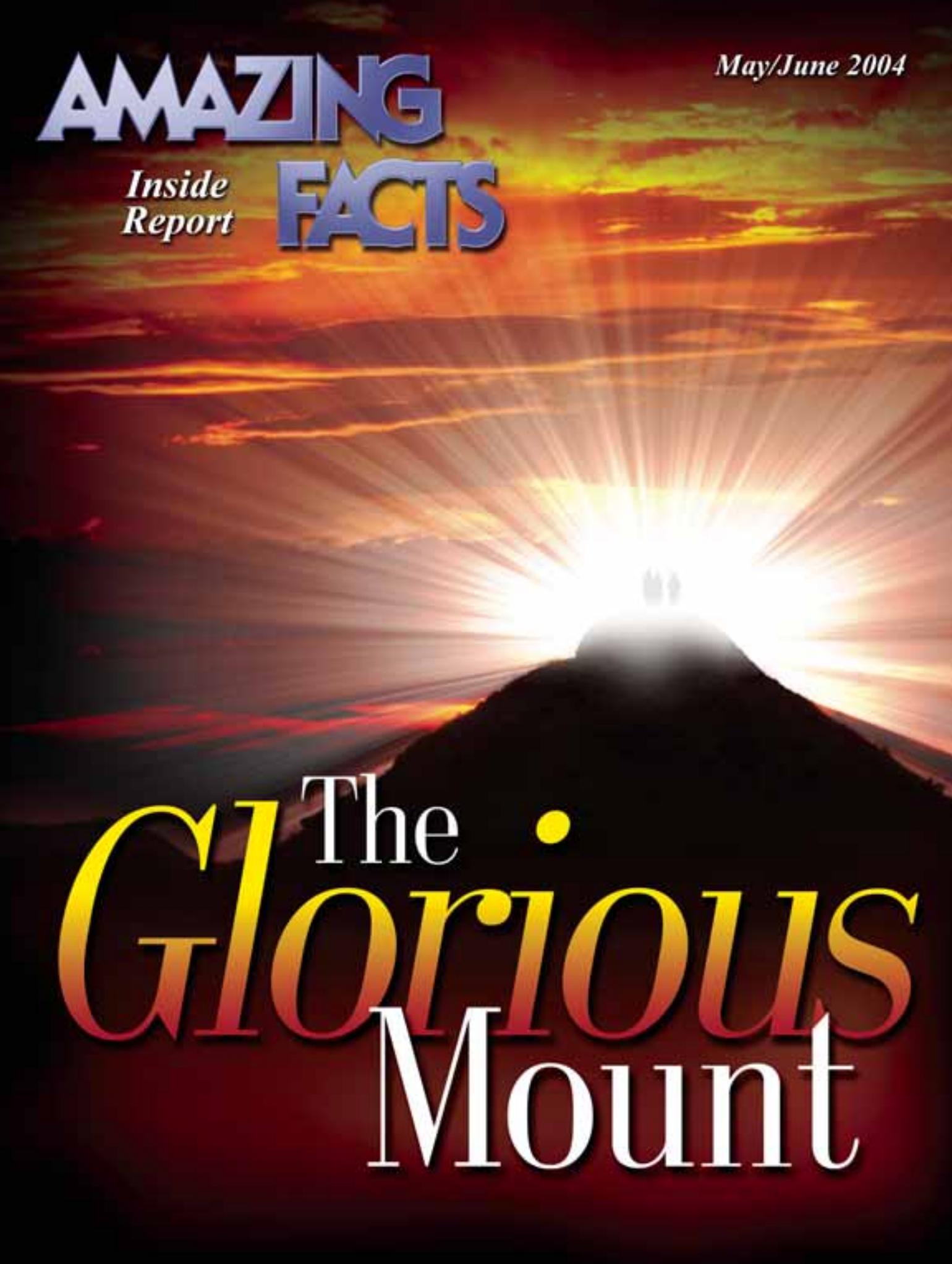


AMAZING
*Inside
Report* **FACTS**

May/June 2004



The •
Glorious
Mount

One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism

By Anthony Lester

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” —Romans 6:4

Waist deep in warmed-up water, I stood quietly next to the pastor as he spoke about me to onlookers eager to burst into “amens.” I’m sure he mentioned my brother’s and Amazing Facts’ role in helping me find Bible truth, but I don’t really remember what he said; my mind was practically void of any thought.

Strangely, the one thing I do distinctly remember was evangelist Brian McMahon’s urgent appeal to me to focus on what was happening—to really grasp this milestone in my life. It was important, practical, and timely advice, but as I climbed into the pool, my brain was blank. I felt the eyes of a hundred strangers and the uneasy expectation of being dunked, but not much more.

Then before I knew it had happened, I’d been baptized!

For many, their baptism is something they remember like their wedding day. That’s a perfect comparison! “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body . . . and have all been made to drink into one Spirit” (1 Corinthians 12:13). By baptism, we choose by public confession to become one with Christ and His church, like a man and a woman become one at their wedding ceremony.

I know someone who expected to hear angels singing after another Christian claimed she’d heard angels rejoicing at her baptism. Yet like my friend, I didn’t hear angels sing as I was raised from the water. Nor did I feel any other emotional wallop. Was something wrong with my experience? My desire was to be baptized, because that’s what Christ wants—but where was the flood of joy I had expected amid the loving cheers of my caring brethren?

Since then, I’ve learned that many people have had a similar experience to mine, yet it isn’t difficult either to find those awash in joy with their baptism memory. Naturally, I wish I had their kind of encounter, but I don’t feel cheated. I love the promise inherent in Ephesians 4—it’s not so much what you feel during your baptism that cements the act, but the evidence of your life afterward. The act of baptism, like marriage, still counts even if you were sick that day.

Still I can’t help but wonder if the different experiences boil down to one’s knowledge of what baptism really means. In my case, any ignorance was my fault. I had ample opportunity to learn, as the local church and Brian McMahon offered and encouraged baptismal classes. I think my natural shyness and feelings of inadequacy kept me from doing as I should.

Yet for myriad reasons, both big and small, many other new believers are diving into a commitment they might not truly understand. But whatever those reasons, Pastor Doug has expressed a deep concern for these precious new Christians—not to pass judgment, but to help forge a richer experience on baptism day, thus propelling every new believer into a more profound walk with our Lord.

That’s why Amazing Facts’ *Preparation for Baptism* video, now available, will help candidates firmly grasp the function of baptism in their lives, before they actually take that step. I experienced the reverse, and I believe my early development was hampered as I struggled to stay faithful. Instead, I would have liked the complete experience of entering into a marriage not just in passion, but with the full knowledge of what eternal commitment means.

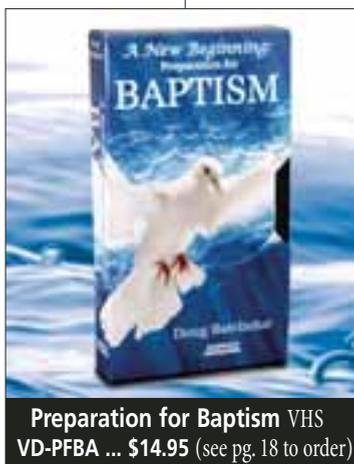
Thankfully, prayerful meditation and Bible study have allowed the Holy Spirit to press upon my heart the importance of the decision I made.

Baptism is more than just an emotional connection or a public confession: “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you

as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:26, 27). It’s an acknowledgement of a new life devoted to holy living through the grace of Christ and His Holy Spirit. This is something that all souls need to know before committing their lives to Him in ceremony. It is as serious as it is wonderfully joyful—just like a wedding day.

“In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, . . . buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead” (Colossians 2:11, 12).

Keep the faith. 



Preparation for Baptism VHS
VD-PFBA ... \$14.95 (see pg. 18 to order)

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P.O. Box 1058
ROSEVILLE, CA 95678-8058
PHONE: 916-434-3880
FAX: 916-434-3889

INTERNET: WWW.AMAZINGFACTS.ORG
E-MAIL: EDITOR@AMAZINGFACTS.ORG

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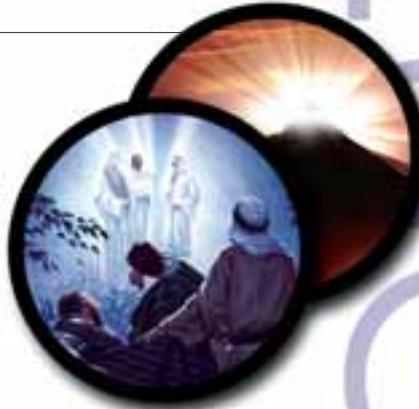
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Mail Bag

The Power of Plodding

Thank you so much for your January/February 2004 devotional "The Power of Plodding." It was, and is, a great blessing to me. Pen and ink are inadequate to express its richness! Thank you greatly!
M.B., Texas



Inside Report Touching Lives

I just finished reading a complimentary issue of your *Inside Report* [July/August 2003]. I loved it. Many of the articles in it helped me very much. And of course the "Bible Answers" section. I have been asked those questions before and didn't know how to answer them, much less where to find them in Scripture. F.H., Inmate, Texas

Editor's Note: Because of our giving friends, Amazing Facts has created many avenues to touch people's lives with the gospel. This includes the Inside Report. We wanted to share this man's letter with you not for self-promotion, but because we want you to see the fruits of your labor in reaching others even through this specialized ministry. Through the Holy Spirit, you are helping us make a big difference. Thank you!

