

December 2021

Calling All Canadians Back to The Bible

Radio Report from Pastor Ian Goligher:

Programs continue on all 10 stations in Canada. During this month of December programs focus on the incarnation of Christ, that equipped the Son of God to redeem His people. Please pray that listeners will have an ear for the real reason for the season.

Our programs in St. John N.B. area are now aired at a slightly better time—Sunday mornings at 7:30 a.m., instead of 6:30 a.m. and we have therefore committed to a full year of programming for 2022.



Remember to pray for souls in P.E.I. Broadcasts go out on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Mon—Fri at 6 p.m. We have a regular contact who loves to introduce others to the programs and is a faithful witness in the streets of Charlottetown. We also have a couple in P.E.I. who were former members of our Barrie F.P.C. The same programs are aired on a number of repeater stations throughout the Maritimes—Halifax, Moncton, Sussex and more.

There was a temporary disruption to programming in the Maritimes due to the sudden death of the founder and CEO of Harvesters FM radio, Mr. Jeff Lutes, who was burdened to reach the Maritimes with the gospel. His wife and family members, along with others, have worked very hard to restore the schedule of programs with emphasis on gospel preaching just as before. For this we are thankful. Please pray for that ministry on the east coast.

We will not be airing programs on Taiwan International Radio in 2022. We informed Pan American Broadcasting of this stating our hope that the slot would be filled by a solid gospel preaching ministry. However, L.T.B.S. broadcasts are going out in the Philippines from our churches in Australia. Work on publishing the booklet, A New Beginning, in Tagalog is at its final proofing stage. Please pray for God's blessing on these energetic efforts to take the gospel to the people of the Philippines, who are mainly under the sway of Roman Catholicism and need the good news of the gospel.

Responses & Prayer Needs:

Some callers seek encouragement and ask for prayer, some request the booklet A New Beginning and some ask for literature on different topics so they may better give out the gospel to family and friends.

Canadian Christians should mark Dec. 1, 2021 as one of the darkest days in Canada. On December 1, the Canadian parliament passed Bill C-4 banning conversion therapy. We have yet to find out what uses will be made of this law, but we need to pray that it will not be used against our liberties to call sinners of all categories to repent and turn to the Lord for mercy and to know the Saviour's power to live a new life in agreement with the word of God.

It was particularly grievous to witness all politicians from each party unite in a gleeful hour of trite "brotherhood" to unanimously pass this immoral bill C-4. This reveals the depth and widespread promotion of immorality among law -makers within Canada and it also reveals the low moral values of Canadians, who seem to welcome these laws. We can only hope and pray that there will be strong objections against this bill when it reaches the Senate.

The pandemic rages on. Almost two years later the world is still struggling to get through the Covid-19 pandemic. It is frustrating at so many levels of life. Yet we know that pestilence is God's reminder to us all that we live in a fallen world that bears the consequences of sin. It serves to call men to fear God and prepare for eternity. It also opens up opportunities to preach the gospel with a note of warning to sinners that they need to flee from the wrath to come by seeking the Lord and His righteousness. Sadly, its warnings have been mostly ignored. We are reminded that it takes more than suffering to change hearts. It takes grace. But let us pray for a spiritual awakening to turn many to Christ.

Mary Highly Favoured

(Christmas Eve Message)

Mary was a poor country girl from Nazareth - a very impoverished part of northern Israel. Yet we know that she became the most blessed woman in all of human history, for she was given the greatest of all privileges, to bear the Saviour of the world in her womb. Mary had never had a child. She had never been married nor never with a man. She was a virgin. She was therefore to be the vessel of the Lord's body by a miraculous conception. Christ, the Messiah, was to be born of her by the power of the Holy Spirit operating in her. She would forever be known as the mother of the Saviour of the world. I want to talk to you about becoming the favoured of God. You can know the wonderful deep love of God in your soul by inviting the Lord Jesus Christ into your life.

Your starting point is to confess that you do not deserve the Lord's favour. That was Mary's confession. She did not feel that she was worthy of such favour of God. She confessed she was a sinner in need of salvation, for she said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour" (Luke 1:45, 46). But it was not her plan nor her idea to become the mother of Christ, the Saviour. It was pronounced by the angel. "Thou hast found favour with God" (Luke 1:30).

