

XM RADIO CHANNEL 173 SIMULCASTS WLW PROGRAMS

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GIJAPA



God Is Just A Prayer Away
Radio Broadcast Around the World

GOD Is Just a Prayer Away

50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WLW	8:00 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WRFD	10:00 AM	880 Dial	Columbus, OH
KXEL	10:30 PM	1540 Dial	Waterloo, IA
WRVA	7:04 AM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WRVA	9:30 PM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WSM	7:00 AM	650 Dial	Nashville, TN
WIBC	7:30 AM	1070 Dial	Indianapolis, IN
WHAS	7:30 AM	840 Dial	Louisville, KY
KAAY	9:30 PM	1090 Dial	Little Rock, AR
WMCL	8:30 AM	1060 Dial	McLeansboro, IL
WWVA	9:30 PM	1170 Dial	Wheeling, WV

Saturday

WOAI	10:30 PM	1200 Dial	San Antonio, TX
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Short Wave Radio

AFRICA:

Monday 7:00 PM
(1800 UTC) 7190 kHz on Dial

BEACON of HOPE N. AFRICA:

Sunday 8:30 PM
(1930 UTC) 6020 kHz on Dial

BIBLE VOICE EUROPE:

Sunday 8:00 AM
(0700 UTC) 5945 kHz on Dial

SRI LANKA INDIA:

Sunday 8:30 AM
(0800 UTC) 9770 kHz on Dial

BIBLE VOICE RUSSIA:

Sunday 8:00 PM
(2000 UTC) 6010 on kHz Dial

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

January 2008

Address all Mail: Ed Bousman, P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511

Issue 1

IN THE MIDST OF TWO THIEVES COMMUNION MEDITATION

In the gospel according to John chapter 19, "They took Jesus therefore: and he went out, bearing the cross for himself, unto the place called The Place Of A Skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha: where they crucified him, and with him two others," that Mark identifies as thieves, and Jesus in the midst. Mark informs us at that time the scripture was fulfilled in Isaiah 53:12, "And he was numbered with the transgressors."

Jesus had a police record in Jerusalem. And the Devil must have thought the dying between two thieves would add to the shame of dying on the cross. But to Jesus the bearing of the cross was the instrument of victory over the tyranny of death. Jesus had predicted in Matthew 16, "Upon this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." Jesus used the cross as a battering ram to knock the gates of Hades off its hinges, and the insult of two thieves dying on crosses with Jesus added glory to the cross in the salvation of the one who was crucified with him.

In fact the salvation of the one thief may be looked upon as a greater miracle than the breaking of the rocks in the earthquake the moment Jesus died.

Jesus did not die between two apostles or two prophets, lest some would worship them, and share the glory of Christ with others. Jesus is the one who died for me, and when He died for me, He died for all my sins, and there was not even one left to be burned off in the imaginary fires, of an imaginary purgatory.

So look at the three crosses again. On one cross was the Savior, on one cross was the sinner saved, and on the other cross was the sinner damned. Jesus was not crucified on the

altar in the Temple, where His blood mingled with the blood of lambs; He was crucified on the cross where His blood was mingled with the blood of thieves.

It is true that Jesus was numbered with the transgressor, but the two thieves were not the only transgressors. Paul says in 2nd Corinthians 5:21, "Him who knew no sin was made to be sin on our behalf; that we might be made the righteousness of God through him." The bottom line of the crucifixion for us is that Jesus was numbered with the transgressors, that we might be numbered among the names of the redeemed in the Lamb's book of Life.



NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM

In the twelfth chapter of Mark, a Scribe asked the Lord about the greatest commandment Jesus told him, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord thy God is one and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy mind and with all thy strength. The second is this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

The Scribe said, "Of a truth Master thou hast well said that He is one and there is none other but He: And to love Him with all thine heart and with all thine understanding and with all thine strength and to love his neighbor as himself is more than all burnt offering and sacrifice." When Jesus heard that he answered discreetly, He said unto him, "THOU ART NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

Here was a man who was not far from the Kingdom of God in point of time. It would be just about two months and the Apostles would be baptized in the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. They would preach the Gospel and

men would cry out, "What must we do?" Peter would tell them to repent and be immersed in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We can't help but wonder if this Scribe was one of those who gladly received His Word on that day. Of course, we won't know in this world. Many, like this Scribe, are also not far from the Kingdom of God.

