

(931) 684-0304 • www.biblelit.com • Email: officeblmf@bellsouth.net • Dr. Bob Lemmon, Founder • Dr. Robert M. Lemmon, Jr., Director Sponsored by Victory Baptist Church, Shelbyville, TN • Loyd Warren, Pastor

## Don't Be Depressed, Just Keep PRESSING

The spiritual, moral and political condition of our country in 2021 is very "depressing", Pr. 29:2b says, "... but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn." (they do and we are!) Verse 16 says "When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increaseth:..." (it has and is getting worse!) The rest of that verse says, "...but the righteous shall see their fall." Fall they shall but what condition will our country be in after the fall?

The number of casualties from COVID and the government lock down on businesses and our personal freedom and individual liberties is very "depressing"! Equally "depressing" is the fact that a large number of people who call themselves "Christians" in this and previous elections have voted for the pro-abortion, pro-LGBT, socialist, liberal politicians who are encouraging all of the rioting, division, violence and hatred in our country!

While the COVID deaths are tragic and grievous to all of us, the moral and political issues that our country is facing are far more frightening because it is a demonic cancer intent on bringing about the destruction of a nation, our nation, the United States of America.

Satan is the root of all evil and his goal is to bring America down to the level of a third world country under a one world government and he is well on his way. He has a lot of willing accomplices eager and more than willing to be his pawns for some of the power and money! Good sound Bible preaching churches that were once the conscience of our nation are now few in number and have lost their influence because they are outnumbered by the larger, more prestigious, influential and wealthy "Laodicean" churches. Some Jesus would call "Synagogues of Satan!"

Yes, Brother, I know! Those who are in Christ should never get "depressed" but try telling that to the man who has just lost his job, married with three kids, a house and car payments. If it were not for the grace of God, the understanding that we get from God's precious Word and His peace that passes all understanding we would all be worried sick and in a panic! But, by the grace of God, because He lives we can face tomorrow knowing that He has everything well under control and that Romans 8:28 is still in the Book!

Disclaimer: The depression that I am speaking of is a temporary state of mind that we all can relate to and deal with regularly. Unfortunately, many people have severe issues of uncontrollable depression that are devastating and life altering requiring professional help. Few, if any of us outside those trained professionals in Neurology and Psychology, can relate to or even begin to comprehend the complexity and seriousness of this tragic mental abnormality.

Look up, our redemption draweth nigh, Jesus is coming, you can set down, cry, mope around, worry and complain all the time about these issues and your problems if you want to but as for the churches who "partner" together in this ministry, we are not going to let up, back up, slow down or quit! We are "Pressing on" toward the high mark of the prize **Pressing On Continued on Page 3** 

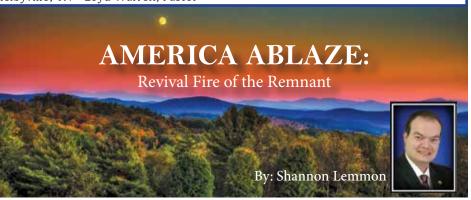
## Special Delaration from Your BLMF Board of Directors

Believing so strongly that the Lord's return is imminent, we are persuaded that the Lord would have us to step up our production and distribution this year to our maximum capacity! We do not have the level of support to do so but we must! We have always operated this ministry by faith purchasing paper every month that we knew would exceed the amount of the financial support that we receive monthly, quarterly and annually, while at the same time exercising caution as to the amount of debt we were willing to incur. Without question, God has been faithful to honor our past exercise of faith proving beyond a doubt that He is both capable and willing to take care

of the needs of this ministry.

