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P.O. Box 766
Milton, FL 32572-0766

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Permit No. 118

THE NEWSLETTER

February-April 2025

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it" (Psalm 68:11).



BIBLE CONFERENCE 2025

APRIL 7-10 • 7PM

SPEAKERS

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Travis Alltop
Joe Cammilleri
Joel Logan

SPECIAL MUSIC

Travis Alltop
Andy Leftwich
Jim Britton Family

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Victory Baptist Press is a ministry of Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida.

Founder: Dr. Thomas F. Woodward (1935-1994). Pastor: Tim Fellure. VBP Director: Jim Fellure.

The *Newsletter* is the official quarterly publication of Victory Baptist Press and is sent free of charge to those who request it.

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Finish Well

At the time of this writing we have to endure only three more days of the most incompetent and failed presidency in our history as a nation. By the time you read this Joe Biden will have shuffled out of the White House for the last time, having succeeded in doing more damage to America than any single man alive. He came into office through a corrupt election promising to restore order to America, and after four years of chaos and corruption most Americans are just glad to see him leave. His incompetency first showed in his botched withdrawal from Afghanistan that left 13 US service members dead and hundreds of American citizens stranded to face the Taliban alone. His weakness as a foreign leader has been on display with Russia's invasion of Ukraine that has either killed or wounded over one million people on both sides of the war. Biden has had no influence on the world stage to stop that war and has a 0% success rate in foreign affairs. On the home front under his watch inflation has increased by 19.3%, the labor force is still lower than pre-Covid levels, and the national debt has increased by nearly \$7 trillion. In national security news we have seen on average two million illegal immigrants flow into the country each year, while the Biden administration has done everything in their power to open the borders placing us at great risk. We could go on forever but you get the picture: from declaring Easter Sunday "Transgender Day of Visibility" to taking credit for 800,000 imaginary jobs to abandoning the folks in western NC who lost their homes in Hurricane Helene, it has been one embarrassment after another.

We should not be surprised, but in his last few weeks in office Biden has tried to cement his legacy of failure with some bizarre stunts.

After promising he would not pardon his drug-addicted, whore-mongering son, he decided to reverse course and did issue the pardon. Since then he has pardoned or commuted the sentences of over 4,000 felons, setting the Presidential record for the most pardons in one day, surpassing his own previous record of just a month earlier. And we still have three days left. His mental decline was put on display in his summer debate with Trump, which eventually resulted in him being pushed out of the election race. He will spend the last few days screaming at anyone who will listen about how successful he has been, while all his aides who propped him up for four years laugh at him behind his back. The best thing about his presidency is that he took 570 vacation days during his time in the White House. He will disappear to Delaware in denial about his own failures, but we will never forget. Columnist Jonathan Tobin summarized it best in the January 16, 2025 edition of the *Jewish News Syndicate*: "Biden proved that having a half-century of experience in government is no guarantee of wisdom, political or ethical prin-

ciples, or an ability to learn from the past. He also showed what happens when weakness is treated as a virtue rather than a liability. He leaves office as a forgotten man who, regardless of one's opinion of Trump, was largely overshadowed by him even when his opponent was out of office. Though historians will likely treat him as an accidental president better remembered for his decline in office than any achievements, his mistakes must be remembered. As pathetic as his exit from the White House has been, the record of failure he leaves behind is his true legacy."

This is not meant to be a political rant, but a lesson on life. A man is not measured as much by how he starts as by how he finishes. Many men have set out on a wrong course but gained enough wisdom and humility to self-correct and finish their race with honor. The tragedy of Joe Biden is that he is at the end of his race and there is nothing behind him but failures, incompetency, and corruption. He will die just as he lived. On the other hand I recall the words of another aged man facing his last years saying, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." The Apostle Paul (and millions of other believers) came to the end of his race with the satisfied confidence that he had given his life to Christ and had lived each day for a higher purpose than self-gratification. He had faced all the abuse the world and religion could throw at him but he finished his life with dignity and honor. The Roman Empire could not find a crime to charge him with so they finally had to execute him for just being a Christian. And two thousand years later we still honor a man like Paul and say good riddance to a man like Joe Biden. The greatest privilege of life is to serve Jesus Christ, and the greatest reward will be to serve faithfully until our last day. This year, 2025, gives us yet another year of opportunities to give our life in service to our Lord and to each other. We do not know when our final day will come, but when it does I want to go out like Paul and not Joe.

