

The Bible For You

by Dr. Manford G. Gutzke

“The Bible”

Can you understand why the Bible is such an important book?

"For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" (Psalms 119:89).

As I was coming to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ my attention was directed to the Bible. In the Bible I discovered the promises which were for me that would bring me to God. I remember what a wonderful thing it was for me to find this verse: "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven."

Some time ago as I was being interviewed by a radio commentator who asked: "Do you think the Bible is the Word of God?" I said, "Yes." "Do you think it is God's Word for today?" "Yes, sir." "Knowing how things change, why is it reasonable to believe that a Book written thousands of years ago is still adequate, valid and relevant to the world today?"

I found myself telling him that "when a sailor goes to sea he naturally hopes to reach his destination. The sailor cannot see the port to which he is going. Also as he sails, the waves are rolling, the wind is blowing. How does the sailor keep his course? Can he look out on the water and decide where to go? No. Well suppose that it is cloudy and he cannot see the stars or the sun. Then what is he going to do? The sailor has a compass that points due north all the time. He goes by his compass."

And so it is with the Christian. In the world there are winds and waves of all sorts of ideas. People change, and there is confusion. Sometimes everything seems to be all mixed up, tossed about by the force of the winds that are blowing at that particular moment. The Christian however has the Bible. The Bible serves as a compass and points the believer straight to God regardless of the circumstances at the moment.

This is the Christian view. It is the view we set forth in our program, which we call *The Bible For You*. The Bible presents the solution for the whole mass of human problems.

The origins of the Scripture text are obscure. We have traditions about who wrote what, but very seldom is the author actually named in the Book. And so the authorship of large sections of the Scripture is largely unknown. Take for instance, the book of Ruth. The name is there, because Ruth is one of the principal characters; but no one thinks Ruth wrote that book.

Because the Bible deals with the things of God, of Heaven and of the spiritual world, the subject matter is largely invisible. It cannot be seen, measured or weighed. It is true one can say, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap," but this would be true even if a person did not read the Bible. If a person does wrong, he would be guilty in anybody's judgment. But it is amazingly true how the Bible shows that the guilty, the sinner, can be forgiven, can be set free by almighty God, who is the Judge of all the earth.

What does the Bible claim to be? To begin with, the Bible is not a human book. The Bible was written by man, yes; but it was inspired by God. There were more than forty authors over a time span that lasted centuries. The Bible was preserved by man; that is true. Sometimes it has cost man his life to keep it. The Bible is translated by man, now in more than 1,200 dialects around the world. It is being translated constantly all over the world by human beings; that is true. The Bible is published by man. Yet, when we have said all that: the Bible still is not man's idea.

No man ever dreamed up such things as are found in Scripture. The sixty-six books are as one in

containing one body of truth. This blessed material has been used by the missionaries to tell the Gospel story, by the evangelists to win souls, by pastors to comfort those who put their trust in God. The Bible has been the center of life for Christians across the ages. Quite apart from any inward spiritual conviction we may have, anyone could see from practical evidence that the Bible is an unusual book.

Some years ago it was my privilege to speak at a service club luncheon. Arriving early I met a lady who was in the dining room arranging the flowers on the table. We introduced ourselves. She said, "Oh, you are the speaker for today? You're a minister?" I said, "Yes, I'm a minister of the Gospel." She said, "Do you believe the Bible?" I said, "Yes ma'am." Later she asked, "Who wrote Genesis?" I said, "I don't know." "You don't know?" I said, "No, I don't know. The Bible speaks of it as the writings of Moses, and apparently Jesus of Nazareth would think that as He Himself used such expressions as 'Moses said' and 'Moses wrote.' Tradition holds that Moses was the author. So far as I am concerned this is what I think. The book does not say." She said, "And yet you believe it?" I said, "Yes, I do." "You mean to say that you don't know who wrote it, and yet you believe it is true?" "Yes, ma'am." Then she said to me, "Well, isn't that funny?" I agreed. And when she looked at me I reached into my pocket, took out some medicine and said to her, "These were prescribed by my doctor, and I have just had the prescription filled. I am to take one before each meal. And you know what? I don't know the name of the drug clerk, nor the names of the ingredients. But I am going to do as the doctor prescribed, and take the medicine." And this is the one way in which a person can know for sure that the Bible is the Word of God: Try it, Trust it.