Therefore, while we have been exercising faith with restraint in the past, we have the capability to produce more Scriptures than we are currently producing but to do so is going to require a greater amount of faith than we have ever exercised in the past. Consequently, this board is giving Brother Lemmon the liberty to pull out all of the stops this year and purchase all of the paper and materials by faith that we will need to max out our production capability! We do not have any control over mechanical or personnel issues that may arise, but we can "by faith", borrow the necessary

**Special Continued on Page 3** 



You can hear the hastening hooves hitting the dirt road rushing to the next town at urgent speed. With only a couple effects on horseback with him - one of which was the reason he had followed another Wilderness Road - he pressed on. Peter Cartwright would be preaching that precious companion, the Word of God, yet again at the original "Camp Meetings," seeing thousands of souls come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. "The Kentucky Boy" was just one of the many circuit-riders who would be used by God to change a Nation in the Second Great Awakening after the Revolutionary War from 1795 to 1835. By 1811, nearly one-third of all Americans had attended at least one of the famous camp meetings. In 1806, the Awakening had reached Williams College in Massachusetts. A horrific thunderstorm had hit, and five students sought shelter in a haystack, where they began to pray, eventually resulting in four of them surrendering to be missionaries. This "Haystack Prayer Meeting" became the beginning of the American foreign mission movement, proving that local revival leads to worldwide evangelism.

The fire of God's Word has sparked many revivals with results that can only be attributed to the power of a Mighty God. At Pentecost, 3,000 were saved when Peter spoke the Word. America has experienced the First and Second Great Awakenings through the preaching of the Scriptures, as well as many other strong revivals that may never have been acclaimed. It is said that 100,000 people were added to the Church during the Welsh revivals, and statistics are showing that even China is experiencing a massive increase in Christianity. Revival is a need in these United States of America, but is it possible in these trying days?

"And now for a little space grace hath been shewed from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage" (Ezra 9:8). It appears that "now" is the time. Not later. Not only the revivals of the past days, but now. Revival, which begins in the heart requiring personal devotion and holiness, is possible even in what may be considered political bondage. I submit to you a man who lived under very wicked leadership: Daniel, who blessed God while in Babylon. Under the reign of the evil King Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel blessed the Lord, "I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, ..." (Dan. 2:23a). This man of God still praised the Lord as he lived under a very arrogant, godless King. Did you know it is possible to praise in other places than just Palestine? Then, we see Daniel under the rule of King Darius in chapter 6. What does he do with the threat of persecution? He continues to pray. Daniel never stopped believing in the power and necessity of prayer to his God. Neither can we.

Revival in this country is not contingent on circumstances, for revival comes from God, who is never changing. A leader who attempts to diminish God's public presence and mock what He has called sin does not weaken His power. Revival fires must sweep this Nation for many reasons. One very important reason is because a dark world's eternity lies in the balance. Tens of thousands of missionaries leave American soil annually to share the Gospel in regions beyond. If Believers decide to doubt the power of God and His ability to grow His Church because the days are evil, what happens to foreign missions? We have earnestly prayed for revival for decades, so we should expect it to come. Let us take heart and continue to use the fire of God's Word to spark a flame in every person with whom we share the Gospel and to every congregation to whom we preach it without compromise. What more will we do this year to print and send that precious Book "like as a fire" (Jer. 23:29) to the mission field? May we remember that we as the remnant – can bless God even when in Babylon, for 5 billion people around the globe without the written Word are depending on it. We must PRESS ON.

"Revive us again. Fill each heart with thy love. May each soul be REKINDLED with FIRE from above!"

## Save The Date

Bible & Literature Missionary Foundation Scripture Conference

October 18-20, 2021 Keynote Speaker:

Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.
Founder & President of
Christian Law Association

## 2020 Vision Report: God's Faithfulness Made Clear!!!



While the year 2020 certainly began with immediate obstacles, the Lord also immediately began to prove Himself as He always does! Our first container did not ship until May. 15,000 Bibles and 54,000 New Testaments were printed for Missionary R.G. Smith in Kenya. The container arrived safely, and the Scriptures were distributed to many pastors and churches. Brother Smith is very busy starting new churches across the country of Kenya, where these Scriptures are instantly given to Believers desiring their own copy of God's Word! In June, BLMF shipped 2 containers to the Philippines, where the fire of revival continues to burn! The need for Scriptures is saturated through the islands, and Missionary Froi Medina is working persistently to spread the Word throughout the region. (We also recently sent a container to the Philippines through Missionary Roger Riley, who works with hundreds of churches to get them Scriptures through his Precious Seed ministry.)

