#### **MARCH 2022**



# The Voice of Triumph, Inc.

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#### Dear Friends in Christ,

I have read, in wonder, some of the writings of the Christian "greats" of this and other centuries. They make me ashamed that I have done so little for the Lord. But realizing that, then what shall I do for Him tomorrow that is worthy of His grace and love?

A. W. Tozer (1897-1963) is one of those "greats." He spoke of God and His Son with a spiritual intensity that rivaled that of the Apostle Paul:

"Jesus," Tozer wrote, is "He who suffers no rival. . . . Oh that we would have this naked intent to know God, to know Jesus Christ! To be able to put the world and its things and people beneath our feet and to open our hearts to only one lover, that the Son of God Himself!

"... This is the basic teaching of the deeper Christian life. It is the willingness to let Jesus Christ Himself be glorified in us and through us. It is the willingness to quit trying to use the Lord for our ends and to let Him work in us for His glory.

"That is the kind of revival I am interested in and the only kind—the kind of spiritual reviving and renewing that will cause people to tremble with rapture in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The last thing Tozer wanted was a bunch of folks using self-deprecation or religious "talk" or praying the sinners prayer by rote to convince others—or themselves—that they had somehow, mysteriously, found a way into God's Holy presence, and all would now be well in their lives.

What Tozer was longing for was a people who would knowingly enter into the open arms of their God and Savior - a place where, come what may, they could forever REST in the assurance He would be with them and guide them safely Home.

Our safety, security and survival in today's world—and our eventual destiny in the next—depend upon our willingness to believe God's Word now and respond to it as little children to a loving Father.

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'LET THE WICKED forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the LORD,

And he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7).



It's just a little brightly colored plastic bookmark we designed. All the books of the Bible are on one side and our name and address are on the other, with an invitation to write us for Bibles and books. Less than 12 cents each. Yet we can't believe how many men and women they have caused to write us! We put two inside each book and Bible; one for the inmate to keep and the other to pass on to someone else-

"I have been in contact with you before for I received a bookmark from you and on it you said you send books to inmates. Please send some to this facility [note: we did]. I love to read and learn about Jesus my Savior. Also, my sister is a Christian and her son has been diagnosed with cancer and is in bad shape. Please pray for him and for her as well. Please share this message with as many people as possible for they need as much prayer as they can get."

#### Those "ripples in a stream" keep going on and on:

"My name is Sarah. I've been incarcerated for the past year. I got your info off a resource list from a fellow inmate and would like to request a copy of your book, I'm Gonna Bury You, please. I would also like to inquire about other books and programs. God bless you!"

#### Another 12 cent bookmark led this inmate to write to us:

"I received a bookmark from my chaplain with your information on it. I have a hard time understanding some things in the Bible because of the way its written. I'd like to receive a New International Version Study Bible. . . . I've always believed in our Father. I know God will help me proceed. I just need to stick with Him. I am working to devote my life to better things, such as doing His work."

Billy Graham once said, "A real Christian is someone who can give his pet parrot to the town gossip." If you've had a parrot—and we have-you know what he meant. We don't repeat everything some of these convicts tell us, but the Lord knows and He loves them just the same:

"May God bless the person that reads this. A couple of months ago I rededicated my life to Christ, and I want to learn more. If you have any Bible studies, my favorites are the first 5 books of the Bible. But anything will do. And also a NKJV Bible. . . . Thank you!"

California has the distinction of having the second highest prison population in America:

"I'm currently an inmate in a California state prison. The reason why I'm writing this letter is because I see you give away the book I'm Gonna Bury You. I'd appreciate it, and any literature you could provide. If you happen to have any Bible studies I'd appreciate it too. Thank you."

"... How are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? . . . . As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" Romans 10:14-15

The "joy of the Lord" is an amazing thing. So amazing, as I've told you before, that one of the guards remarked to Gene, "Neill, sometimes I think you forget you're in prison." What a wonderful thing to be able to share the reality of that extraordinary joy with prisoners across America:

"Dear friends: I wrote you a few weeks

Every happening, great and small, is a parable whereby God speaks to us, and the art [the purpose] of life is to get the message.