On another occasion I was to speak to a group of university students at a university that stressed mathematics and science. I knew their common feeling would be that the Bible was not reliable. So I began my address by saying, "I expect a good many of you will say that you are unable to believe the Bible, because you are not sure that it is reliable. You think that it has mistakes. Mark my words: if any of you can find one statement in the Scriptures which is contrary to any known fact of science, you call me on the phone, tell about what you found; and give me your address. I will send you five dollars." They sat there amazed. "My name is in the phone book. Call me up. Tell me that you have found one statement in Scripture that contradicts a known fact in science, give me your name and address, and I will send you five dollars. It is going to be worth that for me to find out that I have been making a fool of myself." That was some years ago, no one has claimed the five dollars. Look up; trust and remember: "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven."

“For You”

Have you ever noticed how much more important a letter is when it is addressed to you personally?

The Bible appears among other books in the world much the same as Jesus of Nazareth appeared among men. He looked, acted, walked and talked as a man. He felt all things as a man, "touched in all the feelings of our infirmities." There was nothing exceptional about His appearance. In Isaiah, it was predicted "there is no beauty that we should desire him." He looked like a man. Christ Jesus was who He was because of where He came from, not because of what He looked like, what He did or what He would do. He was the Son of God who came to die for our sins and who will come again to take us to God. This is what makes Him the Lord and Savior.

The Bible is the record that shows us the Lord Jesus Christ; and any one believing it, coming to God, trusting in Him, according to the way the Bible teaches will be saved. The Bible needs only to be read to show us the great things of the Gospel. Reading the Bible will show us the reality of the soul. The Bible

will show us the reality of God. If the believer really wants to know about God, he can look into the Scriptures, because the Lord Jesus Christ has said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

The Bible will show us the reality of sin. The Word of God makes this clear. Sometimes we hear: "One of the great things lacking amongst us is a consciousness of sin." The reason why there is so little consciousness of sin is because there is so little knowledge of the Bible. If people knew the Bible, they would know they were sinners.

The Bible teaches us the reality of the Gospel. If a person really wanted to know how to be saved, and to know the full meaning of the fact that Christ Jesus died for sinners, he should read it as it is set forth in the Bible. There it is written He died for our sins, He was raised from the dead according to the promises of God.

The Bible shows us the reality of the new birth. A person does not come to that understanding because he sees how badly he is in need of changing. Reading in the Scriptures we discover that a man must be born again. The Bible teaches us about the reality of the Holy Spirit as He is revealed from the Lord Jesus Christ. And again the Bible teaches us of the reality of Heaven. Heaven is all around about us. Scripture makes this clear as Christ Jesus says: "Our Father, which art in heaven." Heaven is where God is. The Bible teaches us the reality of prayer. The real meaning of successful powerful praying, of praying that gets things done, is to be found in the Bible. These and so many other wonderful truths are learned from studying the Bible.

To be blessed we should read the Bible. We should receive the Bible as the Word of God, believe it, commit our souls to it. Almighty God will honor His Word. Anyone trusting in God, according to the Word of God, will be saved. Since this is so, it is important that each one read it, listen to its message. We should meditate upon what is written, and ask Christ Jesus to lead others to it and through it to Himself. Also, we should not add to it, nor take away from it. We should simply take it as it is, read it, believe it, and share it with others. It is the Word of God that will not return unto Him void.

The Bible has been written for us, and we have tried to indicate that in the very name of our program. We have called our ministry *The Bible For You*. Everything in the Bible is for the individual who is listening, who is hearing. In I Corinthians 10:11 we read: "Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." And in Romans 15:4: "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

The Bible was not written for anyone special. The Bible was not written particularly for the preacher, nor the theologian. We can remember the old song. "It's not the preacher, not the deacon, but its me O Lord that's standing in the need of prayer." That is for whom the Bible was written. The Bible is written for anyone and everybody who will come to God. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." "But whosoever will may come and whosoever cometh will in no wise be cast out." This means that everyone can come: the wise and the simple, the rich and the poor, the strong and the weak. The Bible is not only for the poor, it is for rich also. It is for anyone. However, as long as people feel themselves well off, that they have everything, they are not inclined to turn to God. This is one reason the poor and the troubled and those who are hurt are the ones who will come.

