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# TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

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What pleases God  
is when you **believe** Him.

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DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



**THRU** the **BIBLE**

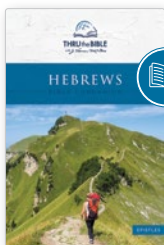


# WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

## COURAGEOUS FAITH



Dr. J. Vernon McGee  
THRU the BIBLE Founder



This excerpt is from our **Hebrews Bible Companion**.  
Download the full digital booklet **here**.

Hebrews 11 has come down through the ages as the “Hall of Faith” chapter in the Bible. It chronicles the lives of people—many well-known, others obscure—who changed the world by believing God.

These are stories of people who not only walked a road less traveled but who traveled an altogether different route. They walked by faith—the way God wants all of us to walk each day.

Hebrews 11 offers several examples of real people who lived their lives by believing in the truth of God, even though it couldn't be seen.

These faithful people laid the foundation for trusting God, and ultimately paved the way for Messiah, God's promised Deliverer. They believed God, and for them it was not a leap in the dark nor a false sense of hope. Their faith rested upon evidence. Noah built an



ark, and he did it by faith. What kind of faith? Was it just some dream he had? No. God gave him an abundance of evidence because Noah had trusted God's message for many years.

Abraham shines as another credible example. Though he had never known or seen God, once he encountered God's voice and call, he believed Him. He put his faith in God. When Abraham believed, God granted him righteousness. He made him new (Genesis 15:6). Abraham received true righteousness, not because of his stellar life, but because he believed God.

Faith helps us grasp the origins of the universe, too. God commanded the world and the entire universe into existence. That's what is revealed in the Bible. It is faith that allows us to accept that truth.

In the case of Abel, Adam's and Eve's son, God made clear that people must approach Him on only one basis: by faith. In other words, Abel and all individuals after him could find favor with God when they trusted Him—demonstrated faith in His Word.

Abel had apparently received a revelation from God. So did Cain. They were both in the same family. But Cain ignored God's command and did his own thing, bringing the fruit of the ground, or crops, that *he* had produced. In other words, here is the first man who brought *his works* to God. A lot of people today try to make themselves right with God the same way—by presenting their own good deeds or by relying on their own resourcefulness.

Abel, on the other hand, brought a sacrifice of a lamb, as God had commanded. He shed the blood of the lamb, signifying the shed blood of Jesus, and trusted



God’s Word. His offering pointed to Jesus, and he responded to God’s command by faith. Abel illustrates to us the way of faith—it is the blood-sprinkled way, the way that is Christ.

Another example was Enoch, an Old Testament individual who also lived by faith in God’s Word. But most unusually, Enoch apparently did not die. He was simply translated into God’s presence. But prior to that, he believed God after his son Methuselah was born. We don’t know what God said to Enoch, but he trusted Him regardless. And it became for him eternal life.

Genesis 5 records Enoch’s mysterious story. And it’s a relatively sad story to be sure. Many people’s stories are sad, representing a life filled with heartache, disappointment, loneliness, and loss. Maybe you feel your life is made of endless sad chapters with no end in sight. If so, Enoch’s story is for you. Because despite all that sadness, God revealed Himself to this man and Enoch believed Him.

Genesis 5 also records the generations of Adam. Line after line reveals that one of Adam’s sons had his own son and those sons had sons and on and on it went.

Eventually, every one of them died. That’s what happens in the human experience. No one lives forever. Eventually, people die. Some die prematurely, others at the end of a long adventurous, or at times, tortured life. It’s the story of humanity.

*Faith makes all the difference*

IN OUR RELATING TO GOD.

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Faith makes all the difference in our relating to God. You simply cannot live a good enough life to please God and find His favor. What pleases God is when you believe Him. When you put your faith in what He has revealed.

If you want to come to God and be found acceptable by Him, you must believe that He exists and that He is who He claims to be in His Word.

Do you believe God? This might be a good time for you to reflect on what it is that you are trusting for your life's purpose and direction. You may believe in yourself. In your dream. In your own resourcefulness, perhaps your intellect or charm. None of that adds up to eternal life or to a life of meaning and genuine fulfillment. That only leads to emptiness and ultimately death, and an eternity apart from God.

God always rewards anyone who responds to Him or seeks Him with faith in their heart. Faith is what prompts God to offer life.

## MY TURN

- ① Why do you think the writer of Hebrews included so many stories of the faith of Old Testament saints? **What was the point the writer was trying to make?**



- ② What did someone like Noah have in common with the first readers of Hebrews?