Malcolm Muggeridge



back and told you how I received the book Power in Praise by Merlin Carothers from you. I read it two times. And then you sent me From Fear to Faith, and I have read it two times. In his books he refers to another book "Prison to Praise." Is there any way I can please receive this book as well? It will be very appreciated. May God bless you..."

I Thessalonians tells us we should encourage one another and build each other up. This inmate twice mentions it's one of the most significant things missing in prison:

"I am writing you in regards to your book I'm Gonna Bury You. Will you please send it to me along with any other books or materials you feel will help me grow in Christ or that will be encouraging. Thank you. I have a serious lack of encouragement and/or materials here."

Short but poignant: I'm praying that the dictionary we sent will do exactly what she is hoping for:

"I would like very much to have a Bible dictionary.
Please I need it badly to help further my walk with Jesus and my understanding of the Bible. Thank you and God bless you.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV

Statistics vary from prison to prison, the type of crime committed, the number of years the offender has been in prison, and so on. But generally speaking a man or woman in prison, especially one incarcerated for even a few years (3-5) is very likely to lose their spouse. So letters similar to this one are no surprise:

"I heard you offer free Christian learning material to prisoners. I was told to ask for your free book. Also I'm going through a rough divorce and I ask if you offer any material on building a Christian home or how to be a man of God and better serve my family. I know God needs me to work on myself. I'm fortunate to be able to talk to my son Noah. . . . Please pray for them. Thank you. I will look forward to receiving any free material you can send. . . ."

The most common sentence we find in prisoner letters is, "I am trying to get closer to God." We pray through the Bibles and books we send that they learn, God is not far from any of us. He is looking and listening for those who call out to Him with a sincere desire to repent and know Him personally.

"I was wondering if you could send me a New King James Study Bible in large print. I am trying to get closer to God. I got your bookmark from the chaplain here, and it said to write to you for free Bibles and books. And any Bible studies if you have any. Thank you."

"I am currently doing prison time in Missouri. I got one of your bookmarks here and it has your address on it and it says if I am a prisoner, which I am, that I could write and get free books and a Bible. . . . I would really appreciate it if I could acquire anything you could give me. . . ."



... 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry ... thirsty ... a stranger ... naked ... sick ... and in prison and you came to me.' Matt. 25:34,35

### **MCHAPLAIN'S** CORNER

We always know whether a chaplain is doing his "job" (or not) by the responses, or lack thereof, we receive from convicts in the weeks after we send bibles and books to his prison. There's never any doubt when it comes to this particular chaplain. He has his hands full with minimum, medium and maximum security inmates. (Our last shipment to him was last August.) His "spirit" is always evident in what he says—and does:

#### "Hey, Miss Dorothy,

I am returning your phone call. And yes, we will greatly appreciate it if you could send us more bibles and more books and religious materials. Thank you for blessing us with that. And yes, we would love to continue to receive stuff from you. Thank you very much. I look forward to the next shipment."

Sometimes I just pick prison "arbitrarily" and call the chaplain offering bibles and books. The answer has always more or less been simply "yes" or "no." So I was surprised by this chaplain's response: "What made you call this particular prison?" The only truthful response was, "I don't know. I just decided on your state, pulled up a list of units, and picked yours." He hesitated, then told me to email him. I figured that was the end of that. But I followed up anyway. His response was surprising.

He returned five pages of forms with directions for completion! Why 5 pages? Well, their prison system has "over 230 recognized religions!" Their particular unit recognizes thirty, with more than 10 categories for religious services. "All" I had to do was complete the forms and he would (hopefully) get them approved by 3 different people. At which point I could ship the bibles and books. I'm currently waiting; but God willing those books are going to be approved before this newsletter closes!

At least one of the "neighboring" prisons in a nearby state is finally accepting books! Our last shipment went out in 2019. But now they're taking "everything" - hardback/ softback, bibles and books. . . . Boy! were we pleased to get these boxes off to them! (And I'll bet the convicts were happy to have some "new" reading material, too!)