The Road Home



What a wonderful website! I signed up for the Study Guides and am finding them refreshing and exciting. It's been a long road getting back to the Lord, but I feel He's calling me to come back.

I really do believe that we are in the last days before Jesus comes again to take His faithful home with Him to heaven. I'll keep praying for this ministry and all its employees who labor for the soon coming of Jesus Christ. W.F., e-mail

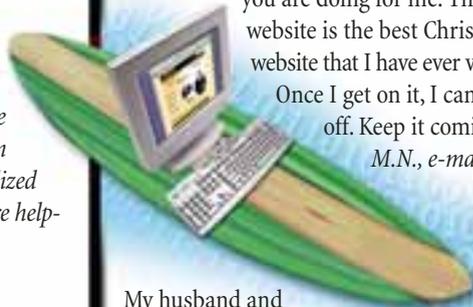
Joe Crews Online

Thank you so very much for your *Classic Sermons* by Joe Crews on your website. Pastor Crews was a special person, and his messages were truly moving. Just hearing his voice again was such a gift to me, and I know for others, during these end times. J., e-mail

More Internet Kudos ...

I have never had things in the Bible explained to me as well as this Bible study does! I am presently taking the online course and have never gotten so much understanding out of anything in my life. I have a great fascination with the book of Revelation, and so far Amazing Facts has done a fantastic job of explaining things so clearly! I just want to thank you for what you are doing for me. This website is the best Christian website that I have ever visited.

Once I get on it, I can't get off. Keep it coming!
M.N., e-mail



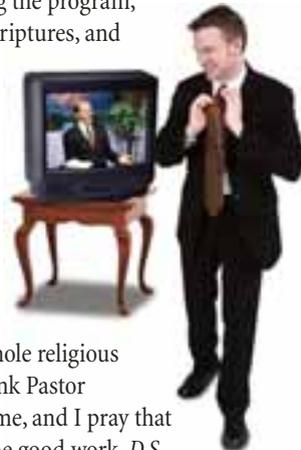
My husband and I are able to connect online every Sabbath morning and study the lesson with you [Central Study Hour]. I just needed to say thanks and tell you what a blessing Amazing Facts has been over the Internet. God bless! S.&D.I., Chile

Live Evangelism, Changed Lives

I recently met our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at an Amazing Facts Seminar in Mammoth Springs, Arkansas. I learned from Jesus through David Morgan. I saw Jesus there nailed on the cross and my heart was moved to accept Him into my life. On April 5, 2003, I was baptized into the Sabbathkeeping church. I have turned my back to sin and have found victory through Jesus to quit smoking, cursing, evil thoughts, and racial issues. J.P., Montana

The Truth Found

I am writing to compliment your program, which is broadcast here early Sunday mornings. I am Mormon, and while getting ready for church every Sunday, I view your broadcast. It has taught me so many truths, and Pastor Batchelor always treats the Mormon faith respectfully, and does so to inform, not offend. I find this rare in this day and age when everyone is out to bash another's faith. Since watching the program, reading the Scriptures, and praying about what Pastor Batchelor has preached, I have found that he is telling the truth and that I need to rethink my whole religious situation. Thank Pastor Batchelor for me, and I pray that he keeps up the good work. D.S., North Carolina



Taking a Stand

I enjoy your ministry very much. It is admirable to see how you have taken a stand for truth in these last days and how you have managed to win so many souls for Jesus. The decision to become a Sabbathkeeper was one that I made after reading much of your literature. My prayers are with you. C.M., New York

Inside Report welcomes all correspondence regarding the magazine and other Amazing Facts ministries. Letters and other materials sent to Amazing Facts may be used—in whole or in part and edited for content, grammar, and readability—in future publications unless otherwise requested. We thank you for your thoughts, suggestions, and financial and prayer support in our endeavor to reach others for Jesus and equip them to do likewise.

Running on Empty?

Don't miss this
opportunity to fill up!

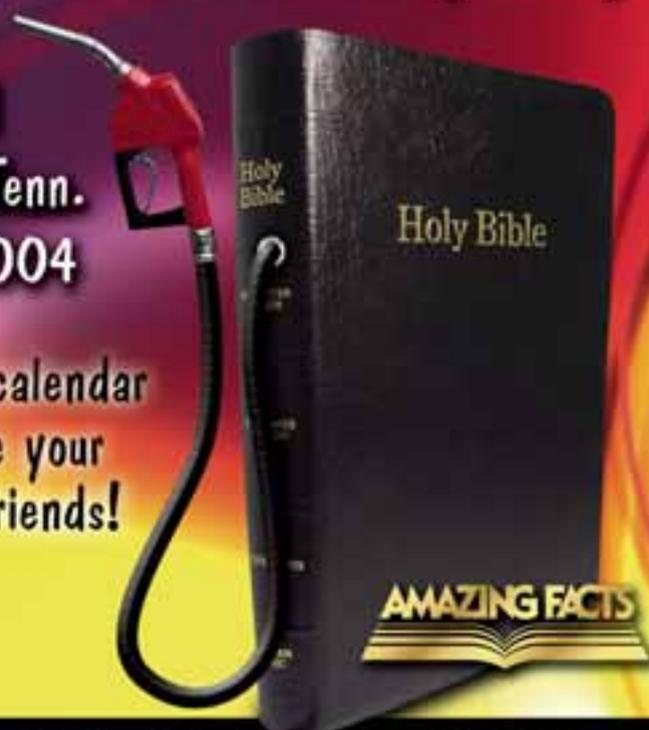


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Luxor photo by Glen Dimock

An Amazing Fact:



The brightest manmade light on earth emanates from the top of the Luxor hotel, a giant pyramid structure, in Las Vegas, Nevada. A total of 45 xenon lights, each one as big as a washing machine and with the brightest bulb available, shoots a powerful blast of radiant light straight up into the sky. The light beaming from the top of this artificial mountain is so bright, astronauts can see it as they fly overhead. Airline pilots are cautioned to avoid the area, as the beam of light can blind them temporarily if they fly through it. Sadly, this light is totally wasted—it's not illuminating anything as it blazes into empty space.

Did you know there is a story in the Bible that tells of a mountain-top blazing with heavenly light? Even though it is seldom addressed, this event, called the Mount of Transfiguration, or sometimes the Glorious Mount, is one of the most pivotal moments in the New Testament. This monumental experience found in the Gospels of Matthew 16, Mark 9, and Luke 9 is full of profound meaning for Christians, and it helps illuminate many other amazing Bible truths.

The Glorious Mount

By Pastor Doug Batchelor

Ascending to the Light

After a long day of teaching and ministering to the multitudes, Christ and His disciples separate from the clamoring crowds. Jesus then says something very unusual: "There are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power" (Mark 9:1 NKJV). It probably seemed to His disciples that Jesus was predicting something really big. But what?

Then, six days after Jesus makes this cryptic announcement, they reach the foot of a "high mountain." There He handpicks His own trusted "trinity" of apostles—Peter, James, and John—and with them in tow, He leaves the others in the valley and begins the long climb up the steep hill. As the sun is setting, they finally stumble wearily onto the summit. Jesus immediately kneels and begins to pray, and at first the disciples attempt to join Him, but exhausted, they soon drift into a deep sleep.

Then something extraordinary happens! Combining the testimony of Luke and Mark, we're told, "As He prayed, He was transformed before them. The appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening. Exceeding white, like snow such as no launderer on earth can whiten them." (See the full account in Luke 9:29–31 and Mark 9:2–9.)

The Reason for the Revelation

Suddenly awakened by the cosmic event, the disciples see Christ shining with a heavenly light radiating from within. He is not just the humble son of Joseph and Mary, but with unveiled glory, He now appears as the majestic Creator of the universe.

In the classic book *The Desire of Ages*, the author helps us better understand Jesus' primary reason for this heavenly visitation. In His

prayer, "He pleads that they may witness a manifestation of His divinity that will comfort them in the hour of His supreme agony, with the knowledge that He is ... the Son of God and that His shameful death is a part of the plan of redemption."

The loving Father grants them this brief glimpse of His Son's glory, because He knows the disciples were soon to see their master completely humiliated. Their teacher was about to be naked, beaten, and bleeding—appearing very helpless and very mortal. So in the same way a little tree stores sap during the warm, bright spring to sustain it during the cold, dark winter, Jesus knows His disciples' faith needs a bright boost on the mountain to see them through the approaching dark day of Calvary.

