

DECEMBER 2022



The Voice of Triumph, Inc.

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Dear Friends in Christ,

We hope you and your family enjoyed the best of all that Christmas is. With so many beautiful and remarkable things surrounding this most blessed Holy Day, we tend to overlook the times and difficulties that soon met the new “first family” of God.

We remember well, as we should, the remarkable story of His birth in what must have been an over-crowded stable. Yet, in our hearts it was an unparalleled event in time of peace and joy. A day when hosts of angels appeared on the hills of Bethlehem singing their songs of glory at the birth of the Savior. And we recall the story of His adoration in the temple by the elderly *Simeon*, to whom it had been revealed by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ! And how the *prophetess Anna*, well into her 80’s, welcomed the infant Jesus as the long-awaited “*redemption of Israel.*” (Why, oh, why do so many of us miss Him today?!)

And it’s hard to look through a selection of Christmas cards without seeing one or more with “Wise Men” from the East astride their camels, following a glorious star that led them to the feet of the Christ child, where they poured out their treasures of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

How strange that from such a remarkable beginning the early days of Jesus and His family were spent racing ahead of foreign occupiers who sought to kill him. And who finally did, some thirty years later, at the demand of priestly members of the Savior’s own nation.

Today, we live in a nation which once more attempts to silence Him. And though for a time it might, another time is coming. One in which the Lion of the tribe of Judah returns with absolute power and authority over all of Creation. MARANATHA!

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And then came His death and resurrection:

“6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,
7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may redound to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
8 Without having seen him you love him . . . And believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy.”

PTL I Peter 1:6-8

Twenty-five years is a long time for robbery. But if he is truly sincere then the Lord will use those “numbers” to change his life in ways he never dreamed of before:

“I am writing in hopes that you can help me out. I have a 25 year sentence for robbery and other charges. I’m trying to change my life for the better and I thought that maybe trying to see what God and Jesus is talking about might be a good thing for me. The problem is that I have no Bible of my own and was hoping you might be able to provide me with one. Is that a possibility? I have no money and can’t afford to purchase one. If you would be able to help me out I would be grateful. Thank you for your time. Merry Christmas. David”

The next inmate’s letter was only one line long; written without punctuation or capitals, two words out of nine misspelled, and with multiple more lines scratched out and redone. But all he wanted is a bible; and by the time you read this, he will have one. And in large print, though he didn’t specifically ask for one. But he is going to need all the help he can get to make sure he is able to begin learning about the only One who matters and truly cares for him. . . .

“May I have a nice NKJ bible. Thank you.”

As always, the letters increased and poured in during the holidays. Here are a few more:

“Hello, my name is Christopher. I’m new in building my faith. I would like to gain more knowledge by any means you are able to provide. I’d like your I’m Gonna Bury You book please. And if you have any other resources I’d be grateful for them. Please and thank you for your time.”

(Note: We almost never send out only one book.)

This request was from an inmate in a Supermax facility. Usually they are extremely restrictive about books they allow. But I called the Mail Room today to find out what was acceptable. And to my great surprise they do accept hardbacks of particular sizes. So this inmate will get some “extras” that are much needed in Supermax:

“I am writing in regard to getting possibly some study guide materials, bookmarks and /

or a bible dictionary and concordance. I am involved in 5 bible studies at this time and any help is always appreciated. Books, bookmarks and the afore-mentioned items. Thanks for any help!”

Just when we thought we’d heard it all, an inmate writes for something new:

“I am currently a prisoner in Montana. I found a bookmark with your name and address on it, and it said on the bottom to write you for free books and bibles. Do you have any Besora study bibles? I would like some books please. Thank you for your ministry.”

We weren’t expecting mail from Indiana—a prisoner by that name, I mean. But that really is this next person’s name:

“I would like to receive a bible and books. Due to the quality of lighting in a cell, if possible, I’d like to have the bible in large print, not a pocket size. Also, I am going to use the bible in the church service and in bible study. Thank you for all of your work for inmates. Have a nice weekdays and God bless you.”