Some of you already believe that Jesus died for your sins. You have already repented, and you are living as good a life as you can at the moment. You have not yet obeyed the Lord in the ordinance of being immersed for the remission of sins. "YOU ARE NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

Then again, in point of time, many of you are not far from the Kingdom of God. You are in a Church service. You hear the Gospel proclaimed. The water is warmed. The robes are ready. They are singing the invitation hymn. You are urged to respond. If you should walk down the aisle with a repentant heart and confess that Jesus is the Christ, it is quite possible that within five minutes you could be immersed for the remission of sins. THOU ART NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

One thing is for sure. If you are not far from the Kingdom of God, you can't stay in that condition for very long. You will either enter into the Kingdom of God or you will get farther and farther away.

The author of the following lines is unknown to me:

*So near to the Kingdom! Yet what didst thou lack?
So near to the Kingdom! What keepeth thee back?
Renounce every idol, though dear it may be,
And come to the Saviour now pleading for thee.
So near, that thou hearest the songs that resound,
From those who, believing, a pardon have found!
So near, yet unwilling to give up thy sin,
When Jesus is waiting to welcome thee in!
To die with no hope! Hast thou counted the cost?
To die out of Christ, and thy soul to be lost?
So near to the Kingdom! Oh come, we implore!
While Jesus is pleading, come enter the door!*

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Letters from listeners

Dear Ed Bousman,

I am writing you to give thanks for my new Bible. I really appreciate the thought and time consumed to make this happen. Now I have just one more favor to ask, can you pray for me to make it out of my incarceration and pray for me to stay on the straight and narrow path. I really need some positive things to happen so I can be a positive role model for my children.

William from New Castle, Indiana,
Correctional Facility

Dear Ed Bousman,

Hello this is Tyler. I received the best thing ever. It was the Bible and the Bible studies. When I received it I didn't

know about it or what it was. I have been wanting a Bible and Bible studies for a long time. When I found out what it was I started crying. I felt so good and so happy. I usually didn't let anyone know the way I feel or my feeling, but this really touched my heart. I am not a real good person. I've been doing my Bible Studies and as soon as I get done I will send them back to you. I am writing this letter to tell you thanks and that I LOVE the Bible and Bible Studies.

Tyler from Wrightsville, AR, prison

Dear Bro. Ed and Sister Naomi,

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have just come back from the seminar hosted by Kyansange Church of Christ away from Solwezi town from Thursday the 25th to 28th. The theme was YOUR TODAY HOLDS YOUR FUTURE—spiritually or physically. The attendance was 70 adults and 60 youth. I do want to report the happiness of the Christians and none Christians I gave the Bibles and the clothes to that you sent us. My wife and I are now spending some time to pray and continue to help them even more.

JOHN M. evangelist
of Solwezi Church of Christ in Zambia

Dear Bousmans

Just read your newsletter and I am so excited about your being on 1170 WWVA in Wheeling, WV. I will tape the announcement by my bed so I won't forget. WWVA comes in very well here, and really reaches up all the east coast in US. I will be more faithful in support money. I am very grateful for Woodsfield Christian Church; it wouldn't be here was it not for your ministry. I am also heartened to hear about the people hearing you in the Far East countries. I know the gospel is the only help for our evil world.

In Christian Love, Martha from Woodsfield, OH

Dear beloved,

Holy greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your good and clear radio broadcast programme. It is a source of encouragement and blessing to my whole family. Please continue with this life changing broadcast messages via "Radio Africa" that is helping to convert the entire area of West Africa. I would like to request a Holy Bible and your Bible lessons.