The disciples also needed this event because they continued to confuse the purpose of the Messiah's mission with the popular Jewish fables of national glory. Jesus knew it was going to be devastating for them to see their hopes for earthly glory punctured by Roman nails, so the Father granted this vision to remind them Christ's kingdom was heavenly and not of this earth.

Why Moses and Elijah?

Along with the glorious light of heaven, the brightest ever seen on earth, two of the greatest celebrities of Scripture appeared at the side of Christ. "And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus" (Mark 9:4 NKJV).

Someone might ask, why these two individuals? God had also taken Enoch to heaven; why didn't he come along for this special visit? Very simply, the two prominent individuals who did come were

living symbols of the Word of God. Moses represents the law, and Elijah represents the prophets. Jesus says in Matthew 5:17, “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to [fulfill].” Moses is the great lawgiver, and Elijah is the greatest of the Old Testament prophets.

Throughout the Bible, the Word of God is often portrayed with a dual image. The Ten Commandments were written on *two* tables of stone. The Word of God is also portrayed as a sword with *two* edges. *Two* lamps and *two* olive trees portray the *two* sacred divisions of the Bible. But the ultimate testimony of God’s Word is Jesus: “In the volume of the book it is written of me” (Hebrews 10:7). The volume of the Book, the Bible, all points to Jesus, who is the combination of *two* natures, the human and the divine. Jesus is the Word made flesh (John 1:14).

In Luke 16:31, Jesus concludes His parable of the rich man and Lazarus, “If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.” Here Jesus places a very high priority on God’s Word, and we shouldn’t miss it. No matter what miracles you witness, even someone rising from the dead, you should still place the plain Word of God on higher ground.

The Ultimate Endorsement

Around election time, politicians begin to campaign and jostle for the support of voters. One common way for them to achieve this is by getting endorsements from as many popular and credible leaders as possible. The Glorious Mount experience is really the ultimate endorsement.

Ever since the time of Abraham, every Jew had been looking for



the coming Messiah. Several counterfeit Christs had appeared on the landscape of Hebrew history. Now as a symbol of supreme support, Jesus stands glorified, flanked on the right and left by the two greatest heroes of ancient Israel. Moses and Elijah surround Jesus to give us a very vivid picture that the Word of God points to and authenticates Jesus as the Messiah.

This endorsement from Moses and Elijah represents the sanction of the law and the prophets, God’s Word, that Jesus is the “coming one” (Matthew 11:3). No other individuals could have offered greater validation for Jesus’ ministry than these two giants of Scripture.

The transfiguration is also a direct fulfillment of prophecy. Malachi foretold, “Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord” (4:4, 5). One reason the Word of God is so wonderful is because it is so precise. Both Moses and Elijah did appear in the New Testament prior to Jesus’ sacrifice to encourage and champion Him.

A Divine Discussion

When I first read this passage, I wondered, “How did they know it was Moses and Elijah?” They had no journalistic photographs or archive video footage with which to compare these beings! Then I realized they probably overheard some of the conversation and heard Jesus address them by name.

Fortunately, the Gospel of Luke gives us a little insight regarding what these great men discussed. It says, “Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem” (9:30, 31 NKJV). Of course, “decease” refers to His sacrifice on Mount Calvary.

I cannot imagine any other two individuals who would be better qualified to encourage Jesus to go forward with His sacrifice. Both Moses and Elijah understood the sting of persecution and rejection by their own people. Keep in mind, both Moses and Elijah had been in heaven for hundreds of years, not because of their good works, but because they were enjoying an advance payment on the sacrifice that Jesus was about to make. In other words, if Jesus did not go through with the plan to die for mankind, Moses and Elijah had no right to remain in heaven. They were obviously very motivated to encourage and inspire Jesus to proceed. Ultimately, their purpose was to be witnesses to Christ and to support Jesus in His coming trial and sacrifice.

The Final Word

The Glorious Mount rings with divine authority. Mark 9:7 says, “And a cloud came and overshadowed them” (NKJV). This cloud is actually veiling the glory of the Father, who declares, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!” God the Father comes to sanction His Son who receives His total approval.

This is so important for us to understand. At the beginning of Jesus’ ministry, God the Father speaks personally at Christ’s baptism

in the low Jordan valley, and identifies Jesus as His Son. He says, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased," announcing that the Jewish nation no longer needs to look for anyone else as the Messiah (Matthew 3:17 NKJV). Anyone who came before Him was a fraud, and anyone else coming after is a counterfeit. Jesus is the one!

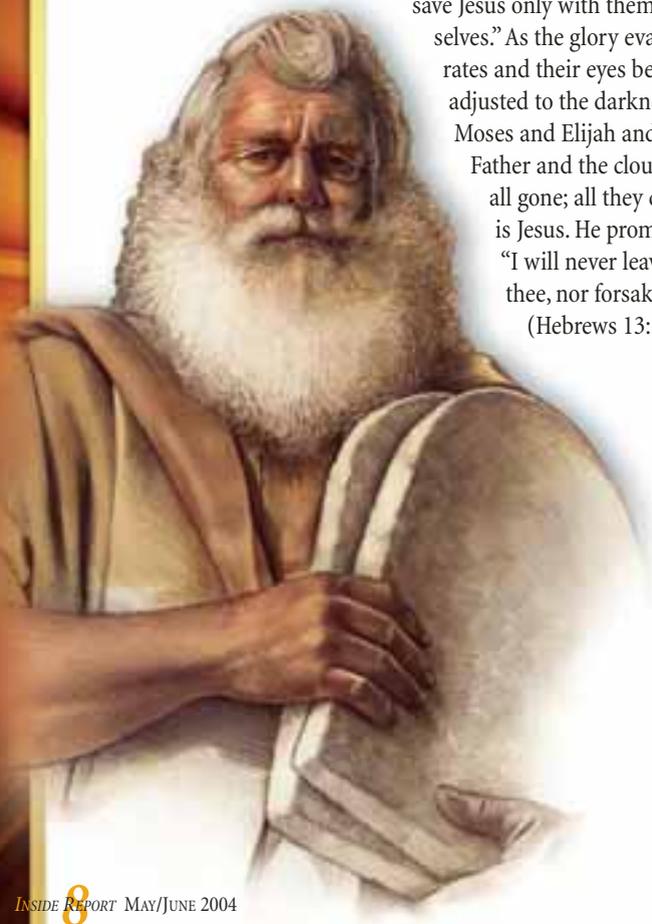
Then at the end of Jesus' ministry, God the Father again identifies His divine Son on the mountain, commanding something very simple. "Hear Him." That's a complete sentence, easy to understand. But "hear" means more than just hearing the audible sounds. It really means "listening with undivided attention and doing," Jesus says, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the church" (Revelation 2:17). God the Father, in person, is commanding you and me to listen to Jesus' word and to do it.

There have been a lot of counterfeits, frauds, imposters, and cult leaders trying to impersonate Christ. But God the Father says about Jesus in the Bible, "Hear Him." He is the true Word! That's something very powerful to contemplate.

Suddenly

As the last echoes of God's thundering voice resonate from the mountain, the trembling disciples cower in fear. Mark 9:8 says, "Suddenly" it all ended. Just as quickly as the light flashed on, it went off. "When they had looked round about, they saw no man any more,

save Jesus only with themselves." As the glory evaporates and their eyes become adjusted to the darkness, Moses and Elijah and the Father and the cloud are all gone; all they can see is Jesus. He promised, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).



It's easy to have our vision obscured by the kaleidoscope of images that we see in the Bible. And it's easy to have our minds clouded with the collage of images we see in modern life. But after it all fades, and we're at the base of the mountain again, what really matters? I think God is telling us to hear only Jesus, to see only Jesus. He was the only one left with them; everyone else might forsake you, but Jesus says, "I will be with you till the end" (Matthew 28:20). Always remember that Jesus is still there for you even after the glory disappears.

Don't Mention It

Christ again says something very unusual to the dazed disciples. You and I can barely imagine how these three apostles are feeling "as they came down from the mountain" (Mark 9:9). That incredible event must have been life-changing, and they were probably in spiritual shock, even more than when Christ calmed the storm or walked on water. They might even have been glowing with the lingering residue of light still dissipating from their faces, like Moses was glowing after speaking with God. What doubts about Jesus could they possibly have now? They were probably ready to die for Jesus that very moment.

But then Jesus commands them not to tell anyone of the things they had seen. I imagine that might have been one of the most difficult mandates they ever received from their Lord. They have just witnessed a glimpse of heaven. They've seen Moses, and they've seen Elijah. Like ancient Israel, they've heard the commanding voice of God reverberating from a mountain, and now they are told not to make any comments regarding this remarkable event. Don't mention it. Keep in mind He is asking three fishermen not to comment on the most exciting experience of their lives. I don't know if I could have done it.