“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13,14

2022

Praise the Lord; the above scripture (Philippians 3:13,14) says something we all need to put into practice at times during our lives: Forgetting what lies behind, press on! Jesus is calling!

And in his way, this next inmate is trying to do that, too. All are welcome on the “narrow road:”

“A friend provided me your address and prompted me to write. I identify as Jewish but study a vast array of religious views. I have not acquired a copy of the Holy Scriptures. The religious programing here seems to be a tad bit lacking. Anything you send is welcome, and I look forward to a reply. We need more people willing to get involved with outreach. . . .”

Prisoners have to take what they can get from their Commissary. This next note arrived written on a Valentine’s Day card. So the enterprising inmate adjusted accordingly. And we were happy to do the same in our choice of materials we sent:

“Dear Voice, In memory and Honor of Saint Valentine and all the blessed martyrs. This card is sent in love and appreciation of Gene, his family and the ministry he founded for the advancement of the Kingdom and the salvation of souls. 2 Timothy 2:4”

He’s searching; we’re happy to send books to guide him in his search:

“Thank you for sending the books and bookmarks. I’m currently in the middle of Prison to Praise by Merlin Carothers. It is

an attention grabber and a page turner. . . . Do you have a bible that has the Apocrypha? Namely 1 and 2 Esdras, Wisdom of Solomon and Sirach. . . . Thank you for taking the time to read my letters. I hope all is well and that this letter finds you in good health and spirits. May God bless and keep you. . . .”



Praise the Lord for the multitudes still seeking his face through the bibles and other materials you help us provide:

“I am writing today to request your free book I’m Gonna Bury You and also any other books or literature you could help me with. Anything to help me on my Christian walk. My Christian living. . . . May God bless you.”

If it weren’t for the prisoner “hot line” we would miss the opportunity to reach a whole lot of men and women for Jesus:

“A friend gave me your address and suggested I write and ask you for a couple of books he mentioned. One was a book called Prison to Praise. And number two was a book called I’m Gonna Bury You. And if y’all don’t have these can you send a few that might be something like them? Thank you and God bless you.”

"He remembers our frame and knows that we are dust. He may sometimes chasten us, it is true, but even this he does with a smile, the proud, tender smile of a Father who is bursting with pleasure over an imperfect but promising child who is coming every day to look more and more like the One whose child he is." A. W. Tozer

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Many prisons are being forced to operate at or above capacity and are looking for help from the private sector—prisons that incarcerate offenders for profit. Because they have a lower staffing level, they're more likely to have a higher rate of assaults on staff and other inmates. This chaplain works for a private prison with *nearly 2,000 prisoners*. He's one of those who can make all the difference in inmate lives because he really cares about their spiritual needs - which carries over into their general well being. His words are almost always the same when I call offering literature:

"I'm swamped! Send them all. I'll take any and everything you've got!!"

The inmates who are reading the bibles and the kind of books we send aren't giving the guards a hard time.

Many chaplains retired during Covid, and an unfortunate few passed away. Getting to know the new ones and, more importantly, getting them to know and trust us (and therefore the books we send) has taken some time and effort! As always, the offer of a few large print bibles opened the doors with new chaplains in Colorado and Florida this month. With them, a few other books "accidentally" fell in their outgoing boxes. (Forgive me, Lord! Smile.)

Most chaplains don't make calls on Sunday. So I was surprised to find this message waiting for me after I returned this afternoon:

*"Hi there. I was calling for Dorothy Neill. I got her voice mail message about bibles and books. And we could definitely use those. We work on donations. So that would be **amazing**. Thank you so much. My personal line is If Dorothy will call me, we could discuss it further."*

*Why did she call it "**amazing**?" No other chaplain has ever used that term. Probably because their jail system is so big (well over 2,000 prisoners) that it takes two enormous buildings to house all the inmates and accompanying facilities.*

Still more books and bibles went out to chaplains in prisons in states from the East Coast to the West. I had to acquiesce to one chaplain's request for bibles only since the jail is in the same building as the Sheriff's office. I did, though, send the chaplain a *personal "gift" copy* of Gene's book with a note explaining I sent it because I thought he might like to know how an *"80 year old widow living in the mountains of Tennessee came to be giving away bibles and books to prisoners."* (Not all chaplains are saved.)