- ③ Imagine you got a chance to write a follow up to Hebrews 11, which is another chapter about the examples of faithful Christians. **Who, from history or your own life, would you include and why?**



# G 2024



## GOD'S WORD SPANS GENERATIONS

These listener stories from 2024 reflect how THRU the BIBLE meets us all where we are with the help, encouragement, and comfort we need, no matter your age, your location, your education or job. Just look at these recent letters from around the world. **And as a special challenge, pay attention to the person/ letter who is similar to you in age and then pray for them.**

### Teens



“My parents were anxious about me because I was making a lot of bad choices .... I tuned into your programs and found it very meaningful. I finally understood the change that was taking place inside me. **Your teaching explained that Jesus has taken all our sins on the cross by sacrificing Himself.** Since then, I started believing in Jesus Christ.” — **India**

### 20's



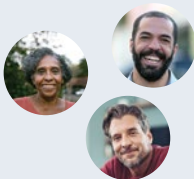
“A friend suffered for her faith in Jesus Christ. I wanted to know what she believes, so I listened to your programs, too. Something in my heart changed in time. That's how my story with Jesus began. **Six months ago, I accepted, repented, and welcomed Jesus Christ to my life.** To be a free, forgiven person with hope for the future—this is something I can't explain.” — **Türkiye**

### 30's



“When I was an unbeliever, I always felt I was not worth anything. But later I found my way to Bible school and started listening to THRU the BIBLE. **I believe in Jesus and my heart has been healed.**” — **Mongolia**

## 40's



"I discovered you on the radio when I was five years old, and today I'm 47 years old. I now put the radio on for my children to listen to. I remember we woke early to work on the farm, but we would listen to the Bible first and drink coffee. **I pray my family will become lifelong listeners and students of God's Word, too.**" — **Brazil**

## 50's



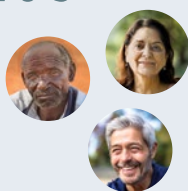
"I am a pastor of a Hmong congregation. **I thank God for allowing me to listen to you, which has greatly helped me in teaching the Bible.**" — **Vietnam**

## 60's



"I asked the Lord to lead me to pastors of sound doctrine who knew His Word and would teach me to understand Scripture. He connected me with *A Través de la Biblia* (TTB-Spanish). **Since then, I never felt alone or humiliated again.** He pulled me from a ruined life and set my feet in a wide place. Praise God." — **California**

## 70's



"I learned from you that the way of Jesus is not religion. Some Muslims said to me one day that I should be ashamed to leave my religion, especially at my respected age of 70. I answered them with all peace: **'It is true, I have left all that is within me to receive all of what belongs to God.'** This answer closed their mouths. Pray for me." — **North Africa**

## 80's



"God promises to make us new creatures, no matter how many times we have circled the earth. I hear God's voice through the teaching of your program and decide daily to be free from the bondage of self and sin. **I am a new creature in Christ every day at 86 years old.**" — **Burundi**

How does God do it? No matter our age, our need, or our reason for showing up, God meets us in His Word.

**"God's Word says what God wants said, and it has said everything He wants to say. For this reason it meets the needs of the human heart. God says His Word is profitable, and [these letters have] certainly proven that it is. When it gets into your life, it does something that no other book can do, because it is the very Word of God."** -Dr. J. Vernon McGee



## A UKRAINIAN SOLDIER FINDS HOPE

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* –Romans 15:13

*“I had just returned from war and was ready to end my life,”* shares Misha from Ukraine. Thankfully that’s just the beginning of his story. Here’s more:

*“I was in some of the worst parts of the fighting on the frontlines. When I came home, my mother couldn’t even look me in the eyes. I didn’t know why. Was I that scary? This broke me. I was sitting alone in my room—in the dark—and I just couldn’t take it anymore. I had my combat knife in my hands, ready to end it all. That’s when I heard you talking about the love of God as a Father. You said that my life meant something. And when you talked about Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, I began to understand what that really meant. I’m going to go to church now, like you suggested. My friend goes to one and so I tag along—it’s funny, I never really considered going before. I didn’t think it was possible for things to change, but now I have hope.”*

Let’s praise God for His Word that shines light into our darkest moments and pray it’s

heard by more people living in despair. We’ll use Romans 15:13 to guide us:

*Thank you, Lord, that you are the God of hope. We lift up the brokenhearted, the desperate, those who have nothing left to live for. We pray they hear Your Word on THRU the BIBLE and are filled with all joy and all peace in believing. Help them rest in Your promises and know You are there when they call out to You. As they hear Your Word, may their hearts overflow with the hope of a new life that is possible through a relationship with Your Son, Jesus. In His precious name we pray, amen.*

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we travel the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. Join us in covering the entire earth with prayer every year.

**GO TO [TTB.ORG/PRAY](https://ttb.org/pray)  
TO SIGN UP.**



# WHY STUDY DANIEL?

Join in the studies on  
THRU the BIBLE **OCTOBER 11–  
NOVEMBER 21** or anytime online,  
by podcast, or by mobile app.

If you want a broad perspective of God’s great game plan for the future of this little planet we live on, get ready for a glorious ride through the book of Daniel. God let Daniel see the vista of the future unfold before his eyes—four great world empires with splendor and a fanfare of trumpets.