Additionally in June, we were excited to partner with Tim Carpenter and BPS of Wyldewood Baptist to produce 350,000 Korean John & Romans (then an additional 100,000 in October) to be sent to Korea through Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Oliver Springs, TN.

Thrilled to print the first pure translation of the entire Word of God for the Croatian people, BLMF shipped 24,000 Croatian Bibles through missionary Johnny Leslie in June as well! Following in July, we shipped 35,000 French/English bilingual New Testaments to Haiti via

Pastor Michael Veach. 1,100 Pastors attended the conference last year in Haiti, eager to get cases of Scriptures for their people, so we were grateful to

be able to send more this year!

The Lord is working mightily all over the world, and Honduras is one of those locations!

Printing and sending 16,000 Spanish Bibles and 18,000 Spanish New Testaments in July, then a container of 65,000 Spanish New Testaments with study helps in December, we are praising God for the miraculous ways He is working through these shipments in Honduras and the surrounding areas.

Mexico

Missionary Jason Tate diligently organizes (often with the assistance of Pastor Mark Smith, President of the BLMF Board) avenues by which to deliver these Scriptures to people in need.

Also during the summer, BLMF was able to print and ship Pidgin and English Scriptures to Papua, New Guinea to Missionary Michael Saka. Conference time is always exciting around the Bible Barn, especially when we are able to offer the opportunity of loading a container to Pastors and church

folks from all over who attend. Oct. 21st was a special day as we loaded 27,300 Bibles and 11,000 New Testaments with Missionary Emanuel GomGompo, who would be distributing them on his mission field in Togo, West Africa! What a

> arrived there on Christmas Day! After the conference, we shipped 35,000 Spanish New Testaments to Brother W.A. Parks in Mexico.

wonderful Christmas present they

received as the container actually

The year ended energetically here at the print shop with a shipment of 11,500 Portuguese Bibles and 5,000 Portuguese New Testaments to Cape Verde and a

precious container of 5,000 Wayana Bibles, 17,000 Portuguese Bibles, and 17,000 Portuguese New Testaments to Suriname, South America. Both containers should be arriving at their destinations soon. This will be the first time the Wayana Indians there in Suriname will own the entire Bible in their language!

While our "vision" for 2020 did not include the trials and difficulties that ensued, the Lord proved Himself through sufficiently providing as always! The grand total for the year ended up being approximately 1.7 Million Scriptures, which actually exceeded our production in 2019! Only God can do that! Let us remember to keep our "eyes" on Jesus through every vision or goal He places on our hearts, for He is the One who can keep our focus on faith in His ability!

Honduras

Can Anybody Get "Free" Bibles from BLMF? Can a Church Buy Bibles from BLMF? If so, What Do They Cost? Before we answer these three questions, let me state emphatically

for the record that this ministry came into being and exists for one reason and one reason only; to provide the precious, pure, verbally inspired, infallible, inerrant, preserved written Word of God "Free of Charge" to those for whom nothing has been prepared! In other words, we try to provide Bibles to everyone who does not have any copy of His written Word, regardless of language, nationality, race, ethnic or religious back ground concentrating on third world, foreign countries, where God's Word is not available and the people cannot afford them if they were available. Secondarily, to provide a pure text in their language to people in language groups who do not have a pure text.

Without apology, this ministry only prints and distributes King James Bibles Scriptures in English and text translated from the Masoretic Hebrew and Greek TR in other languages or those that have been revised from the TR or King James Bible. We use quality paper and materials and go to great lengths to produce quality Bibles, New Testaments and Bible portions for the least cost possible! This year we will exceed 50 languages shipping Scriptures into over 125 countries.

Question #1. Yes, to any individual who does not own a copy of God's Word, who comes to us requesting a copy providing it is a language that we print. To give large quantities of Scriptures "Free" to just anyone who request them, No. Absolutely not! With very few exceptions, large quantities of Bibles and Scriptures are only given to American, Independent Baptist missionaries for "Free" foreign mission distribution, who we know to be doctrinally sound, dependable and accountable! Some of our Scriptures for free distribution go to national pastors, but only at the request of a BLMF support pastor or under the supervision of an American missionary. 