The Apostle Paul in writing to the Corinthians says: "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in

his presence" (I Corinthians 1:26-29).

Anyone can take the Scriptures and say, "This is for me." The sinner, one who feels deep down in his heart that he has done wrong, can know that the Bible is for him. The Bible is for you. The Lord Jesus said, "For I am not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." The person in bondage with any feeling of constraint or restraint can have hope: the Bible is written for you. The poor, the troubled, grieving and broken-hearted: the Bible is for you.

The Lord Jesus, when He was here on earth, as was His custom went into the Synagogue in the city of Capernaum on the Sabbath day. When they gave Him the Scriptures to read, He found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor." If you are poor, it is for you. "He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted." Are you broken-hearted? It is for you. "To preach deliverance to the captives." Are you in captivity? Do you feel yourself in bondage? It is for you. "And recovering of sight to the blind." Do you feel that you are blind? It is for you. "To set at liberty them that are bruised." Are you suffering? Are things hurting you? Then it is for you. The Bible is for you.

Are you diseased? Remember the leper. "And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean" (Mark 1:40-41). Are you crippled, confused, lost? The Good Shepherd is looking for you: for that one who has sinned and gone astray. Remember the prodigal? His father was waiting for him.

The Bible is for you; so read it, meditate on it, believe it and obey it. In I Corinthians 3:21 you will read: "For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's." Whoever you are, whatever your problem or need, Christ Jesus came to seek and to save you. The Word of God tells you about Him, and God sent His Word for you that you could read it, believe it and be saved. Thank the Lord!

The A & H Club

Do you realize that even a good believer who sincerely believes in God and is thoroughly committed to doing His will can lose his battle because he gets tired?

As a young man, in the days when I was still an unbeliever, I made the deliberate effort to be good. I was just a high school lad, yet I wanted to do right. I can remember so well that I invariably failed. This was very depressing and discouraging.

Later, I learned the Gospel, that Christ Jesus died for my sins, and by believing in Him I could be saved. Praise His name, it was my privilege to have a glorious conversion and to begin walking with the Lord in joy. In the course of time, I was called to devote my life to telling the Gospel to other people. Eventually, I became pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas. By now I was totally committed, serving Him in every way I knew how. As pastor, I had a regular schedule of preaching, teaching and pastoral care. I longed for my members to grow in faith and in knowledge. I wanted them to bear fruit in love, joy, peace, longsuffering and all the fruit of the Spirit. Activities were designed for their benefit and I expected them to take part, personally and seriously in these things. When the people neglected what we had given them to do and became selfish, I noticed this as a condition that needed to be helped. This required a great measure of courtesy, tact and faith, actually more than I had.

After I had been pastor for some time, I realized that my own performance was inferior. I found myself getting sensitive, being critical of others. I found myself being despondent and tempted to give up. I learned, what was for me a sober and a sad truth, I could be defeated. But I knew about God. I knew He was able. I believed that He could hear and answer prayer.

I began to study the Bible to discover how men of God in times past had been led, and what they did when they got into situations that they could not handle. In searching the Scriptures on how to serve and to pray, I particularly studied Moses. Moses was a servant of God and in many ways an example to me. From Moses the search led into the prophets.

In Exodus 17:8-16 I rejoiced in reading of how the children of Israel in traveling across the desert came into conflict and battle with Amalek and were helped by God. Reading slowly I learned something very sobering. I understood that Amalek represented the forces of evil, and that Joshua was leading the people of God, and so was right in the sight of God. Yet in this story it was as plain as day that Joshua was not able to overcome Amalek!

"And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed" (Exodus 17:9-11).

Moses holding up his hands was exercising himself in prayer. When Moses prayed, Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hands, Amalek prevailed. Joshua was fighting the best he knew how. His life and the welfare of Israel was at stake. The fortunes of war swayed for him and against him. It depended on the praying of Moses. When Moses prayed, Joshua could win.