Brother Jeffrey, Nigeria, W. Africa

Dear Ed and Naomi,

I hope that you are both doing well. You probably remember Brother Mike Foday writing to you about the Muslim judge in Liberia who studied your lessons, and was converted to Christ. I got to meet him in Liberia a couple of weeks ago. We went to the hospital to visit his wife. I'm going to try to send him some money for the hospital. I'm praying that the Lord will use this couple to convert other Muslims in northeastern Liberia. The Muslims were more noticeable in Liberia than they were two years ago, but the Churches of Christ have a great opportunity in that country. I also want to send him some books. God bless your work in Liberia, and elsewhere.

Because of the Lord, Barry

Dear Ed,

It would be great for Prince to have your books. He can use any “tools” that we can send him. I will ask him for his address, and then I’ll send it to you. That will be good, because he lives pretty far from Mike. You have his email address now. He might really benefit from receiving your sermon each week. I’ve been very blessed from being able to preach the gospel in other nations since 2005. It’s a great privilege. I’ve had great support from churches and individuals. I’ve been very encouraged by the fact that small churches are wanting to get more involved in helping to take the gospel wherever we can. Most of the churches that help me have less than 50 people. I was also encouraged by some of the comments that the Liberian preachers made. They want to take the gospel to the interior of Liberia more in the future. Some of them have preached in some of the surrounding nations. We hope to be able to work with them in some of those places in the future. I told several young men about your Bible lessons while I was there. I passed out all of the labels that I took. Your work is making a difference in Liberia. It’s great to work together with you in African nations. I really believe that the Liberian churches can have a tremendous impact in West Africa. We don’t need interpreters there, that makes it much easier. God bless all of your efforts. Because of the Lord, (Barry Kermeen from Columbia, KY, went with Reggie Thomas, Joplin, MO and a team of 10 members from US to conduct meetings in Liberia.) See excerpt below from White Fields December newsletter:

Ed Bousman is having a great ministry in Liberia. We visited one congregation where every member held up a Bible that had been given to them by Ed Bousman. Ed mails his sermons over to Liberia and many of the preachers are studying his sermons and then preaching them to the people there. Thank you, Eddie for what you are doing for Christ overseas in Africa.

Reggie

Dear Ed and Naomi

One of the great joys of my life was seeing the Batesville Church grow from an attendance of about 30 to where it is today. Another great joy has been watching your ministry remain steadfast and grow to where it is today. Before I knew anything about Christianity, while in my high school years, we milked cows early every morning. We had an old radio that sat in the barn window that would only get one station—WLW—700 Cincinnati, OH (maybe God had something to do with that.) But every Sunday morning I had to listen to this man from Lynchburg, Ohio, whether I like to or not. I thought you were the best preacher I ever heard, and maybe the worst singer I ever heard. You are still the best preacher I ever heard, and I won’t comment on the singing. I cut my spiritual teeth on GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY, radio broadcast. Thank you for not wavering over the years. God has truly blessed your work. Thank you for the newsletters each month. The letters you get from around the world remind us how fortunate we are here in America to have access to the Gospel. Until we meet

again, may God guide your every step.

Your friends in Christ,

Bob and Mary from Guilford, IN

Dear brother Ed & Naomi Bousman

God bless you richly. I would like receive your Sermons.

I’m a Cuban Minister of the Church of Our Lord Jesus, and if you can help me and put me in your list of Sermons of the Week, I’ll be great full received.

Make as you a question; Have you write the sermons in Spanish language?

In the love of Jesus

Manolo Y. from Cuba

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UPDATE FROM IKE & LEE

We thank every one of you out there for your support and prayer for the work we are doing here and for God and humanity. But for you, we wouldn’t have gone this far. Our work here is doing very well by the grace of God and we praise the Lord for helping us planting the church at Fianko. We are currently working on the church at Agona Nkwanta and hopefully we shall have the church planted here. Our special thanks also goes to all the churches and individuals who donated clothing for us for the needy in and without Christ. Lastly, we thank Reg and Edith Rice, Theola Knox, Opal Jenewin, and others for their wonderful gifts to us and also Bob and Martha Feathers for their gifts and the tapes for our students. To all of you we say may the Almighty God richly bless you all and replenish you with all that you have given away to the needy and for His work. Thank you.