Timing to Tell

Fortunately, they were not asked to "never mention it." More precisely, Jesus asked, "That they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead" (Mark 9:9).

Why would Jesus make this request knowing their hearts had been so profoundly touched through this event? I believe He wanted them to store this experience in reserve for when they would really need it. Peter, James, and John were chosen to be the leaders of the early church, and when all seemed lost, and when things got hard, they could say, "Don't be discouraged. We want to tell you about something we saw that night with Jesus on the mountain." But sadly, it appears just when they needed it the most, they didn't remember this experience—when their Lord went to the cross, they forgot who He was.

Has God given you a mountaintop experience? Maybe He has answered prayers and worked miracles that right when they're happening, you say, "Wow, praise the Lord!" But then when the glory fades, you ended up in a valley with the devil crowding you. And the memory of what happened on the mountain has all but evaporated.

It's just like when God had told the children of Israel not to make idols, and they heard the voice of God, and they felt the ground shake, and they saw fire consume a mountain. They glibly promised the Lord they would obey. Yet a few days later, they worshipped a golden calf.

The devil is a master at inducing mountaintop amnesia. If you give him just five minutes of your attention, he can make you forget a whole lifetime of miracles. If you entertain his suggestions, if you embrace his discouragement and his doubts, all those mountaintop memories can dissipate just when you need them the most.

Last-Day Significance

The experience on the Glorious Mount is especially important for the end-times; that's why after His resurrection Jesus returned to teach on this. "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets [here are Moses and Elijah again!], he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself" (Luke 24:27).

Revelation 12:17 says, "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." The woman represents the church, and the dragon, the devil, wants to destroy her. The church in these last days has two outstanding characteristics: They "keep the commandments of God, and they have the testimony of Jesus." What is the testimony of Jesus? Revelation 19:10 explains, "The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." So the members of the last-day church are identified as a people who will keep the law (the commandments) and have the prophets (the spirit of prophecy).

Isaiah 8:16 commands, "Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples." Moses, before he died, exhorted the children of Israel to keep the law. He repeats the Ten Commandments to them in Deuteronomy 5 and says, "Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes" (Deuteronomy 11:18). So the law and the words of the prophets are sealed by the Holy Spirit in the mind and hearts of God's people. "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30).

We must saturate ourselves with the law and the prophets, with the Word of God, for a special purpose in these last days. Mark 9:3 says, "His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them" (NKJV). Mark is really struggling here for words to describe the bright aura of light the disciples saw around this heavenly assembly. The garments of Christ were radiant white, just like new snow, and glowing like the sun. Of course, the robe that Jesus wore is a symbol of His purity. It is what He is wearing in heaven. Wonderfully, you and I are offered this same clothing purified by His blood, if we stay true to His Word. "These . . . washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (Revelation 7:14). "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love" (1 Peter 1:22 NKJV).



A Type of the Second Advent

To make a full circle, let's go back a brief moment to where we began. One of the most important lessons from the Mount of Transfiguration is that it represents a miniature picture of the second coming of Jesus.

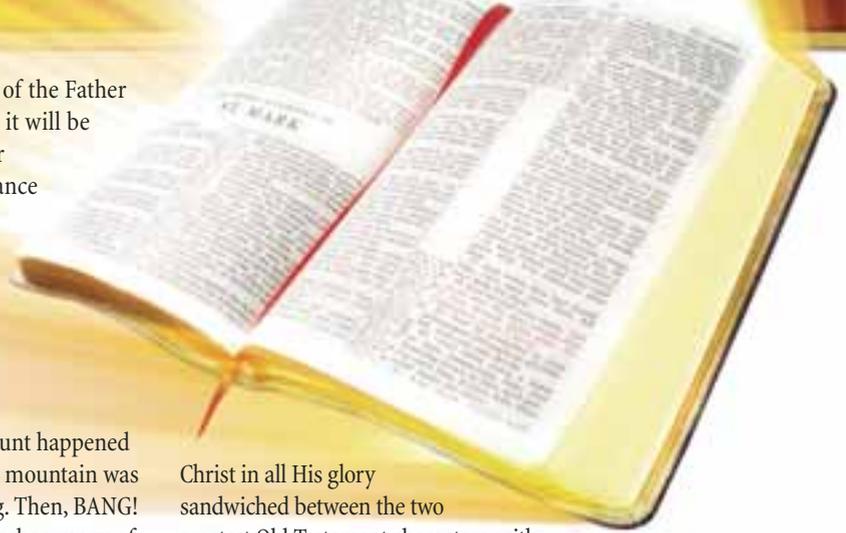
Harkening back to this experience, Peter identifies the event as a sample of Jesus' coming. "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (2 Peter 1:16, 17).

Remember that Jesus said some of His disciples would not experience death before they saw the kingdom of God coming with power. Of course, we know that these disciples died long ago, but they were given an advance peek of what it will be like when Christ returns.

A number of exciting insights can be gleaned from this story. Consider the parallels:

There will be two categories of saints when Jesus returns: the resurrected and the living. Moses, who died and was resurrected (Jude 1:9), is a symbol of the large class of people who will awake from their dusty graves when the Lord descends—"The dead in Christ shall rise." Elijah represents the other class of people who will be alive when Jesus returns. Like Elijah, who was caught up into heaven by a fiery chariot, and Enoch who walked with God and then walked right into heaven, they will be translated with new, glorious bodies without ever tasting death.

During the transfiguration, Jesus, Moses, and Elijah wore white garments, the same kind that the redeemed will wear. Clouds of glory also accompanied them; Jesus left in the clouds and said He



would come back in the clouds. And even the voice of the Father in heaven was heard on the Glorious Mount, just as it will be when Christ returns on the right hand of the Father (Matthew 26:64). There may even be some significance to the fact that this all happens six days after Jesus makes the promise. “But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8 NKJV).

The Tranquilized Church

It is prudent to keep in mind that the Glorious Mount happened very unexpectedly. The atmosphere surrounding the mountain was quiet and dark—the drowsy disciples were snoozing. Then, BANG! It happened. Christ will come as a thief in the night, when many of His followers are unprepared.

There is a sober warning for us in this experience. At the most pivotal moments of church history, Satan seems to sedate the saints. Just before this revelation of glory, the Scriptures declare the disciples “were heavy with sleep” (Luke 9:32). When Jesus went into the Garden of Gethsemane, the Bible tells us that He picked the same three disciples to pray with Him. And they again went to sleep. Likewise, in the parable of the 10 virgins, Jesus warns us that just prior to the second coming, “they all slumbered and slept” (Matthew 25:5). It seems that at the most critical moments in Jesus’ ministry, the saints are snoring. This is why Jesus warns, “Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping” (Mark 13:35, 36 NKJV).

When they should have been kneeling with Him in the garden, remembering the glory they witnessed, they fell asleep. And because Peter, James, and John were asleep on the Mount of Transfiguration, they lost the full potential of their experience. They forgot the Glorious Mount, so they were not ready to follow Christ to Mount Calvary. I wonder if that haunted them for the rest of their lives: that missed opportunity because they slept when they should have prayed?

A More Sure Word

So how do we stay awake? To the powerful weapon of prayer, we can add the witness of Moses and Elijah, the law and the prophets. God’s Word can prepare you for anything. In 2 Peter 1, Peter refers back to the Glorious Mount, the only time that any of the three disciples write about it. But before Peter’s death, he writes passionately, “For [Jesus] received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’ And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain” (vs. 17, 18 NKJV).

Yet even after Peter reflects on that defining moment in his life, he adds, “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed” (v. 19). Can you imagine saying that after seeing

Christ in all His glory sandwiched between the two greatest Old Testament characters, with the voice of God the Father seared forever into your memory? Yet Peter confesses that however great that experience was, he had something *more* important, *more* dependable. God’s Word is a light that “grows brighter and brighter until the day dawn.”

Peter saw Christ glorified; he received a glimpse of heaven. But you and I have something worth more. We have the Bible. Christ tells us through Peter that your Bible is more trustworthy than a vision. If you want a mountaintop experience, you have it within your reach if you reach for your Bible. Nothing is more important than the testimony of Moses and Elijah, the double-edged sword, the law and the prophets, the commandments of God, the testimony of Jesus—it is the most precious thing God has committed to mortals. It is Jesus, the Word who became flesh.

Glowing for God

As a child, I was always fascinated by those pale green illuminating plastic toys you could hold up to a light and watch glow even after the light was turned off. I remember one of those toys was a glow-in-the-dark plastic sword. After exposing it to the light, I could find my way through the dark house just by the glow from my sword.