Please continue to pray for Victory Baptist Press. We started the year off by shipping a container of Bibles to Peru on January 2 and just received the next truckload of paper this week. We begin printing next week on the next shipment of 25,000 Spanish Bibles for South America, after which we will begin printing a container of John/Romans for Missionary Josh Szwarga in New Zealand. This week we also mailed out over 17,000 EDDM cards to Cape Girardeau, MO with more orders waiting to be filled. If the Lord carries this could be our busiest year we have ever had, so we need your prayers now more than ever. Thank you for your faithful support.



Print Shop News



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,
Victory Baptist Press had a good year in 2024, and we are off to a good start this year. It was our goal to get three truckloads of paper in the shop, and if you fudge just a little bit, we exceeded that. The first truckload was delivered right at the end of 2023, and we bought a partial load to print over 78,000 John/Romans, nearly 60,000 of which are going to missionary Josh Szwarga in New Zealand. According

to my records, we have printed 22,955 English Bibles, 25,333 Spanish Bibles, and 78,307 English John/Romans. We are expecting our next truckload of paper as I write these notes. We also have a container of 20,000 Spanish Bibles, 501,300 Gospel tracts, and a few boxes of leather-covered Bibles. The tracts were donated through a joint venture of The Conversion Center and Beacon of Truth printing ministry. The leather Bibles were donated by Humberto Gomez, the main revisionist for the RVG Spanish Bible.

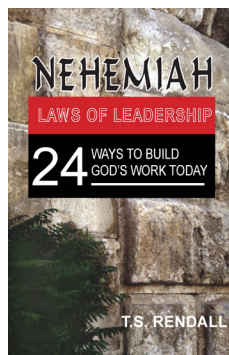
We are currently collating a load of Bibles that will mostly be going to missionary Gary Schwer in Mexico. Our plans are then to print another load of Spanish Bibles to head to Peru once again. And then we hope to print another full load of about 300,000 John/Romans for New Zealand. As I type these lines, I am fully aware that God could step in and change things in a way that we cannot comprehend, but as I tried to teach my children when they were growing up, you need to have some direction in your life and allow God to change it at any time, but if you are not moving toward something, you cannot change directions, you are just stuck in one spot.

Please continue to pray for the future of Victory Baptist Press. A lot of our equipment is old but well maintained. We have dabbled a little bit in considering upgrading some equipment, mostly because the younger guys working here fear they cannot run this old stuff without my help, but nothing seems to fit our needs better than what we already have. A Xerox salesman has tried hard to get us to go all digital. There are several problems with that. One, it is very expensive. Now, I have no doubt that if God wanted us to have this equipment, He would provide. The other problem is none of the digital machines I have seen on the market are capable of printing the thin bible paper we use and would significantly add to the thickness of the Bibles. By the way, I think that the young men we have are capable of running all the equipment here. All they really need to boost their confidence is to have a few breakdowns to work through on their own.

The future always has both knowns and unknowns. At least for the Christian who has even a limited knowledge of God's Word there are more knowns than a lost man has. We know that Heaven is our home, we just don't know exactly how we are going to arrive. We may not know how the present struggles in the Middle East are going to turn out in the short run, but we know that one day God is going to give Israel all the land He first promised to Abraham, and there will be a glorious peace on earth. These truths, and many others, are what give us hope through all the unknown circumstances in life. Please pray that God will allow us to print as much of the Word of God as possible so as many people as possible can learn these hope-giving truths.

God bless,
Bro. Albert Berg

Those who support Victory Baptist Press prayerfully and financially are helping send the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in its purest form, around the world.



Nehemiah: Laws of Leadership
by T. S. Rendall
245 pages \$14.95

As a leader of God's people in "Project Wall," Nehemiah established a pattern for all who desire to see the cause of God promoted in the world today. The thirteen chapters of the book of Nehemiah are filled with illustrations of the principles of leadership. After a chapter in which he introduces Nehemiah, Dr. Rendall presents twenty-four laws of leadership that are relevant today. These studies may be used personally or in a group Bible study. The chapters are clearly outlined and are based firmly on the book of Nehemiah.

Benefits & Blessings

The Blessing of Peace



Mrs. Pam Leake

It's a given that events in our lives are very often unpredictable, many times unexpected, and sometimes undesirable. They can catch us by surprise and greatly disturb any peace that we may be experiencing and enjoying. When difficult points in my day arise, I like to take the opportunity to go outside, alone or with my pup, and just walk the perimeter of our small plot of earth while audibly expressing my

need to the Lord. I can pray undisturbed, I can pour out my heart to the Father, or I can sing along with my favorite gospel music on my phone and, somehow, the peace is restored to my needy heart.