While we believe the Word of God will stand on its own regardless of the religious affiliations of the person distributing them, God is not the author of confusion! Therefore, we have an obligation and keen responsibility before God and to those of you who contribute to this ministry to only put them in the hands of our brothers and sisters of like faith who we know to be doctrinally sound and rightly dividing the word of truth! Obliviously, with so many requests and such limited production, we must make every effort possible to see that the Word, the seed, be sown in the most fertile fields where they will yield the greatest harvest.

Question #2. Yes, these Scriptures are available to BLMF "Scripture Producing Churches" for the cost of the paper and printing materials, and to any church of like faith sponsoring them for a foreign missionary, shipping not included. These Bibles, New Testaments and Bible portions are available to non-supporting churches for their personal use priced to include the printing cost (labor). For an additional charge these Scriptures can be personalized with the name, address of your church, a picture and or insert, price varies depending on the complexity of the cover and insert.

Question #3. Because this newsletter is being mailed to you as permit mail by the US Post Office, we are prohibited from listing prices. For prices on these Scriptures, personalized covers and any of the other materials that this ministry produces, please contact our office during regular working hours and ask for Karen. We reserve the right as to who may or may not obtain these Bibles and Scriptures and at what cost.

Notice: On any and all Scriptures and materials obtained from this ministry requiring a charge, due to recent price increases in energy, the cost of all paper and paper products have increased in price effective March 1, 2021!



personalized

**New Testament** 

covers



Pressing On Continued from Page 1
of the high calling of God in Christ
Jesus. (Phil. 3:14) All of the issues and
tithes and that are us no income.

problems that we are experiencing should "all the more" point us to the soon coming of the Lord and motivate us "all the more" to get up and get going with greater determination and commitment to live for and serve the Lord! If we truly believed that Jesus might return tomorrow, I believe we will want to do a few things today to prepare for His return so as not to be

ashamed at His coming!

We are in a spiritual warfare and our adversary the devil as a roaring lion is walking about seeking whom he may devour and our warfare is not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers in high place! The world and carnal Christians may laugh when old time KJ Bible preachers speak of Satan opposing our efforts to get the gospel out but it is becoming more obvious every day! Satan hates the Word of God, written and preached and he will do and is doing everything he can within his power to derail and stop true Bible preaching churches from preaching and publishing the written Word of

This coronavirus is the devil's latest and most vicious attack on the churches in America that he has ever perpetrated. Because of it, many churches have shut their doors while countless others are not back to having regular services. As a result, many of God's people have not been faithful to their church with their

Special Continued from Page 1 reconstruction reduced so that we will have pro-

sufficient paper and materials to keep the web press running!

We are going all out this year to produce everything we can and in as many languages as we can. We sincerely hope and pray that we can count on your continued prayers and financial support. If you can do more to help financially and the Lord should put it on your heart to do so, please do. To those of you who are reading this article and not already supporting the publishing and distribution of God's written Word through this ministry, we invite and encourage you to consider becoming a "Scripture Partner" with us in this great endeavor!

Above all, please join with us in our prayers that 2021 will be the most productive ever in the history of this ministry, not for the sake of a new

tithes and offerings, especially those that are unemployed with little or no income. Matter of fact, Satan is working to destroy the businesses and take away the financial income of dedicated Christians who have in the past contributed liberally to their church over and above their tithes and regular offerings. Satan is putting the wealth of this world into the hands and pockets of those multibillionaires who are willing and desirous to finance his evil programs and causes.

To all of you churches and Christian friends who faithfully and generously support this ministry, the pastors and churches who partner together in this ministry, the BLMF board of directors, representatives, Shannon and myself all want to thank you for your prayers and faithful financial support. In spite of COVID and numerous mechanical problems, last year ended up being the third largest production ever in the history of this ministry and we have had a very productive January and February!