One of the most touching stories Gene ever came home to tell me was of the night, following one of his meeting in a large hotel conference center, there came a knock at his hotel room door. He opened it to find one of the pastors who had been present in the meeting. *"Gene," the pastor said, "I need to know the God you talked about."* †

I've been a pastor for years, but I don't even know the God you spoke about." He left Gene's room that night really knowing Him for the first time in his life.

It is a great thing to lead even one man or woman to a personal knowledge of the *real God and His Son Jesus*. He waits, day by day, for those who are seeking Him to ask Him to become Lord of their lives. It is no small thing that the last soul on Earth to ask that of Jesus was a thief who died on the Cross next to His. And asking, He was welcomed into His Kingdom: *"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."* Luke 23:39-43

God bless you for helping many to begin their new life with the last words of Jesus' life: "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having been found in Him they have walked on in the newness of life right here on Earth.



In His love,

Dorothy & Family

**HERE ARE A FEW OF THE PRISONS AND JAILS INTO WHICH YOU HELPED US
TAKE THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE AND JOY THIS MONTH—**

**Green River Correctional Complex, Central City, KENTUCKY
Downtown Detention Center, COLORADO
Deer Ridge Corr. Institution, Madres, OREGON
Souza-Baranowski Corr. Center, Shirley, MASSACHUSETTS
Graceville Correctional Facility, FLORIDA
Telford Unit, New Boston, TEXAS
Montana State Prison, Deer Lodge, MONTANA
Allen Correctional Center, Kinder, LOUISIANA
Arapahoe County Detention Center, Centennial, COLORADO
Rockville Women's Prison, Rockville, INDIANA
Adult Correctional Center, New Brunswick, NEW JERSEY
Varner Unit, Grady, ARKANSAS
Pinellas County Jail, Clearwater, FLORIDA
Ferguson Unit, Midway, TEXAS
Green River Correctional Complex, Central City, KENTUCKY
Oregon Department of Corrections, Madres, OREGON
McCormick Correctional Institution, McCormick, SOUTH CAROLINA
Hernando Correctional Institution, Brooksville, FLORIDA
Gulf Correctional Institution, Wewahitchka, FLORIDA
San Quentin State Prison, San Quentin, CALIFORNIA
Indiana State Prison, Michigan City, INDIANA
Georgia Diagnostic Prison, Jackson, GEORGIA**



GENE NEILL
Founder

THE VOICE OF TRIUMPH

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~ DATED MATERIAL ~
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THE WONDER OF IT ALL

THE TERM “WARP AND WOOF” refers to the threads of a fabric. Warp threads run lengthwise; woof threads run crosswise. Woven together they create a cloth of texture and strength, something like that of a braided rope. And so it is with our spiritual life. Praise added to prayer is the warp and woof – the beauty and strength of our relationship with God. When there’s a “war” going on in our life, and in today’s world there are many, *genuine praise* added to our *earnest prayers* will always bring a victory. That’s what King Jehoshaphat did when he faced an unwinnable war. Though his army did not lift a single weapon, they did pray. And then they lifted their voices in praise – ***BEFORE THE VICTORY.*** *And when they did, the Lord fought the battle for them; and great was the victory! Why bring up this 2,900 year old battle? Because God – our God – and His ways are the same forever! 2 Chron 20:1-30*

Jesus is our perfect example. Christmas isn’t just a lovely little story that began and ended peacefully in Bethlehem. The Son of God had many “battles” during His life on Earth. But His battles were always won because He gave them over to His Father. *Even in death.*

By the way, the “ultimate victory” did not begin at Calvary. *It began in a place called Gethsem’ane when Jesus accepted the Cross. Remember? “Not my will, but thine be done!” Luke 22:42* Though Satan still does not understand it, this was the moment when God’s gain became Satan’s eternal loss. God’s way in our lives is only difficult for a little while – that little while it takes for us to put self behind us and the cross before us and cry out, as Jesus did, “Not my will, but thine be done!” *Hallelujah!*