## DANIEL ANSWERS THE QUESTION: **WHO WILL RULE THE WORLD?**

*“I do not believe that one can have a fully rounded student of the Bible without a knowledge of eschatology, or prophecy, like we find in the book of Daniel. Daniel gave us the skeleton of prophecy on which all prophecy is placed.”* –Dr. J. Vernon McGee

### THE BOOK OF DANIEL PROVIDES A KEY TO UNDERSTAND OTHER SCRIPTURES.

- In the Olivet Discourse, Jesus quotes only from the book of Daniel.
- The book of Revelation would be a mystery without Daniel.
- The “antichrist” described in 2 Thessalonians 2:3 needs Daniel’s account to clarify and further explain.

*And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.* –Daniel 2:44



### We know more about Daniel the man than we do of any other prophet.

We first meet him when he was taken as a prisoner of war around 606 B.C. His life and ministry bridge the entire 70 years of captivity. At the beginning of the book he is a boy in his teens; at the end, he is an old man of 80+ years.



**DANIEL’S LIFE WAS CHARACTERIZED BY**  
*Purpose, Prayer, and Prophecy*





## Courage

Courageous people are all around you—they are those who stand for God in the middle of uncomfortable, even dangerous, situations. That's the way it's always been.

And that's the way it still is today among God's family. We value the gift of salvation, our relationship with God, and His eternal life so much that nothing in this world compares to it. When that commitment is tested in God's people, they come forth like gold (Job 23:10).

In the THRU the BIBLE family, right now I'm thinking of—

- Our Ukrainian producer who serves as a chaplain in the on-going fight for their country. He knows how valuable it is to keep God's Word on the air, so he puts himself in harm's way to keep the broadcast live.
- The pastor in Southeast Asia who ministers to his *entire* people group, oversees 14 churches, raises his 14 children, and leads 40 students attending the Bible institute he started.
- And the "voice of Dr. McGee" in South Sudan who ministers in a threatening world, and whose son was recently murdered on the street. Yet still, he believes and stands for God and takes God's Word to his people.

Everywhere we look in THRU the BIBLE's family, I find heroes of faith. We read about them in the stories you share. I look forward to hearing all the personal accounts in heaven when we gather together. I guarantee everyone will say, "Worth it."

Grateful for your partnership,

Gregg Harris  
THRU the BIBLE, President

# J E S U S I N

## Daniel

WITH DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

### THE FOURTH MAN IN THE FIRE

When Daniel was being used by God in Babylon during the Jews' captivity, he had three friends who stood with him. We know them by their Babylonian names, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

When the king, Nebuchadnezzar, made a statue of himself and demanded that everyone bow down and worship him—these three faithful young men said they couldn't. They obeyed God's commandment to have "no other gods before me" (see Exodus 20:3-6). **It took a lot of courage to say no, knowing God may or may not deliver them from the death sentence of being burned alive in a furnace.**

Nebuchadnezzar was insanely furious, commanding the furnace be heated to seven times its intensity. The three men were bound and thrown in and even the guards who got close were instantly killed.

But not the three men. The king looked in the furnace and saw four men, unbound and walking around. The fourth man, Nebuchadnezzar noted, "was like a son of the gods." **The king, not having spiritual perception, could only testify to his unusual appearance, but we know this mystery man was the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.**

This is quite wonderful for all of us! The Lord Jesus was there with them, and He's with you and me today when we go through trials. He promises never to leave nor forsake His own. What a picture we have here!

What's more, when the three men were brought out of the furnace, the king noted that not a hair was singed nor the smell of smoke on their clothes. Nebuchadnezzar was convinced. This "God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego" rescues His servants who believe in, trust in, and rely on Him.



# P R A Y E R C H A L L E N G E S T O R I E S

**PRAYER CHALLENGE #3:** Ask God to interrupt peoples' days with the good news of the gospel—and, if possible, to use THRU the BIBLE to carry them through their faith journey.

Did you miss the **Prayer Challenges** in our September and October issues? Download them at [TTB.org](http://TTB.org).



## PRAYER CHALLENGE STORY

*"I was an engineer in Mexico but came to the U.S. when my daughter was born with severe autism. There weren't many work options, so I took a job at a car wash. It was a habit among us to get into the car and automatically turn on the radio to whatever station it was on while washing the inside.*

*"One afternoon, I turned on the radio as usual. What I heard was a strange Bible study program called THRU the BIBLE. **In my haste to get to the next car, I regretted not being able to finish listening.** As I got inside the second car, I turned on the radio and was surprised that the same program was being broadcast, on the same station I heard in the previous car. **This time I listened even more attentively.***

*"When I got to the third car, to my surprise—and likely gift from heaven—the same program was on. **That was when my defenses fell away, and I surrendered to Jesus right there.** I told my wife, but she wasn't interested in such things. However, about six months later she surrendered to Jesus, listening to you as well.*

*"Not long after, I started to attend a church in San Diego and study theology. To date, we have planted three churches among Hispanics in the area. Recently, I began broadcasting my own radio programs from home and love to reach others for Jesus."*

**From Alejandro | San Diego**

Hear THRU the BIBLE in San Diego on K-PRAISE, KBRITE, or look for our app in your app store!



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All Scripture is from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.