Just in case the thought may have never occurred to you, these Bibles, New Testaments and Bible portions that this ministry and a couple other ministries like this one are producing and distributing, will be the only gospel witness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ left in this world when the church is taken home! Let's purpose in our heart's right now to keep "Pressing On" in 2021, toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus for it will have been worth it all when we see Christ!

record, but because every Scripture produced and distributed this year will represent one more person receiving a copy of God's written Word who otherwise would not have any!

Under normal circumstances, this step of "Great" faith by our board would be huge but during this COVID crisis we have lost a few supporting churches making it even more challenging. Now, the paper company has notified us that the paper mill is raising the price of the paper we purchase effective March 1, by \$20 a roll, an increase of \$880 per trailer load, from \$35,200 to \$36,080! We will need to purchase 30 trailer loads this year instead of the 24 trailer loads we had previously set as our goal for 2021! For more information on the languages and projects that we have scheduled to produce this year, please see the article in this newsletter entitled "Production Report"!



Those of you who "partner" with this ministry with your prayers and financial support, and you received our monthly support letter will have already received a production and distribution report for 2020 in the January support letter. With all of the disruptions that we had to deal with last year, one of them that I may not have mentioned was the retirement

of Sister Linda Hempstead our secretary and receptionist for over ten years. Between Linda's departure in late February and when Sister Karen Avila joined us in August, our distribution record and several things suffered from a lack of attention.

According to the office record there was a large discrepancy between the number of Scriptures printed and the number shipped. The important thing is that the Scriptures had been shipped, just not posted to the record. Reviewing our records between January 1, 2020 and December 31, we were able to account for several large quantities of Scriptures that had not been recorded. Of the 1,676,000 Bibles and Scriptures printed last year we, had previously reported 1.3 million of them shipped but that has now been corrected to 1,549,000 Scriptures, 15 containers shipped, 13 languages going into over 20 countries! Two of those, Korean and Telugu, were first time printings.

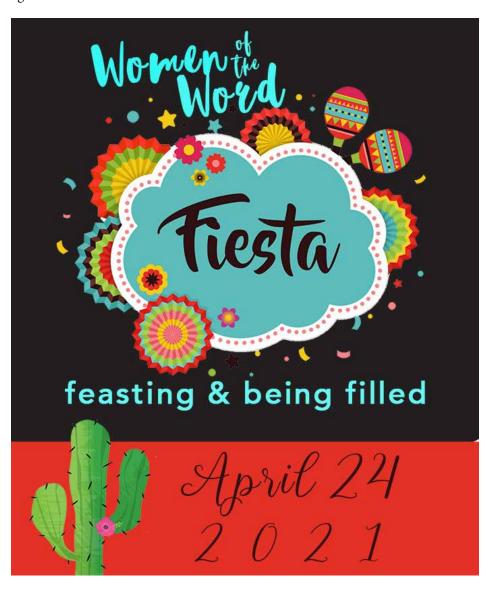
Thank you for helping to make all of this possible, without your faithful financial support, love offerings and paper and Bible sponsors it would have been fewer. Some of the people receiving Scriptures last year would not have received a copy of God's precious written Word had you not given as you did!

Thank you, thank you, and thank you for "partnering" with this ministry in the production and distribution of the Word of God. The most valuable and important gift that an unsaved person could ever receive in this life is the Word of God, preached or written! If you support this ministry regularly whether it's once a month, quarterly, once a year or just ever now and then and you do not receive our monthly support letter, please give us a call, drop us an email or include a note in with you next contribution letting us know. Our sincere apologizes if you are not, thank you for your understanding and patience.

January of 2021 was a very productive month with 320,000 Bibles, New Testaments and Bible portions printed, 137,353 of them shipped while consuming 2.5 trailer loads of paper. In addition to those shipped, we have the Scriptures to fill two containers setting here ready to ship. As we have previously reported, we have carried eight container projects over from last year into this year. By January 1, our list of requests had grown to 22 containers, and now to 24 containers with several requests for smaller quantities! Of these 24 containers, three of them will be first time printings; Farsi, Pashto, and Hindi, and two, Urdu and Telugu, which we have printed previously as Bible portions will be whole Bibles this time.

