A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR SUPPORTERS OF THE "WHERE GOD IS BLESSING" BROADCASTING NETWORK

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One of the glorious privileges of the saved is that God has promised to them His guidance. Psalm 32:8 says, "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." And in Psalm 25:4, the psalmist prays, "Show me Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths."

There are at least three principles necessary to enjoy God's wonderful guidance. Remember that God's will is what we would desire if we had all the facts. We don't have them all, but He does. The Ancient of Days knows the end from the beginning. He knows the end result of every potential path we are considering. How foolish then to "lean upon our own understanding."

First, we must desire to be guided. Many profess to want to know the will of God until it crosses theirs. God's will is not always easy, but it is always best, and it is always right. We should ask for and sincerely desire God's guidance. "From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." [James 4:1-3]

Secondly, we must be willing to be guided. God doesn't give out brochures and travel agendas ahead of time. He is His own itinerary. Most people are like a rudderless ship on the stormy sea of life. Observe their lives, how they are tossed about with countless winds and gales. How different are those safe inside the old ship of Zion with Jesus the Captain at the helm. Let us be careful to pray, "Lord, if I am not desirous of and willing to know and do Your will, work in my heart to want Your way!" "Thy people shall be willing in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of holiness..." [Psalm 110:3]

Thirdly, we must wait to be led. "Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day." [Psalm 25:5]

The hardest thing in life is to wait. But God is never in a hurry. We always are. Most of us give up just short of the blessing of answered prayer. It is always too soon to quit. Often, we are impatient and then we act without God's guidance and then complain when things go wrong. King Saul is a perfect example of the disastrous results of refusing to wait.

In I Samuel 13, the Israelites were vastly outnumbered by the Philistine forces. The godly prophet Samuel spoke for the Lord to the King when he told him to wait before going forth to war. Samuel promised to come and offer the requisite sacrifices to honor the Lord before going to battle. After a few days, self-willed Saul went ahead, breaching the office of the priesthood and offered the sacrifices himself. God's will didn't seem right, and it didn't feel good. His pride was at stake. We don't like not being in control, and so the Lord often allows situations to show us that we are not in control at all. This was a planned test from the Lord to perfect Saul's faith and patience. Without faith and patience we cannot receive God's promises and blessings. Hebrews 6:12 says, "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

Yet Saul foolishly and stubbornly went ahead and offered the sacrifices himself. It was something that not even the king was allowed by God to do. When Samuel arrives, he tells the king: "Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which He commanded thee: now thy kingdom shall not continue: the Lord hath sought him a man after His own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be captain over His people, because thou hast not kept that which the Lord commanded thee." Saul lost the kingdom that day, all because of despising God's will and refusing to be patient. To receive God's quidance we must desire it, be willing to let Him lead, and then wait on Him to lead us as He will. "For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; in returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not...And therefore will the Lord wait, that He may be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for Him." (Isaiah 30:15, 18)

May our Lord bless and guide you in His paths of righteousness. Thank you for your faithful support in getting out the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. May we all be patient and wait on Him to guide us.

Your servant, Chris Lamb

THRU THE BIBLE WITH J. VERNON MCGEE — WEEKDAYS AT 10 A.M.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS — SATURDAYS AT 12 NOON SUNDAY SERMON — SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

John Vernon McGee was born in Hillsboro, Texas, in 1904, the son of very poor parents. At age 14, Vernon lost his dad to a cotton gin accident, and his mother moved him and his sister to Nashville, Tennessee. Through the investment of significant mentors, Vernon was able to attend college and then seminary. After completing his education, he pastored churches in Decatur, GA, Nashville, TN, and Cleburne, TX. It was in Cleburne that Vernon met Ruth Inez Jordan and fell in love with her at first sight. He proposed on their second date, and the two married a year later. Eventually, he and Ruth settled in Pasadena, California, where Dr. McGee accepted a pastoral call to the Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church.

In 1941, Dr. McGee was persuaded to begin a Sunday radio program, *The Open Bible Hour*, on just one station. It later became *High Noon Bible Class*, which laid the foundation for the 1967 launch of *Thru the Bible* as we know it today. Dr. McGee recorded the "Sunday Sermon" messages from the pulpit of the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles, where he served as pastor for 21 years. After cancer surgery in 1965, the doctors gave Dr. McGee six months to live. The Lord gave him 23 more years. After retiring, Dr. McGee devoted his life to *Thru the Bible*. Dr. McGee and the Board of Directors planned in advance that the recorded 5-year program would stay on the air after Dr. McGee's death on December 1, 1988.

Today, the worldwide ministry of Thru the Bible continues. It was Dr. McGee who coined the phrase, "the Bible Bus" to describe the systematic way that listeners can study the whole Bible over five years. The idea was that anyone can "hop on the Bible Bus at any stop and ride for as long as they like." By alternating the studies between the Old and New Testaments, the "passengers" can systematically, and in order, travel through all 66 books of the Bible in five years. Dr. J. Vernon McGee once said, "Thru the Bible is in the seed-sowing business. Our job is to fling the seed." Today, Dr. McGee's Bible studies have been translated into over 250 languages worldwide. Listeners are invited to join the World Prayer Team who travel the world on their knees praying for the people who hear Thru the Bible in many different countries of the world. Free sermon outlines, notes, and a bible reading schedule of Dr. McGee's current study are available in PDF format on the Internet here: ttb.org/resources. You can also request a free copy of Dr. McGee's complete Bible notes and outlines available in print or as a free download e-book at ttb.org/notes. For over fifty-seven years, Thru the Bible has followed Dr. McGee's purpose for the daily broadcast which is "to help you and others like you around the world grow closer to God through the systematic study of His Word through a five-year journey through the Bible." Today, thirty-six years after Dr. McGee's death, the program still follows Dr. McGee's stated purpose, summarized by the slogan: "To take the whole Word to the whole world."

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