LIVING TESTIMONIES

Our work is not gone unnoticed by people; as we go round sharing tracts, giving away Bibles, Clothing, and preaching and teaching Christ and His church, people feel and see it and call or write to us thanking us, and or, sharing with us what the Lord is doing for them through our work. We want to share with you some of our numerous testimonies from the dear souls we win for Christ.

Dear Ike and Lee, Words cannot explain how great I feel after hearing that incorruptible truth from you. We have never heard what you told us before. Our church does not teach the Bible, only a piece of message from the Bible and then more dancing and collections of unscriptural monies from us (the congregation). I thank you for letting me know the truth. I am also going to spread the news but be alert that I will invite you to explain further if the need be. May God bless you and live longer for the good work you are doing for the Lord and humanity. (Mrs. Obeng Janet-Accra). She has since been baptized into the Lord’s church.

Dear Ike and Lee, Through your teaching, I realized I had to live with only one wife. Today I am living with one wife as the second one had to go to enable her see salva-

tion after death or on the Judgement Day. Everything went on peacefully and there was no trouble. We agreed that I will take care of the children and support her till she finds her own husband. Thank you for saving my life and that of my former second wife. I am glad. God bless you. (Mohammed Seni,- Jirapa)

I have worshipped with five different churches in 10 years or so but the Church of Christ is the last stop for me to have my salvation. The teachings are clear, simple to understand, the chance to ask questions after Bible class are some of the things that clearly differentiate the church from the denominational churches. The Church of Christ is truly the only one true church every man ought to attend. May the Lord see you through with all your needs as you keep strengthening the weak and exposing the truth to people like us who don't know anything? You are more than a preacher and his wife though you don't want to be called a preacher. (Frank Agyei – Suowotuom, Accra)

Dear Ike and Lee, I salute you! May the Almighty God bless you!! May he see to all your needs? I thank you for saving my marriage. My husband is equally happy. We are now a happy family again. God bless you! In fact, I wish I were rich, I would have bought you a car. I sympathize with you when I see you on foot all the way to our village with your bags on your backs. Please, keep up the good works. All the money I have for you is, "God is with you always." (Mrs. Essandoh,- Assamankese, Ghana)

Hello, Ike and Lee, We have received the bulk tracts and the 10 copies of Bibles. We are giving them out by tomorrow. We understand that postage has gone up but we will beg you to please consider sending us some more Bibles. Thank you very much. (Abdul Karim, - Navorongo)

Dear Ike and Lee, I am writing to tell you how troubled I am because of Christ and the truth I have found. My hus-

band has sacked my two daughters and I from our matrimonial home because, I am now a Christian and a member of the Church of Christ. He is insisting that I should remain a Moslem, but now that I have found out that Jesus Christ is the 'Promised One' who gave His life as a ransom for us all and the Judge of the world (including Mohammed), I will not following such a person. My family are against me; everybody in the Moslem community is against me. Ike and Lee, please I need your help now, but please, don't come to our village now because your lives are in danger. Everything to let me turn back against Christianity has been done but nothing will let me go back into Islam. What even kills me is the fact that I am the third wife. A serious marital sin Islam sees nothing of – No! Please I need your prayers. I must survive with my two daughters, please help me before the devil takes me on. (Cynthia Mohammed)

This lady has still been in trouble, threat and fear of the husband since her conversion in April 2007. To save her life and that of her two daughters, she has to flee away from the village to settle in a town we do not want to disclose the name for safety reasons. Lee and I have been taking care of her since then. We have been visiting and sending her food items, clothing and money for their upkeep. We are still praying and discussion issues with the parents but we pretend as if we do not know where she is. The mother of Cynthia has now understood but the father is the problem. He's saying that her daughter has disgraced him for been a Christian and that he will never forgive her. He has warned us to not to come to their village again or else... The situation is still the same and even worse. She needs your prayer and support.

These and many more testimonies are what we receive that also inspire us and urge us to go do more the work of God, hope you have enjoyed and your faith has been inspired by reading them? Please, pray for us and pray for Cynthia! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Truth—GIJAPA in Ghana, West Africa



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