Then I read what came as a shock: Moses could get tired and quit praying. A man like Moses, as great and as faithful as he was, could get just that tired that he could not pray: "But Moses' hands were heavy."

This can be true with everyone of us. I will tell you right now, if you stand still and hold your hands up for a long time, they will get heavy. Moses' hands were heavy; and when he stopped praying, Joshua was losing the battle, so that Amalek prevailed.

Then comes the wonderful part of this story:

"But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword" (Exodus 17:12-13).

So Joshua won the victory, with Aaron and Hur holding up the hands of Moses, and Moses praying. This is remarkable!

I remember that at the time I was studying this, I was in a tired state as pastor of that church. I was trying to get something done with the men of the church. If you know anything at all about men and church work, you will know that if you try to put over a men's organization, you can become tired. As I pushed myself, realizing my own weariness, I was humbled to discover an instance where a great man of God, the like of whom I could never hope to even approximate, got so tired that he quit praying. And

then in an amazing way Aaron and Hur, lesser men that could not fight like Joshua nor pray like Moses, lifted up Moses' hands, and in doing so a notable victory was won. The margin of victory was in Aaron and Hur. Joshua, a great warrior, is the same all the way through. Moses, a great believer, is the same. However the two who turned the tide were these two lesser men.

I had resolved in my heart that while I was pastor I would never add another organization to the church. It was so highly organized already. However, when I realized what it would mean to my church, I felt that I could start an organization called the A & H Club. When I noticed how Aaron and Hur took a stone for Moses to sit on because he was so tired, while I was in my office studying I wept. Just then I would have given anything in the world if just a couple of my officers would have come forward and told me "Preacher, we know how it is with you. We want to help you." Later when tape recordings of my preaching and teaching were available and had been sent to the foreign field, I could see in a deeper way the need and the power of united, intercessory prayer. We need you to pray for your pastor and for the work of the Bible For You that the name of Christ Jesus will be glorified.

Operation Prayer

Have you ever thought of praying as a practical procedure to get things done?

"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4). These are the words of the Apostle Peter speaking to the church, arranging for them to elect certain men to take care of the practical details around the congregation. In these words he indicated why he and his fellow apostles would not be available to tend to practical details.

We expect to hear praying when we go to church. It seems proper to pray anytime that a meeting is held, that has anything to do with the Gospel or the work of the church. Many of us learned to pray at our mother's knee. We learned to pray at bedtime, or at mealtime.

It is unfortunate that prayer is to some just a finishing touch. When we have made all the plans and done all we can do, then someone will seem to say: "Well, let's pray about it." Praying becomes largely a matter of asking God to endorse or to take over what we have done. We are through with it. We turn it over to God.

Sometimes we pray defensively: "Lord, we are in a jam, help us out." In praying this way we miss so much! It would be so much better as we planned, if we would pray to be led: to have the blessing of God as we begin. It would be such a wonderful thing if we had the grace of God in our hearts: the Spirit of God working with us to show us the things to do. We could count on God who "worketh in us to will and to do His good pleasure."

Men of God in Scripture prayed to get things done. Moses spent forty days in prayer, and came down from the mountain with the Ten Commandments, and the design of the Tabernacle and Tabernacle worship. Recall in the Old Testament when Joshua was fighting with Amalek and Moses went up to the mountain to pray; you will remember how Aaron and Hur came up to help Moses pray. They demonstrated united intercessory prayer to help Joshua win. Joshua was fighting, no doubt to the best of his ability, but he would have been beaten. Moses prayed, it is true and Moses' prayer was very important, but Moses would have quit. Aaron and Hur, men who could not fight like Joshua nor pray like Moses, but who were faithful men, turned the tide to victory.

Some years ago, shortly after I began recording some of my teaching for use by missionaries all over the world, I was struck by the realization in my heart "right now my voice is being heard in Africa, Mexico, and a number of mission stations at home and abroad. I should be praying that God will open

hearts to hear what is being said." I was shocked to realize how little I remembered and prayed for the very ministry I had put on tape. Then I realized I could not do that alone, I needed help in my praying.