The Lord has given us a special warning message in the Mount of Transfiguration. There are some very troubling days ahead, and now we must spend time on the mountain gathering light from God’s Word to see us through the dark valleys. The message from the mountain tells us that Jesus is the One, and that we too can wear the same robes He, Elijah, and Moses wore that day. He’s telling us to listen to the testimony of Jesus and to the law and the prophets. It’s a picture of Jesus’ imminent second coming, and a warning not to become spiritually sleepy. The mountaintop experience reminds us that even when the glory fades, Jesus is always still with us and that He is the only way to heaven.

Seven individuals appeared on the mountain that day: Three from heaven—Moses, Elijah, and God the Father; three from earth—Peter, James, and John. And then there was Jesus—the Bridge, the Ladder, between heaven and earth. —



Pastor Doug Batchelor will present *Final Events in Bible Prophecy* live from the Washington, D.C., area from March 4 to 26 in 2005. Broadcasting internationally from the political capital of the world during a time of multiple earth-shaking events, it will be an incredible opportunity to share the truth of the gospel with desperate souls in need.

Utilizing state-of-the-art satellite technology and incorporating the best multimedia available, including complex 3D-animations, Pastor Doug will share the love of God in a way that will capture the hearts of people from all different backgrounds eager to find real meaning for their lives. Amazing Facts is hoping that churches around the country and other parts of the world will feel the urgency of end-time events to join this pivotal satellite series featuring a unique evangelistic format not seen in any other program of its kind.

Global Evangelism in Stereo

At the exact same time, Mark Finley, speaker/director of *It Is Written*, will also be broadcasting throughout the Eastern Hemisphere from Kiev, Russia—meaning *It Is Written* and *Amazing Facts* will be blanketing the planet with the good news! Working jointly in advertising this unprecedented effort, two of God's end-time ministries, through the all-powerful leading of the Holy Spirit, are sure to witness a great harvest for the kingdom.

Extensive Pre-work

Amazing Facts has developed a unique approach to broadcast evangelism especially for this life-changing series. Six to twelve weeks prior to the live broadcast of *Final Events*, Amazing Facts will stage an exciting and informative pre-work Bible series through its popular *Everlasting Gospel* program, seen by millions in America and around the world through such outlets as TBN, BET, ATN, 3ABN, and Sky Angel. This blitz-style media coverage will also advertise the event through *Bible Answers Live*, *Millennium of Prophecy*, and *Central Study Hour* to drive interest and encourage local church participation.

During the preliminary series, viewers will be encouraged to call a toll-free number or log onto a website to discover a location nearest them hosting the *Final Events* series, where they will get a fast-paced, hard-hitting exposé into the major prophetic elements of the Bible's most mysterious books, Daniel and Revelation. Each night, such hot-topic issues as the rapture, the second coming, the millennium, and more will be covered in a way relevant to participants' lives.

Known for his ability to communicate vital Bible truths to experienced Bible students and new seekers alike, Pastor Doug will create an intense interest in prophecy and how it applies to current events. Then with his vibrant and warm style, in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, he'll lead people to a decision for Christ that will forever change them.

Revival and Training for Churches Worldwide

Furthermore, heeding the call of concerned ministry friends and church leaders, Amazing Facts will also lead a national church revival series this coming November, broadcast live from Chattanooga, Tennessee, through 3ABN. Designed to bring conviction and evangelistic focus to God's remnant church, the ministry believes and prays that believing members worldwide will take notice and respond to God's call.

Also, recognizing the need for strong leadership and direction for these multiple events, Amazing Facts is committing to training Bible workers and churches nationwide for effective and efficient evangelism for *Final Events*. Churches and other organizations will be able to participate in national weekend training seminars conducted by seasoned and experienced soul-winners so they can effectively reach their local communities with Bible studies and other outreach methods. In addition, satellite uplink training will also be made available.

Local costs for churches will be minimal since most already own satellite equipment. However, Amazing Facts will also provide eye-catching, proven handbill, poster, and decision card designs from its Internet website. Moreover, pre-work Bible study guides will also be available for download. No other lessons or materials will be necessary—the series is designed to be an all-in-one, comprehensive reaping program from start to finish.

An Opportunity for Every Believer

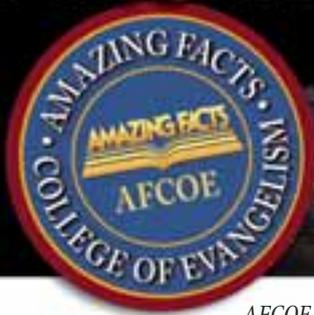
Originally planned for the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, the event has grown and evolved into a tremendous opportunity, and by the Lord's leading, has been shifted to the Washington, D.C. area. This move will make it easier for satellite downlinks across the country.

Pastor Doug has asked all our ministry friends to pray for this upcoming event—not only for the many details that must be worked out in such a short time, but also that the ministry will continue to watch God closely so that this series will do His will for His people and His lost children.

The *Final Events* program will also usher in the 40th anniversary of Amazing Facts ministries, founded by the late Joe Crews, showing the continuing commitment of Amazing Facts to reach the world with God's end-time message by every means possible and to enable others to do the same. —

For more information on *Final Events* in Bible Prophecy and how you can help make it a success, log on to www.finalevents.com, or call 916-434-3880. You can also go to www.amazingfacts.org for other great resources.





AFCOE in Denver

AFCOE students and graduates are doing an extraordinary work in Denver, Colorado, in conjunction with Mark Finley's Revelation of Hope Prophecy Seminar series.

AFCOE has pre-registered more than 1,500 guests—along with other Bible workers' efforts, the total now stands at over 5,000!

The meetings are in full swing at the time of publication, so please pray that efforts there will be led and blessed by our Lord. The following are short and inspiring stories of how God has already led in the series and is using current AFCOE students to do His end-time work!

Dena Beyerstedt, 25, Mount Vernon, Indiana

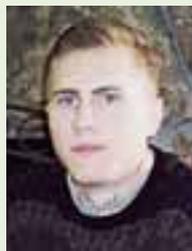


It is amazing to see what God has done as I have stepped out of my comfort zone and onto the doorsteps of Denver homes. One of the most exciting doors was a woman's Bible study group that we had on Friday evenings in response to the results from our door-to-door surveys. A local church member opened her home for us and we have had three new seekers attending regularly.

The beauty of the entire experience was the relationships we built with the women. Through these friendships, we invited our group to events such as the Healthy Living Cooking school and archeology meetings. They have been very impressed and are even more excited as we begin the Revelation of Hope Prophecy Seminar.

I am amazed at how God has brought a group of strangers together and united us so closely through the study of His Word. It is exciting to be a part of this great work that God is doing in Denver.

Philip Mills, 18, Kechi, Kansas



It astounds me how God orchestrates circumstances to bring us to the people who are truly searching for Him. A man intrigued by a free Bible study offer he received in the mail signed up for them, but he was soon evicted from his residence and forced to move in with his sister.

A few days later, we went to study with him, but he was not home. The following week we tried again, and he wasn't home. But his father, John, was there.

John was basically at the end of his rope. His life was in shambles. He was living with his daughter and his bronchitis prevented him from earning a living. "Would you mind studying the Bible with me?" he asked. "I need God's help in my life."

Of course we said yes! Since then, watching God work in John's life has been wonderful. We've watched him soak up the Word of God and realize he has so much to hope for. God is working in this wicked world to bring about the salvation of souls!

Stephen deSouza, 25, Marietta, Georgia Photographic Education Administrator



My partner and I believe that the Lord answers prayer, but we never thought that we would be an answer to someone else's prayer on our first day of outreach. We met a man who'd just come out of his house with a big smile on his face. When I went up to him and offered Bible studies, he immediately signed up.

In our first sit-down study, we found out why he was so eager to study the Bible with us. John had been struggling with an important spiritual decision; he was at his breaking point with God. He fell on his knees and prayed, "God, if you really want me to continue to follow you, I want you to give me a sign."

After this prayer, he went outside—and that's when he saw us coming to him. Since then, we have helped him see how God's Word is life-changing and practical.

Rick Raymond, 51, Brooklyn, Wisconsin Prison Guard



The first day my partner and I went out, we met a very nice young Mexican girl named Miriam. She really wanted Bible studies, so we set up an appointment and prayed with her. When we arrived the next Sunday, we learned that she was a troubled 16-year-old dropout with a child. We also met her mother, who doesn't speak English, and her sister. There were no Bibles in the house, so we provided two for the sisters and one in Spanish for their mother.

Suddenly Miriam's mother had such a bad fight with her boyfriend that they moved out—and the Bible studies were delayed because they moved into a home where drugs were involved. But after three weeks, they moved away from there and we met up again and continued the studies.

Miriam has accepted the Lord and was one of our first contacts to pre-register to attend the meetings with Mark Finley. She told us, "I knew when you first knocked on the door that you were offering me what was missing in my life. I started praying to Jesus right after you prayed with me that first day we met. I have been sincerely studying the Bible every day since you gave it to me."

We believe Miriam will be one of the first to be baptized at the meetings. God works even in the lives of those who have never met Him or read about Him. Amen!