This was God's plan for Mary. It was God who was sending His Son into the world to save sinners from their sins. God even announced His name. He was to be called Jesus, which means Saviour, "for he shall save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

Salvation then is all of God. God planned it, God announced it and God bestows it upon those who feel unworthy. After all, no one is worthy to be saved and go to heaven. We have all sinned. We have all broken God's holy standard by our words and our deeds.

Surely you've heard the inner voice of your soul tell you that you do not deserve to be saved from your sin, nor to live with God in heaven. Then listen to your conscience and confess your unworthiness. You must believe on the Lord and call on His Name as you seek God for His favour upon your soul. When you come to know that you are unworthy of God's mercy then you are a candidate for mercy.

In order for you to know God's favour you must believe that with God nothing is impossible, just as Mary believed in God's pronouncement that she would have a son. After all, her questions and curiosity on how such a child would be born of her was finally settled by the angel's reply, "With God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37). And Mary took that word and rested in it. She believed that God was allmighty to so work in her to give her a son without relations with a man. That was Mary's act of faith. She believed and resigned herself to this reality, for she said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38).

Now here is the thing you must take to heart. Believers in the Lord Jesus who enjoy God's favour take the Bible as God's word and rest on it. Everything is settled on the authority of the Bible. Until you settle on the Bible as your source of truth you will not settle anything as to the salvation of your soul. So you must get your Bible, read its promises to you and stand upon them with all your might. Read and pray with a believing heart.

Jesus said, "Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). So go to the Lord in prayer. Ask him to save you from your sins and plead with Him for His promised rest.

The Lord also said, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7). So, to know the miracle of the new birth you must look unto Jesus as your own personal Saviour. The apostle John explained this in his gospel:

Joh 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,

even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

Joh 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Joh 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

It is right then to conclude that you may enjoy favour with God as Mary rejoiced in God her Saviour. This was the fruit of her faith. Mary was no longer doubting, questioning, or seeking new phases of some journey of faith. She was a total out-and-out believer in her Saviour—even the One who was to be born of her (Luke 1:46 - 48).

So we find that the lowest, poorest and neediest sinner can be saved. You can enter into God's favour and be fully immersed in the love of God. All believers in Christ are saved. All who are born of the Spirit have the inner witness of God's Spirit that they are indeed born of God and have the favour of God.

Remember this gospel fact: believers in Jesus are not working to be saved, nor merely trying to be saved, nor hoping that one day they will be saved from sin to have God's favour. Believers are in. They are totally blessed; blessed now and blessed forever.

In due time, Mary gave birth to her first-born son. She saw Him grow into man-hood and live a perfectly sinless life. She watched Him suffer and die on the cross, and because of her faith in her son as God's Son Mary is now in heaven. Not because she was worthy in herself, but because she was the chosen vessel of God and because she believed all that was promised to her through faith in the Lord Jesus.

You are not worthy of heaven in yourself. In God's sight you are a lost filthy sinner due to the many wicked things you have done and the many good things you have left undone. But when you call on the Lord Jesus to come into your life, you will enter into the fulness of God's blessings. You will be sure and certain of eternal life. You will have all the favour of God and all the fulness of God's salvation.

So call on the Lord Jesus Christ today to be your Saviour. He promises you life and life for evermore — eternal life!

PRAY FOR OUR CANADIAN BROADCASTS

Sunday Programming Schedule

- \bullet Prince George, BC 8:30 a.m. Rev. A. Simpson
- ullet Vancouver, BC 9:30 a.m. Dr. L. Saunders
- Calgary, AB 10 a.m. & 10 p.m. Rev. P. Backhurst
- Swift Current, SK 9:30 a.m.
- Portage La Prairie, MB 9:30 a.m.
- Buffalo, NY reaching southern Ontario— 9 a.m.
- \bullet St. John, NB 7:30 a.m.
- Fredericton, NB 8:30 a.m.
- Maritimes on Harvesters FM Stations 9:30 a.m.

Weekday programming Schedule

- Vancouver Mon Fri 5 a.m. & 5 p.m.
- Calgary Mon Fri 4:30 p.m.
- Maritimes on Harvesters FM Stations Mon—Fri 6 p.m.
- Nipiwan, SK Mon Fri 6 p.m. Rev. A. Foster

To listen to programs online at anytime go to www.ltbs.ca or go to Let the Bible Speak podcasts on itunes.

"My word ... shall not return unto me void..." Isaiah 55:11

Pastor Goligher wishes all radio listeners a Blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

He also invites you to let him know you are listening.
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