Today, through the grace of God, it is true that I speak each day to thousands, if not millions of souls by use of the radio. Yet I am always being heard only by one soul. It is like the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. When the Lord spoke to all the disciples and said to them, "Take, eat, this is my body broken for you"; He said it to all of them, but the partaking is done by each person. It is done by one individual. The Lord said to His disciples, "This cup is the New Testament in my blood. Drink ye all of it." Yet, that cup was raised and the drink poured down the throat of just one person at a time. All this is done one by one.

When Peter said, "We will give ourselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word" Peter had in mind that the Word should go forth with power into the hearts of those who hear. God would be working in their hearts. We are reminded of Lydia (Acts 16:24) that while Paul was preaching and she was listening to what Paul had to say, the Lord opened her heart and enabled her to believe.

This is what we want, and this is what praying will do. We become aware of the needs of our listeners when we read the mail. As mail pours into our office and is read by our staff and myself, there are many requests for prayer. Each request is lifted from the letter, put on a separate card and is included in the next morning's prayer meeting. The entire staff gathers together each morning to pray for the requests taken from the mail the previous day. We have become aware of the needs of our listeners, even as we are increasingly aware of our own limitations and weakness. We are also aware that among our listeners there are many people who could join us and help us to pray. So we have a project called *OPERATION PRAYER*.

This is a program of united, intercessory prayer. Listeners are invited to join us in praying for those people who are asking for prayer. We duplicate prayer requests, being careful to protect the name of the writer, (e.g. Lady Fargo, N.D.) These copies are then distributed to chosen people who will pray. We have between 350 to 400 names of people who join us in united intercessory prayer. After we have prayed for the prayer requests in the office, the request is sent to our prayer helpers in this project known as Operation Prayer. We send them out for continuing prayer.

The letters of testimony that we have received from those in Operation Prayer are heart warming. People have told us that as a result of sharing in intercessory prayer their own spiritual life has been strengthened. This is as it should be. When one is praying for others, he becomes stronger in faith. There are congregations where this is being done. Each week prayer meetings are being held in some congregations that are called A & H Clubs; praying for their pastors and for this ministry.

In Operation Prayer we send requests out to certain persons in our hearing audience. There are from 250 to 400 people who are being given a certain number of names to pray for regularly for the next two or three weeks. After that we send out another group of these letters. We really need more office help than we have to attend to this because there is much detail involved.

We believe in prayer and would urge you to join us in prayer. We would welcome volunteers to join us. Would you like to be included among those who will receive from time to time the names of persons and circumstances for which you should pray? We would be so glad to have you and to enroll you in "Operation Prayer". So, let us all turn ourselves over to Him that He should have His way with us and strengthen us by His Spirit and His grace when we come to praying for others in the names of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Ebenezer

Do you realize that a large part of the importance of what happened to me yesterday is in the effect this has upon how I will act tomorrow?

"And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles. And there they abode long time with the disciples" (Acts 14:27-28).

The disciples who were sent out to preach the Gospel in due time returned, and reported all that had happened. Why go over all they had experienced? The answer is simple: for the glory of God; to give God thanksgiving and praise.

Israel crossing the river Jordan was a famous illustration of the power of God. They had previously crossed the Red Sea, and this marked by the death of Pharaoh and all his hosts would be long remembered. The crossing of the river Jordan did not have such dramatic aspects. Actually, they came to the river in flood and God opened the way before them, so they walked over on dry land. We should note that when the time came for them to cross, Joshua had the priests take the Ark to the center of the riverbed and stand there with it while all the nation of Israel passed by. One after another by the hundreds of thousands they came marching by this Ark placed at the very heart of the riverbed.

Later, Joshua took steps to see to it that subsequent generations would never forget this remarkable incident. He had the servants take certain stones from the bottom of the riverbed and carry them up to the top of the mountains and make a shrine with those stones. Those people knew enough about those stones to know that when they saw them they would say to themselves, "These are river stones." The answer would be, "Yes, they come from the very heart of the riverbed." That was not all. These people were to take the stones from the mountaintop, carry them to the bed of the river, and there they were to erect a stone altar. The evidence of God's dealing with His people would be evident as the people saw both altars. Thus the story would be brought to their remembrance.