Look for a final report in an upcoming issue of Inside Report, and if you're interested in attending AFCOE in an upcoming session, call Amazing Facts at 916-434-3880 or e-mail college@amazingfacts.org.

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in your soul-winning quest?

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Gary Gibbs
GUEST



Herb Douglass
GUEST



Mark Finley
GUEST

plus
Amazing
Facts
Evangelists!

Amazing Facts

EVANGELISM TEAM



You are invited to meet the members of Amazing Facts evangelism team at any one of the following locations—and please invite a friend! This schedule is subject to change without notice, so please call Amazing Facts to confirm appointments or get more information.



Doug Batchelor



John Bradshaw



Byron Corbett



Eric Flickinger



Lowell Hargreaves



Tyler Long



Brian McMahon



David Morgan



Jason Morgan



Jack Pefley



Dennis Priebe



Mike Troxell

▼ Doug Batchelor

June 17–19
Camp Meeting
Hutchinson, Minnesota

July 7–10
Camp Meeting
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

July 21, 22
Camp Meeting
Soquel, California

▼ Tyler Long

April 16 – May 22
Old Seltzer School
903S. 127th Street East
Wichita, Kansas

May 30 – August 15
Harrison Fellowship
212 Kater Avenue
Harrison, Ohio

▼ Jack Pefley

August 15 – November 20
San Antonio, Texas

▼ Dennis Priebe

May 7, 8
Evansville Westside Church,
Indiana

May 14, 15
Gallatin New Covenant Church,
Tennessee

May 21, 22
Benton Church, Tennessee

May 28, 29
Powder Spring Lakeview Church,
Georgia

June 4, 5
Forest City Church, North Carolina

June 11, 12
Burnt Mills Church, Maryland

June 18, 19
Ruckersville Amicus Church,
Virginia

June 26
LeCenter Church, Minnesota

▼ John Bradshaw

April 16 – May 15
Craigmont Middle School
3455 Covington Pike
Memphis (Bartlett), Tennessee

▼ Brian McMahon

April 16 – May 22
Bordeaux Church
Nashville, Tennessee
Call 615-876-3630 for details.

▼ Byron Corbett

April 18 – May 22
The Hilton Columbia
5485 Twin Knolls Road
Columbia, Maryland

▼ David Morgan

April 2 – May 8
Yankton Church
Yankton, South Dakota
Call 605-665-1032 for details.

▼ Eric Flickinger

April 2 – May 8
Dodge Center Community Center
Highway 14
Dodge Center, Minnesota

▼ Jason Morgan

April 16 – May 22
West View Church
Chanhassen, Minnesota

▼ Mike Troxell

April 16 – May 22
Mankato National Guard Armory
100 Martin Luther King Drive
Mankato, Minnesota

▼ Lowell Hargreaves

April 9 – May 15
White's Creek High School
Auditorium
7277 Old Hickory Boulevard
Nashville, Tennessee

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like to schedule an Amazing Facts evangelistic series or a week-end of revival meetings in your church, please contact the evangelism department at Amazing Facts by phone at 916-434-3880 or by mail.

The Lord GIVES 130%

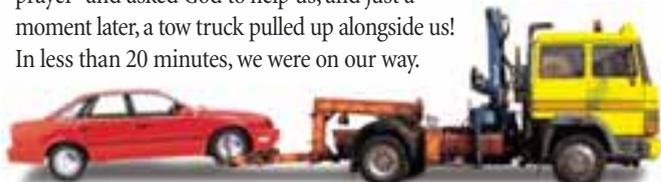
By LaVonne Long

LaVonne Long is the wife of Amazing Facts evangelist Tyler Long.

When Tyler was offered the chance to do an evangelistic series in Lakeport, California, we were pretty excited. We love the West Coast and especially Northern California; and in the fall it is especially beautiful. And though we didn't know it when we arrived, we were in for an awesome evangelistic experience!

Trouble Afoot

It didn't take long for difficulty to begin. Driving in from Colorado, our car's transmission broke down and we were stranded on the side of the road. We had no idea how to get help! So we lifted up our "hands in prayer" and asked God to help us, and just a moment later, a tow truck pulled up alongside us! In less than 20 minutes, we were on our way.



We arrived in Lakeport on a Tuesday afternoon and the meeting was scheduled to begin just three days later. We soon learned that some local church members never received their handbills, which meant much of the community didn't get our major source of advertising. When we called the post office, they told us about 9,000 of the 10,000 handbills were lost in the mail! With only 1,000 handbills going to homes, we were very worried! Even worse, the local newspaper didn't print our advertisement! We definitely knew that Satan was working hard against this meeting, so we trusted in the promise of Romans 8:28! "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." We sensed that God had great things in store for Lakeport!

And we were right. By God's grace, we had a packed house with many visitors and great attendance by the church to support the work. We also learned that several guests traveled 40 miles just to see the seminar! Almost half of our visitors came through Bible studies with Amazing Facts College of Evangelism graduate Kevin Sears. And as the seminar went on, more and more new visitors started to attend!



A Church on Fire

The Lakeport church worked hard to reach out, with many members beginning home fellowships to generate interest. In fact, a local dentist hosted a fellowship that featured Pastor Doug's *Millennium of Prophecy* videotapes! One attendee of that fellowship made a decision for Christ and was baptized during Tyler's meetings. That same night, 30 more people signaled their interest in baptism on decision cards.

Lakeport church was on fire for the Lord, faithfully supporting the work each night. By the end of the series, 25 more souls were added to the kingdom through the local church's hard work. One of our baptisms was the man who repaired our car for free—he had been a smoker since he was nine, but he quit cold turkey! He is a testimony to the Bible promise, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."

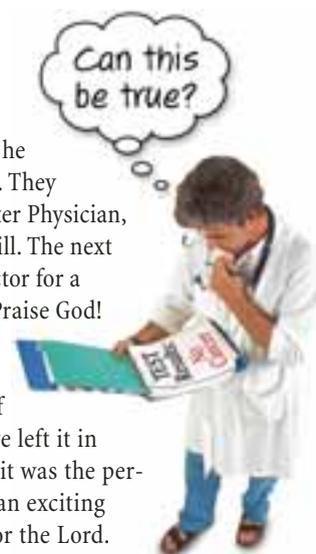
In addition to the sermon, we gave every attendee an Amazing Facts Bible Study Guide each night. They would study the guide and return it with the question-and-answer portion completed. They went through all 27 lessons, and by the end of the seminar, 19 seekers had graduated. It was so exciting to hand out those diplomas!

Miracles

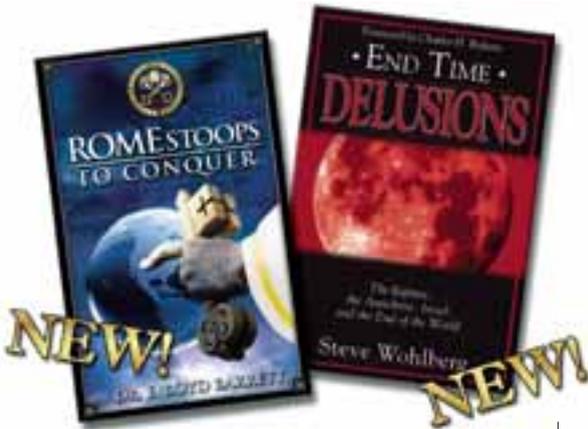
On the last night, Tyler gave his testimony, and the church partook in the Lord's Supper together. One new member confided to Tyler that he was recently diagnosed with cancer. They prayed together that Jesus, the Master Physician, would heal this man if it was His will. The next week, the man went back to the doctor for a checkup and his cancer was gone! Praise God!

Because of our troubles in the beginning, we were nervous about the outcome of this meeting. But we left it in God's hands, and it was the perfect way to end an exciting year working for the Lord. And not only did we baptize 25 more members for the Lakeport church, many more made decisions for Christ. One young couple even felt convicted by the Holy Spirit to be married, and they were baptized that very same week!

Just as the loaves and fish were multiplied, God kept bringing more people with whom to share His bread, His wonderful words of life. It is our privilege to be working for Him, and we are not content on going to heaven alone. God worked many miracles at Lakeport, and we know that when we fully rely on Him, He does great things.



Great Books!



Rome Stoops to Conquer

Dr. E. Boyd Barrett. In the corridors of government power and in the homes of grassroots citizens, the United States is being transformed into a different kind of nation. Built on the Protestant foundation of civil and religious liberty, unseemly compromises and alliances are chipping away at this country's cherished principles. Who is behind all this? Find out in this stunning classic that grows more relevant with each passing day.