Is there anything too hard for God? At a time when we have never had so many request for so many Bibles and Scriptures, when we need to raise more money than ever before, COVID has made it increasingly more difficult. On top of this, last week we received notice from the paper companies that we do business with that due to the increase in energy cost, there will be price increase on paper effective March 1!

All I can say is, thank the Lord that nothing is too hard for Him! I liken the opportunity we have this year to Elijah's experience on Mt. Carmel with Ahab and Jessabelle. Before God brought the fire down from heaven He had Elijah instruct Ahab's servants to pour 12 barrels of water on the altar, the sacrifice and the wood and when God brought the fire down it licked up the altar, the sacrifice, the wood and the water as if it was gasoline! We are going to need a Mt. Carmel miracle this year! I'm so glad that our God is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all that we could possibly think or ask. Praise His name, the name that is above every name at who's name every knee shall bow! Let's ask Him to do it again!





"The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." (Ps. 12:6 & 7)

"The Lord gave the Word:..." Ps. 68:11, 66 individual books spoken by God and penned by 40 to 42 different writers or scribes in perfect harmony all combined into one precious book, that we call a "Bible," a Greek word meaning "The Book"! It is "The Book" of all books, the only book that God has written and the only book that He has inspired and preserved! It is the only book that tells us where we came from, what we are supposed to be doing in this life and where we are going!

In the first verse, He reveals Himself



as God, introduces His Son and the Holy Spirit and in the rest of the first chapter describes how He created heaven, earth and all living things and man in His image. In chapter two, He sets aside the seventh day as a day of rest, describes how He created Adam

and Eve, and in chapter three reveals the fall of man. In the remaining chapters of Genesis through Malachi, the 39 books that we call the Old Testament,



God; reveals the sinful nature of man, proves beyond a doubt that He is the one and only creator, Jehovah God and separates to Himself a chosen people for the purpose of providing a remedy

for man's sin, a coming Messiah, a deliverer to take away the sins of the whole world.

In the first four chapters of the New Testaments, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, God reveals how much He loves mankind by sending the promised Messiah, His precious

sinless Son who willing gave His life and shed His blood for the

sins of the whole world fulfilling 4,000 years and hundreds of Old Testament prophecies and introduces His church. Acts is a transitional book from law to grace establishing His church, the body of Christ as the custodian of the glorious gospel with the responsibility to preach the word

and carry out the great commission. Romans through Jude are the apostles writing, their epistles to the church, Bible doctrine and instruction to the saints and God's redemption plan to the unsaved. And last but not least, the Revelation of Jesus Christ as to

coming, the end of life on this earth as we know it and the establishing of His Kingdom and millennial reign as King of Kings and Lord of

His second

Lords, Hallelujah to the Lamb, Amen and Amen!

What an amazing Bible we have, had He not inspired it there would have been no need to preserve it and if He was not going to preserve it there wouldn't have been any need to inspire it and how could he ever preserve it if He had not put every Word of it in writing! Without His Word we could not be saved, we would have NO message to preach, we would have NO church, there would be NO hope and

we would all, every one of us, be lost and on our way to Hell! Shortly

a f t e r moving into the Bible Barn 2015, in the Lord enabled us obtain a set of 18 beautifully framed large prints called the "Heritage collection"

to mount on the walls of our office giving the History of our Bible and as

to how God has preserved it for us for over 3,500 years. Then in 2020, just before our Scripture Conference last year, courtesy of Dr. Mark Smith, our BLMF board president and the Faith Baptist Church of Tacoma, WA, our Biblical Heritage Exhibit was expanded to include 14 facsimiles of the actual Bibles. Very few of the earliest printing of these Bible are in existence today and those that are, are extremely rare and very expensive!

In order to produce these beautiful, elegant facsimiles, Dr. Smith had to get permission from museums and their owners to photocopy these rare and valuable prints from those photocopies, have the facsimiles printed and then hand bound into beautiful, custom handmade leather covered hardback covers. Each of these Bibles are works of art that make it possible for you and me to actually see and feel the quality, love and expense that went in to producing their Bibles both before and after the invention of the Gutenberg printing press in 1455.