"We never received your box of books." The next chaplain who called told me. Yet our records indicated they had gone out over 3 weeks ago. But I went ahead and got more books ready to go in the mail. Not five minutes after I finished, the Chaplain called back: "Ms. Neill, your last box of books was JUST delivered!" hummmm I suspect one of the chaplain's inmate assistants (who picks up his mail) "just" remembered the box was stuck away in a corner. But in a prison of 3,700 inmates, there's no telling! And no keeping it straight. The good news: the chaplain added: "But Ms. Neill, the large print bibles are great; I wonder if you could send more of those and a few more copies of the Spanish New Testaments?" PTL! Perhaps the Lord used our initially missing box to get them

more bibles in the second, which I also sent!

REMEMBER the quote by Pastor Gurnall (1600's) in last month's newsletter? — The whole world is involved in a War so cruel it cannot be compared to any war that has come before. For it is a war for every man's own soul. The whole world is engaged in the quarrel, either for God against Satan, or for Satan against God." The war Gurnall wrote about has raged since Adam and Eve turned over their souls to Satan in the Garden of Eden without a fight. There in an earthly paradise—in the very presence of God—the cruelest of all wars began. In the end, it is the only War that will really have mattered. But until then, lesser reminders of this Greater War continue to proliferate around the world, down to this present hour:

A PARABLE—

A great hungry Bear awakened from his winter slumbers and went out devouring all he could find. Soon his eyes fell on a young Lamb grazing peacefully in a small field. And the great Bear set about trying to catch and devour him. But the little Lamb surprised the great Bear and stood His ground. Sadly, the great Bear finally caught the little Lamb, and thought: "No Kingdom there. He is mine." But out of the rubble the little Lamb arose and became stronger. His spirit was not dead, but alive! And it called out a reminder to all who would listen: "Fight on! Fight on! Victory is still within reach. The Greater Kingdom waits just over the Hill."

Take heart: remember the Lamb! And until He comes for His own amidst the spiritual rubble of this world, "Fight on! Fight on!"

With love, Dorothy & Family

## HERE ARE SOME OF THE PRISONS AND JAILS INTO WHICH YOU HELPED US TAKE SOME OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE

Laurel County Jail, London, KENTUCKY Terrell Unit, Rosharon, TEXAS Craven County Jail, New Bern, NORTH CAROLINA Elyria City Jail, Elyria, OHIO Virginia Beach Correctional, Virginia Beach, VIRGINIA Bledsoe County jail, Pikeville, TENNESSEE Brazoria County Jail, Angleton, TEXAS Osceola County Jail, Kissimmee, FLORIDA Danville Correctional Center, Danville, ILLINOIS Logan Correctional Center, Lincoln, ILLINOIS Kern County Jail, Bakersfield, CALIFORNIA Jefferson Correctional, Beaumont, TEXAS Troup County Jail, LaGrange, GEORGIA Western Virginia Jail, Salem, VIRGINIA Potomac Highlands Jail, Augusta, WEST VIRGINIA Emanuel Women's Facility, Swainsboro, GEORGIA Eastern Reception and Diagnostic Facility, Bonne Terre, MISSOURI South Bay Correctional Facility, South Bay, FLORIDA Jackson County Detention Center, Kansas City, MISSOURI Atlantic County Jail, Mays Landing, NEW JERSEY Northwest Correctional Complex, Tiptonville, TENNESSEE Lake County Correctional Center, Waukegan, ILLINOIS Person County Jail, Roxboro, NORTH CAROLINA Henry County Jail, McDonough, GEORGIA



Founder

Delano, TN 37325

DATED MATERIAL 
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### KEEPA SENSE OF HUMOR



THE ABOVE PHOTO WAS TAKEN AT A PRISON TO WHICH WE SENT MATERIALS RECENTLY. IT'S POSTED ON <u>THE OUTSIDE</u> OF A PRISON FENCE. IT WAS PROBABLY CREATED BY SOME OF THE INMATES AND PERMITTED BY A WARDEN WHO HAS MANAGED TO RETAIN A SENSE OF HUMOR IN A VERY UNFUNNY JOB.