BK-RSTC ... \$14.95

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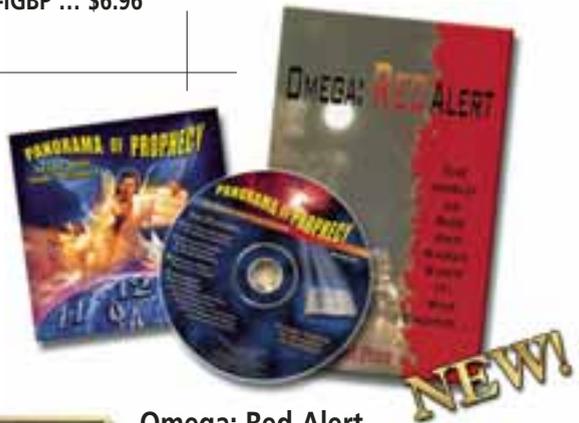
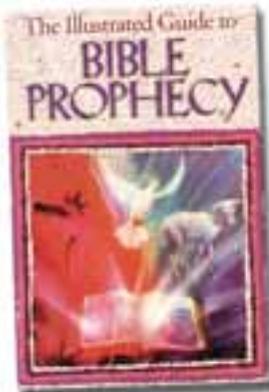
Steve Wohlberg. Millions are convinced of Christ's soon return, yet they are also dangerously confused and are being prepared for the greatest deception ever perpetrated on humanity. Don't be one them! With clear reasoning and Bible accuracy, you'll learn the stunning truth in this remarkably comprehensive and timely resource from a former Amazing Facts evangelist.

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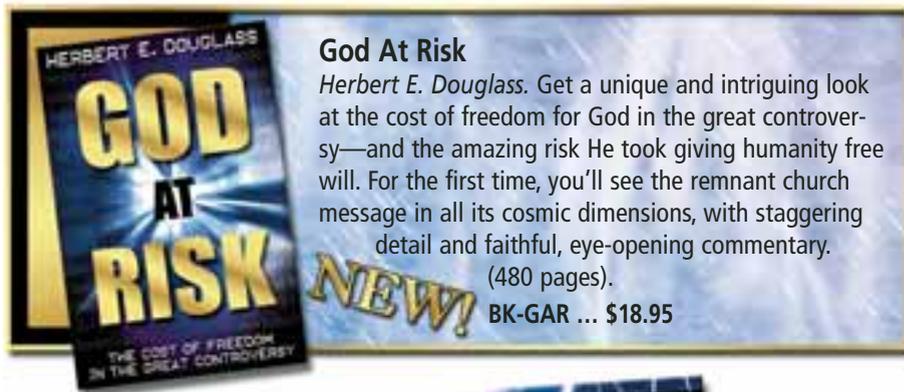
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Doug Batchelor. Rediscover the great secrets of true revival in a time of troubling spiritual laziness. The church must wake up and commit to achieving harmony with God's plan. A must-have for church leaders and laity who want to lift up the soul of their church into God's heavenly care.

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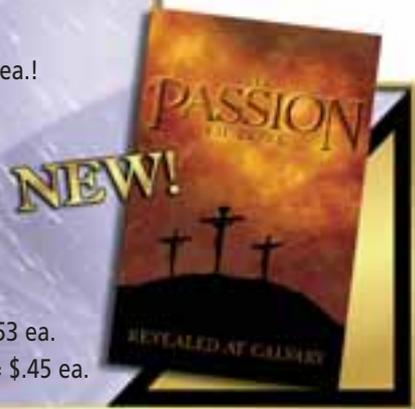
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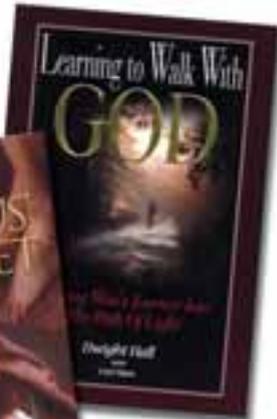
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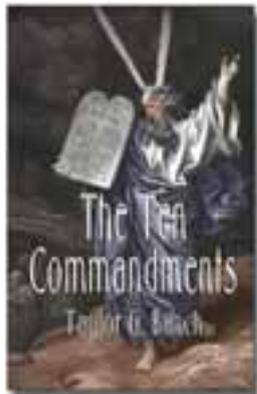
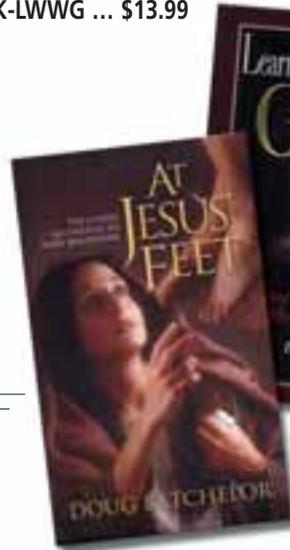
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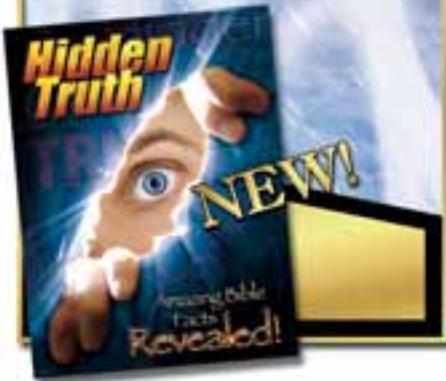
BK-HT ... \$1.99

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100 magazines = \$.99 ea.

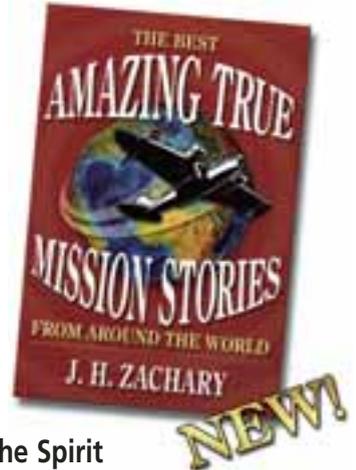
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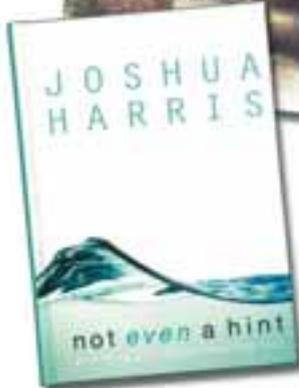
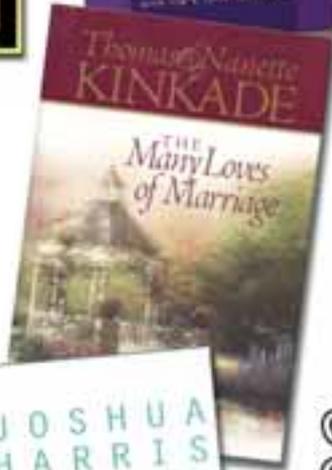
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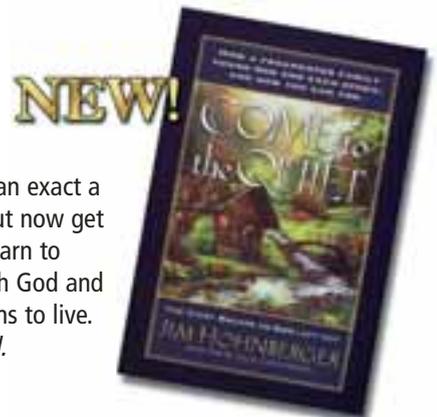
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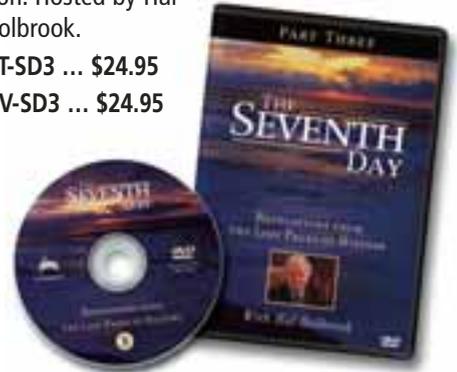
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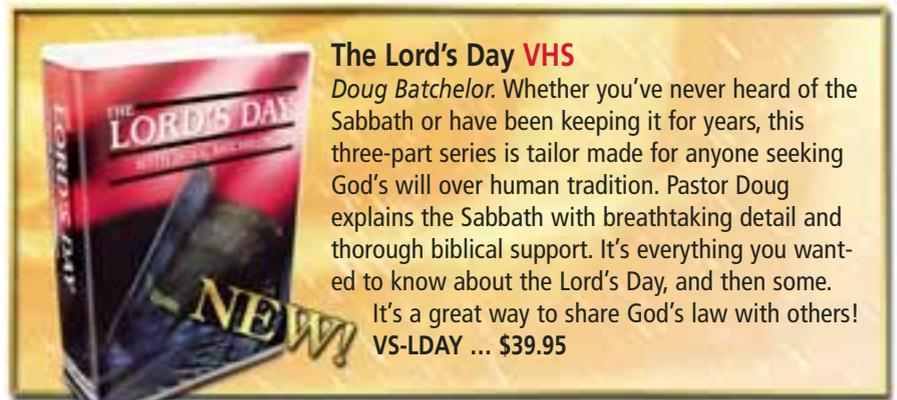


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Incredible Creatures that Defy Evolution I DVD

Enter the fascinating world of God's amazing animals to reveal sophisticated designs that shake the very foundations of evolution. Powerful evidence that reveals a loving Creator. Learn about the gecko's sticky feet, the giraffe's amazing neck, and the extraordinary bombardier beetle! Great for sharing with skeptics!