As I pondered the peace that the Lord gives, I was reminded of the great blessing that peace is and why I should never take it for granted or fail to thank Him for it. It can only come from Him and, because of who He is, He will never withhold it from me as His child. You just can't put a price on this gift!

I won't deny (but am hesitant to admit) that there are times when my circumstances overwhelm me and that peace in my heart seems to evaporate. I am very tempted to "lose my cool." That's when it's time to take another stroll outside. Kind of a "count to 10" situation, if you can relate. But because I have the Holy Spirit in residence in my heart, He gently leads me back to the place where I can see things more clearly, realizing that there is a reason Jesus Christ called Him the Comforter.

If you've ever struggled with maintaining a peace and calm no matter what comes your way, you are not alone. This frail body of flesh we inhabit on earth is limited in its ability to survive unscathed the challenges and trials that are inevitable, but if you are a child of the King of kings, you are not left to face them alone. The Prince of Peace is exactly that! The Comforter is exactly that! And the Word of God has much to say about the peace that only God can give. "Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind is stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee (Is. 26:3)." "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace" (Jer. 29:11). The remedy for a loss of peace in my heart is to keep my mind stayed on Him and to realize that the thoughts He is thinking toward me . . . toward me! . . . are thoughts of peace. Jesus speaks His peace to my heart as He says, "my peace I give unto you . . . let not your heart be troubled." It's there for the asking.

Go to the refuge of the Word, seek out God's promises to you of His peace and consolation. Meditate on them and surrender your worries and fears to Him. It may be that it will be necessary to do so daily, but be assured that the Father will never run out of the peace He has to give to His children. C. H. Spurgeon closed out a message on the consolations of God with this question: "Do you think the Holy Spirit cannot meet your case, and provide comfort suitable for your distress? He is everywhere present, and He knows the way that you take." Find peace in that truth today!

Note: Pam Leake served alongside her husband, Ed Leake, in the pastoral ministry for over thirty-four years. They continue to serve the Lord as He opens doors of opportunity. Pam's email address is leakepm@gmail.com

Captain of Salvation

As Joshua was making ready to besiege Jericho, there appeared to him a man with a drawn sword in his hand as the "captain of the host of the LORD" (Josh. 5:14). This was a theophany: a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ. It was Christ who stood before Joshua as the captain of the Lord's host. This image is then borrowed by the writer of Hebrews to speak of Him who has led the way of salvation for all who believe on Him.

A captain in Bible days held much more responsibility than the soldier of rank in our armed forces. Captain was the highest military honor, and those appointed to that position were responsible for the security of the nation. So, our Captain of Salvation is well qualified and able to assure our security.

A captain is one who goes before his troops, though some military leaders have shown cowardice by sending the soldiers ahead. A captain is one who is expected to be victorious in battle, though not all are successful. A captain must be courageous and willing to

sacrifice his own life for the cause, yet history tells the story of many who carried the title without bearing the honor. But as our Captain of Salvation, our Lord has gone before us, sacrificed His own life, and won the victory over sin and the grave. He has subdued the opposing force.

He is the Captain and Commander in Chief in the field of battle and is mighty to assail the citadel of the enemy and deliver those held captive by sin. He has never lost a battle, nor have any of His soldiers ever been captured as prisoners of war or killed in the battle. It may appear that we are losing the battle on occasion, but I can assure that ultimate victory is ours. The enemy may seem invincible but the battle has already been won. "If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?"

(Excerpt from *The Name Above Every Name* by Pastor Tim Fellure, available at victorybaptistpress.com)

The Pastor's Page



Tim Fellure

The Power of Conviction

John 16:7-11

The Lord Jesus has already spoken to the disciples about the coming of the Holy Spirit. The title He gives to the Holy Spirit is Comforter. He is called the third Person of the Godhead but that does not diminish Him to a lesser role of the Father or Son—the Holy Spirit is a real Person, not a manifestation, and is the part of the Godhead we are most intimately connected to. Sadly, He is the forgotten

Person of the Godhead because often Christians live their lives with no personal relationship with Him.

