Sunday and followed the rituals, but something was missing. We were Christians in name only. Our family was loud, rude, and often mean. When I married, I promised myself I would change that. For a few years my husband and I attended the same church as my parents. Then I heard your program, and everything changed. **For the first time I learned that a life lived with God was not about attending church, but about a relationship with Him. I was surprised to find I could turn to Him with my joys, my sorrows, and my sins.** My husband and I began to listen together, and soon we welcomed two children into our family. **Through your messages and the grace of God, our family is gentle, kind, and loving.** Thank you for helping us know Him and live a full and pleasing life in His service.”*

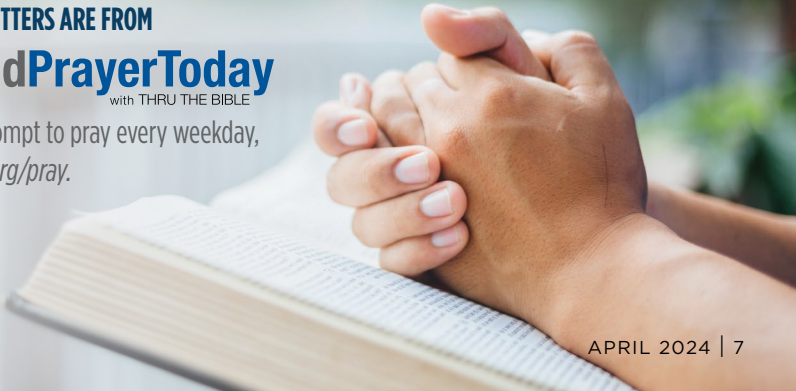
**Praise God that as we come to know God intimately, our lives are changed and our spiritual lives deepen.** Pray as THRU the BIBLE goes out today that the good news of the gospel reaches more people from every corner of the earth.

**NOTE: THESE LETTERS ARE FROM**



**WorldPrayerToday**  
with THRU THE BIBLE

To receive a prompt to pray every weekday, sign up at [ttb.org/pray](http://ttb.org/pray).





## PRAYING FOR SECRET BELIEVERS

Pakistan is a majority-Muslim nation. Despite constitutional guarantees of religious freedom, Pakistani Christians are among the most persecuted in the world, subjected to threats, violence, and discrimination.

So today let's praise God for fellow Bible Bus passengers like Nazeer. Here's his story:

*"Your email in response to my inquiry was much appreciated. I learned so many new things about Christianity. Now I am a regular student and have come to experience God's love in my life. Since hearing about God and His salvation plan, I realized I am a sinner and believed in Jesus as my Savior. I am feeling great pleasure that I am changed. I need prayers for my own spiritual growth in this new faith. I also need prayers for my wife, that she may learn about this. I am forced to be confidential since people would not accept me if I exposed to others I am a Christian."*

Let's bring Nazeer and all our brothers and sisters in Pakistan before the Lord:

*Father, thank You for those who risk it all to follow You. Protect and strengthen them as they worship You in secret. Give each of them wisdom so they know who to trust, when to speak, and when to stay silent. Thank You for their faith and perseverance, and for the courage of those who, despite the danger, share Your truth and love. In the precious name of Jesus, amen.*

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we travel the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. Join us in covering the entire earth with prayer every year.

GO TO [TTB.ORG/PRAY](https://ttb.org/pray)  
TO SIGN UP.



# WHY STUDY ISAIAH?

Join in the studies on  
THRU the BIBLE MARCH 26–  
MAY 31 or anytime online,  
by podcast, or by mobile app.

The book of Isaiah is a high pinnacle in our journey through the whole Word of God. The prophet Isaiah was given a vision of God at the beginning of his ministry (around 740 B.C..) that profoundly influenced his whole view of life as well as the prophecies he wrote about. Just like Paul's vision on the way to Damascus shaped his theology, so Isaiah's vision of God shaped his view of God.

*“[Isaiah’s] been called the fifth Gospel—Christ’s virgin birth, His character, His life, His death, His resurrection, and His second coming are all presented in Isaiah clearly and definitively.”*

—Dr. J. Vernon McGee

## NOT JUST A CHRISTMAS STORY ...

**Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.** —Isaiah 7:14

**For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.** —Isaiah 9:6

## WHAT DOES ISAIAH TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

- He is just and righteous (11:4)
- He is wise and discerning (11:2)
- Jesus is faithful to the task of saving (11:5)
- He perseveres (42:4)
- Jesus is a light to the Gentiles (42:6)
- He is compassionate (53:4)
- He is gentle and meek (53:7)
- Jesus never sinned (53:9)
- As God incarnate, Jesus is great (53:12)

## TAKE TO HEART THESE WORDS FROM ISAIAH:

- You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. (26:3)
- Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. (41:10)
- ... I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands. (49:15-16)





## THRU the BIBLE

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### A “Gathering Place” for Thru the Bible

Probably like your family, my wife and I enjoy having company over for dinner. There’s nothing like the comfort of home to open conversations and deepen relationships.

The same is true for THRU the BIBLE. In the changing climate of how work is done, several years ago our leadership decided to close our traditional office space in favor of a distributed organization. This allows for us to call upon staff and partners from every corner of the earth.

That said, we’ve missed the conversations that organically happen over a shared lunchtime or an in-person connection.

**Our chairman emeritus summed it up this way, “THRU the BIBLE doesn’t need an office, we need a home.”** And so we built a hybrid office/home space for our staff and domestic and global partners to come together periodically. It’s small, it’s purposeful, and we call it our “Gathering Place.”



## A WORD FROM GREGG HARRIS



We wanted to give you an insider's look at our new place as our Board of Directors, staff, and local partners dedicated our new home this month.

**Let this be a prompt for you to welcome people into your home to purposefully share the love of Jesus Christ. Who knows how God will use your hospitality to impress on them the most precious and important truth in the world?!**

(And invite them to join you on the Bible Bus, too!)

Grateful for your partnership,


Gregg Harris  
THRU the BIBLE, President



I LOVE TO

TELL THE STORY

## GREETINGS FROM THE BIBLE BUS

*"I never imagined that praying on the  WorldPrayerToday team would impact me so much. Like so many others whose letters you've shared, I started on this challenge from Steve Shwetz to pray for people in every country of the world. **But over the months and now years, it's been my heart that has softened. I'm the one on my knees, asking for God's forgiveness and help because of the example of the people who we pray for in some country I didn't even know existed. I thank God for them and hope to follow in their footsteps of faith. Who's helping who? Such is the body of Christ! Thank you for this opportunity.** From Anita | Cleveland, Ohio*

*"My sister and I decided to listen to Revelation online and call each other on Tuesday evenings to discuss what we had learned. We enjoyed the study so much, we kept listening. That was two years ago. We've learned so much! **Studying the Word every day has made a huge difference in our overall understanding of the whole Word. We plan to invite others to join our weekly Bible study. Thank you for continuing the work of Jesus Christ.**" From Cami | Washington*

*"My first connection with Christian radio was the unmistakable voice of Vernon McGee. My initial thought was 'if someone with such a boring voice was on the radio, he must be speaking about something important.' **Oh, wow! It is eternally important. I was hooked and more than 30 years later, I still am.**" From South Africa*



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