People forget so easily: out of sight, out of mind. And when it is out of mind, it is out of heart.

The same idea is clearly shown in the Passover Feast. God's goodness is called to mind when God fed them as they passed along on their travels across the desert. This is like our sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Lord Jesus took the bread, broke it and said, "This is my body broken for you. Take. Eat. This do in remembrance of me." And we do that to this day. The minister takes the bread and holds it up before the people and says, "Take, eat, this do in remembrance of me." And the same with the cup. The Lord took it and said, "This cup is the New Testament in my blood shed for many for the remission of sins. Drink you all of it." And so when we eat this bread and drink this cup, we do show forth the Lord's death till He comes. This arrangement was made to overcome our natural forgetfulness, and that is the way it was with Israel.

A final illustration in Israel will be helpful. On one occasion when Israel as a nation was at war with the Philistines, they awaited an attack by a greater force than they. They called upon Samuel, a prophet among them. Samuel preached to them, and led them in repentance before God. The people confessed their sins and God received them and blessed them, and gave them a great notable victory. After that victory was won, Samuel went to the top of the hill and erected a shrine of stones. On that shrine of stones he put the word "Ebenezer", the Hebrew word that means "hitherto hath the Lord helped us." "The Lord is my helper."

I don't mind telling you we rejoice as we put this sign over the record of the last ten years of The Bible For You. How long ago the Lord had the idea in mind that I would speak on the radio I don't know. I know that when He talked to Jeremiah, He told him before Jeremiah was ever born He had in mind what He was going to do with Jeremiah. When I first believed, I wished the whole world knew the Gospel. There came a day when I felt the call to leave my chosen profession of law and give myself over to telling the Gospel story. I thought I was going to the mission field to teach. I had no idea of being ordained as a minister.

The Lord did not lead to the mission field but led me to speak to the English speaking people in North America. What would I say to them? I was to tell them of the reality of the Gospel. To my surprise I was called to preach as a pastor. I never intended to be a pastor, yet I was a pastor for something like ten years. Continuing my preparation that I might fully serve Him, I was called to Austin College to be Professor of Bible and Religious Education for three years. From that college I was called to Columbia Theological Seminary where I was Professor of Biblical Exposition and Christian Education for 27 years.

When I look back on all this, it seems incredible. I never in the wide world ever planned to be a preacher or a professor. I know I never planned to be a radio speaker. There was one thing I had in mind to do. I wanted to tell the whole wide world John 3:16 "that God so loved the world that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

More than 20 years ago, while I was still teaching at the Seminary, I began what we called the Monday Night Bible Class. People came from over 20 different denominations and from over 200 congregations to join in a weekly study of the Bible. Then a man who had been blessed by my ministry in preaching the Gospel asked the privilege of putting me on the radio. I agreed. A little later I felt that I wanted my brother and sister to hear the radio messages of the Gospel, and I approached a radio in Canada, CFAM in Manitoba. They accepted my application and I began to broadcast so that my brother and sister could hear the message. I never had an idea that this would become nationwide or worldwide. Shortly thereafter I was challenged to prepare material for a nationwide, worldwide radio ministry. In the providence of God and by His grace we undertook to do this. We called it "The Bible For You." This would cost money and we didn't have it. God's people did, and God has moved people who have it to give so the ministry could go on.

This was yesterday. Today we are being heard on something more than 125 radio stations with a 15 minute program 5 times a week, and a 30 minute program on Sunday. I have a great privilege and blessing in that my son Mark, a pastor, answers questions that come in our mail. People can always ask me also if they wish, but he serves in a splendid way to help in our ministry.

We praise the Lord for those who join with us to pray and give and we thank Him for untold numbers of listeners.

This is what we have today. What of tomorrow? Let me just say to you in a single word. If we were to add 100 more stations, it would not take any more work for me. If we had \$100,000 we could use it to simply supply services where we have been asked to come, where people want to hear us and where it takes money to go.

So we would say to one another: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. Praise God." And then pray and pray and pray! "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." So let us devote ourselves in prayer before God, that this ministry may prosper, and the Gospel may be spread through "The Bible For You."