Jesus plainly tells us that the Holy Spirit will have a convicting ministry. What is conviction? Conviction is a bigger word than just emotional guilt. Conviction is a judicial word that belongs in the courtroom. When the Holy Spirit reproves the world, they are already pronounced guilty and have been convicted by the court of Heaven. The trial is already over: the prosecutor has rested and the Judge has rendered His verdict, and the whole world stands guilty before God. Now the Holy Spirit is working in the heart of men to bring that conviction—reproving them. In our text, Jesus declares that the Holy Spirit will teach you and reprove you of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

1) The Basic Problem of the Sinner!

The first truth that the Holy Spirit must teach every man is that he is a sinner. Now, you would think that everybody believes in sin, but it is not so. In our society, sin is becoming a forgotten term and a ridiculed concept. The world's number one problem is that it doesn't know what its number one problem is. The problem is sin. This is why I believe preaching the law is as vital as preaching the Gospel. It is pointless to tell a man how to be saved if he does not first know that he needs to be saved. Therefore, the first message the sinner must hear is not the Gospel, but the law. For it is the law that reveals man's sinful condition to him, of which the Gospel is the cure.

What needs to take place for a sinner to no longer be a sinner? The answer is that man must be converted. He is changed from a man who loves sin to a man who loves God! How is man converted? The law reveals his sin. No man has ever repented of sins he did not believe he was guilty of. The law awakens the conscience, dismisses our excuses, and condemns even those things in our life we would not have called sins. The purpose of the law is not to produce righteousness, but to produce conviction. The Holy Spirit of God is come to reprove the world of sin because they believe not.

2) The Blessed Provision of the Savior!

The world is ignorant of sin and of righteousness: the Holy Spirit will reprove the world of righteousness. And if the world does not understand sin apart from the Holy Spirit, it cannot understand righteousness apart from the Holy Spirit. A person is not righteous because of what they do; they are righteous because of what they

are. Righteousness is not an external act; it is an internal condition. Reformation never saved anyone. Isaiah said that all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. He is talking about all the good things you do, not the bad things. And all the good things are filthy in the sight of God. You may think you are going to Heaven because you are a moral person, but the Holy Spirit must show you that the only righteousness is the righteousness which is available in Jesus Christ. Because He was sinless it qualified Him for something no other man ever qualified for. Christ could offer Himself to God as a perfect sacrifice!

When Jesus saved me, He did three things for me. The first thing He did was change what I am. He didn't just clean me up; He changed my life. I am not the man I used to be. Then He forgave what I did. Every blur, every blot, every blemish, every blunder—everything I have ever done has been washed whiter than snow. My sins are forgiven. Then He provided what I needed. I needed the righteousness of Christ, and it has now been added to my account. When God sees me, He doesn't just see me forgiven—He sees me as righteous.

3) The Broken Power of Satan!

The Bible doesn't say that Satan will be judged, but that he has been judged. That is present tense which means the devil is already a judged and sentenced criminal. Judgment has already been passed upon him. Satan thought he was defeating Christ, but Jesus was destroying the works of the devil. That means that I don't have to obey him. Satan's power of dominion, deception and death has been broken. The cross was a battle between Heaven and Hell — and Hell lost. If you are following the devil, you are following a loser. His destiny is Hell; his doom is sealed; his judgment is already determined. Satan rules a doomed domain and sails a sinking ship.

If you are under that domain, you will be sentenced to the same judgment he has been judged with. Hell wasn't prepared for you, but if you follow Satan you will follow him to the Hell that was prepared for him. But Christ has broken his power. He is the only one who has defeated the devil, and if you want to join in that victory, you will have to claim His victory as your own. You have a choice: either God can look at you as He does His Son and see you as righteous, or God can look at you as He does Satan and see you as judged. You could never break the power of Satan on your own. Just as God counts Christ's righteousness for you, so God counts the victory of Christ over Satan to you. This is what the Holy Spirit must teach you.

The character named Perry Mason was the most successful defense attorney in America. He defended hundreds of clients—all of them accused of murder—and never lost a case. But there is one prosecutor Perry Mason couldn't beat. His name is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the prosecutor of the world, and the whole world has been declared guilty.

Men naturally recoil at preaching on conviction, but I'm glad the Holy Spirit has convicted me of some things. There is no greater need in the church than for us to feel the conviction of God on our lives. Has the Holy Spirit ever convicted you of anything? When you rebel, conviction is a hard thing; when you surrender, conviction is a sweet thing. May we allow the Holy Spirit to perform His reproofing work of conviction in every area of our lives.