Also Included in this elaborate "Biblical Heritage Exhibit" display are several photographs of the men who, in many cases, gave their lives because of their convictions and work to translate and preserve the written Word of God. In addition, plaques explaining each Bible and introducing the translators, along with numerous replicas of various Bible artifacts associated with these Bibles, scrolls of parchment and 24 beautiful bronze colored busts of the translators. In this exhibit, we have a small replica of the 1455 Gutenberg press and a second full scale replica of the same 1455 Gutenberg press that we obtained from the "Cross & Crown" Bible Museum in Lynchburg, VA.

We cordially invite you to plan a trip to The Bible Barn in Shelbyville, TN to tour this ministry and avail yourselves and your family of an education on the history of our Bible. I believe you will find this magnificent display to be educational, inspiring and an experience that will strengthen and grow your love for your Bible, God's precious written Word!

Replica of the Gutenburg Press



For several previous years through the July/August/September 2018 issue of this newsletter, I wrote an article by this title, reliving some of the memorable moments of this ministry. It was never our intention to discontinue them indefinitely, we just did not have enough space in the next several issues and felt this article was expendable. The following article was actually written for an earlier issue but was cut for lack of space. Space permitting, we will try to continue this series as often as possible!

In that last article (referring to the July/August/September 2018 issue) I was recounting how the Lord had worked two miracles in order for this ministry to purchase the newer, better and faster web press in 2004 and get it out of the building where it was with-

in the ten-day deadline. Only God could have put that together and made it work out!

The Lord continued to bless with increases in our production in 2005, 2006 and 2007 (after the newer web press was added in 2004) and the next big event would have been Dad's Home going August 30, 2007. At least the most horrific event in my life up to that time and a subject that I will not dwell on. He was the most amazing man that I have ever known even into his eighties, physically strong, and mentally sharp. He was my hero in whom I had the privilege to have worked with all of my adult life, 5 years as his assistant pastor, youth and music director in 2 churches and 39 years in this ministry!

A story that I have told hundreds of times, how God had planted the seed for this ministry in Dad's heart while he was in the service during WWII, then spent 3 years in the seminary and then another three years on the staff of the First Baptist Church of Fort Worth with Dr. J. Frank Norris. Dad organized the first fundamental, independent Baptist Church in the city of Memphis

TN in 1951 where he pastored for 15 years. He then pastored the Hemphill Baptist Temple in Fort Worth, TX for 5 years where this ministry started with him as the director. In my opinion, the best, most capable and qualified man of God to start a Bible printing ministry of anyone that I have ever known past or present! He had a burden and a heart for the Word of God and world evangelism, was a good preacher, highly respected and probably knew as many pastors in the country as anyone. He had the veracity of a mother bear with a cub, the compassion of mother Teresa, the determination of a bulldog with the hide of a rhinoceros. They just do not make men like that anymore!

When Dad graduated to the home office, I did not volunteer or rush to take his place as director, as I did not want the awesome responsibility knowing that I nor anyone that I knew of could ever fill his shoes. But, at the same time, I knew that God would have me to take the position as there wasn't anyone else who knew the operation of this ministry or loved it as much as I did. After all, I had

already given it 39 years of my life also! I had been praying for months that the Lord would return before He took Dad home, or that He would do me a huge favor and take me and leave him. Honestly, I had figured that Dad would probably out live me anyway but it was not to be!

When the board asked me to become the director, one of the pastors on the board made the comparison of Dad and myself to that of Elijah and Elisha. I might make that comparison to Dad and Elijah but I knew I was not an Elisha! Fearing what would become of this ministry should I fail, while knowing all the time that God had brought me for a purpose to that time and place. The only comfort I could find at that time was something that Dad had said on several occasions so I kept rehearsing it in my mind. I heard it for the last time just a few days before his home going when he said "son, don't worry about this ministry, it's the Lord's and He will take care of it"! I knew it was true and took great comfort from that and still do to this day, and God has been faithful to do so and more! **To Be Continued...**