DV-ICTD1 ... \$22.99



Incredible Creatures that Defy Evolution II DVD

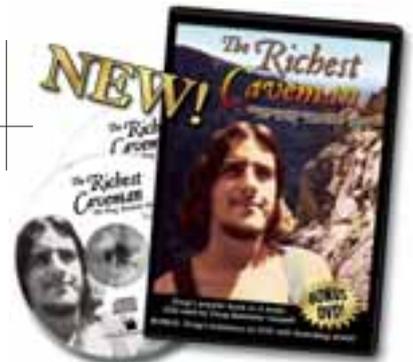
The exciting sequel continues to destroy evolutionary thought by exploring bird migration, fireflies, deep-diving great whales, animal regeneration, and other creation mysteries that leave evolutionists puzzled.

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The Richest Caveman on CD

Finally on audio! The extraordinary true story of Pastor Doug Batchelor, once a caveman who God transformed into a tremendous soul-winner. Comes on 3 audio-CDs and a bonus DVD of Pastor Doug's testimony.

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A Little Jar of Oil



A husband suddenly dies, and his wife finds her family in desperate financial straits. Before long, a creditor is pressing at her door, demanding to take her two children away and sell them into slavery.

Overwhelmed, the poor widow cries out for help, and the Lord sends her Elisha. The prophet asks her if she has anything of value in her home, but all she owns is a simple jar of oil. However, Elisha instructs her to take this common oil from her jar and begin filling other vessels borrowed from neighbors. Amazingly, no matter how many containers she fills, her jar remains full! God's miracle multiplied her little into so very much.

He can and will do the same for you today. This miraculous story, found in 2 Kings 4, can be both a warning and a story of hope. Sometimes we are unexpectedly faced with overwhelming obstacles, but if we give our all to God, He will help us overcome anything.

Giving Our Best



Every day we help people who want to be responsible stewards of the resources with which God has blessed them. So many of these faithful Christians are concerned that their CDs, money market

funds, or stock portfolios are yielding very little interest or dividends. They want a stable and secure increase of their income so that they can ultimately help God's work the best they can.

If this describes you, Amazing Facts has two great plans that can help. The **charitable gift annuity** and the **charitable remainder trust** can assist your effort to become a more responsible, effective, and fulfilled caretaker of God's resources.

Our **gift annuity** is an irrevocable tool that gives you a dependable fixed income, a large immediate tax deduction, and a future annual payout that is partially tax free for your life expectancy.

Single Life Rate of Return

AGE	RATE
55	5.5%
60	5.7%
65	6.0%
70	6.5%
75	7.1%
80	8.0%
85	9.5%
90	11.3%



Minimum Gift Amounts

Single Life: \$5,000

Two-Life: \$10,000

A Special Trust

Amazing Facts **charitable remainder trust** is especially helpful if you have appreciated assets that have greatly increased in value, including land, rental property, residence, business, or stocks. Often these assets are producing little or no income, but with Amazing Facts CRTs, you can escape all capital gains tax and usually increase your income. Even more, it also gives you a large, immediate tax deduction with an excellent pay out, providing for your needs today and tomorrow.

Doing Your Best

What is in your house? What is in your life? Have you surrendered your life and dedicated your blessings to Jesus? If not, why not do that now? When we give our best to our Lord, we are cooperating with Him in delivering others from the slavery of sin.

For more information on how you can partner with Amazing Facts to do a mighty work for the Lord, call the Planned Giving Department at 800-436-2695 and ask for John Bridges, director, at ext. 3005, or Judy Schachten, secretary, at ext. 3029.

We look forward to hearing from you today!



BIBLE Answers

with Pastor Doug Batchelor



Q What is biblically permissible when it comes to entertainment?

The Bible says in Philippians 4:8, “Whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report . . . think on these things.”

If you apply these criteria to what you’re watching, reading, and hearing, this is always the safest guide. Is your choice of entertainment elevating? Is it noble? Is it true? These are some of the tests that Paul applies regarding how we determine what to think about.

King David said, “I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes” (Psalm 101:3).

When we follow this as a guideline, we’re more likely to choose activities that nurture the fruits of the Spirit. And the bottom line is always, “What would Jesus do?” What would He watch, what would He read, and what would He listen to? These are very good questions to ask yourself in every situation. A Christian is a follower of Christ, so His example should be foremost in our minds and hearts. The only way to really find that out is to study your Bible.

And as a final caution, don’t be deceived simply by things called “Christian” or “family entertainment.” For instance, the *Left Behind* books and films are not only filled with misleading errors, they have violent scenes outside biblical context. You can also apply this to the trendy Christian rock scene and similarly to the popular Christian culture at large. There is a reason why many of these types of entertainments are on the rise, and I don’t think God has very much to do with them.

Q Should women cover their heads in church?

Paul writes, “But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head. . . . If a woman is not covered, let her also be shorn. But if it is shameful for a woman to be shorn or shaved, let her be covered” (1 Corinthians 11:5, 6).

The Bible also says that in the mouth of two or three witnesses, let a thing be established. We should be careful not to build a doctrine on one Scripture that might in fact stand by itself. This is the only place in the Bible where it talks about this particular issue. It appears at first glance Paul is insisting women who pray or prophecy in the church in public prayer and corporate worship—not in private—do so with their heads covered or veiled.

The argument is whether or not this is an out-dated tradition or something women must do today. In the Middle East now especially, some Islamic women still dress like Bible women used to dress; they are very modest, maybe to a fault. In the days of the Roman Empire, the time in which Paul writes, a woman would cover her head because

it was one way to avoid being thought a prostitute, who would go around with her head uncovered as part of her provocative attire.

Adam Clark, in his Bible commentary, shares some interesting thoughts; “It was a custom, both among the Greeks and Romans, and among the Jews an express law, that no woman should be seen abroad without a veil. This was, and is, a common custom through all the east, and none but public prostitutes go without veils. And if a woman should appear in public without a veil, she would dishonor her head—her husband. And she must appear like to those women who had their hair shorn off as the punishment of whoredom, or adultery.” In the Bible, we find this was a practice for women suspected of adultery. “Then the priest shall set the woman before the LORD, and uncover the woman’s head” (Numbers 5:18).

Some wonder if this was simply a tradition, and Paul was asking women to honor that tradition out of respect. You can compare this to a president who gives a national address and doesn’t wear a tie. Many believe that isn’t appropriate. But nothing in the Constitution, and much less the Bible, says he must wear a tie. There’s not even a good practical reason—I don’t like ties one bit! But it’s a custom of respect of which the president should be mindful.

Likewise, in the ancient churches, evidently they thought it was disrespectful for Christian women to pray or prophesy in public with their husbands present and with their heads uncovered. It was considered immodest, and they didn’t show modesty or respect for their husbands. So it was very likely just a simple tradition that Paul was encouraging the church to respect in order to improve the witness of the church among the culture of the day.

However, if the Holy Spirit is convicting a woman to cover her head as a sign of respect when praying in public, I have no burden to discourage her from doing so. There is certainly no harm in covering your head during prayer. But if you’re in doubt, remember that Paul said if you can’t do something by faith, don’t do it. “For whatsoever is not of faith is sin” (Romans 14:23).

And be careful not to judge in your heart or with words those who are not under the same conviction. —

Tune in to Bible Answers Live,

Amazing Facts’ live, nationwide call-in radio program, and listen to Pastor Doug give biblical, straightforward answers to difficult Bible questions. To get times and stations in your area, or to listen to answers online, visit www.amazingfacts.org. You can also request a free program guide by phone or mail.

Behind the Scenes

What's new at Amazing Facts...

Doug Garcia Joins Final Events Team



Amazing Facts welcomed multitalented Doug Garcia in mid-October as the Final Events project coordinator. He will spearhead the video portion of the Final Events project, working to create the graphics, animations, and video illustration of the DVD/CD project.

Doug hails from the small town of West Frankfort, Illinois, hours away from the big cities, and he was raised a Sabbath-keeper. In 1989, he graduated from Weimar College's elementary education program and did student teaching through Pacific Union College.

Prior to Amazing Facts, Doug worked for 3ABN for 12 years as a video editor, graphic designer, producer, and production manager. When not on the clock, he enjoys photography, biking, reading, and perfecting his craft.

Amazing Facts New Team Member

Mike Troxell, Amazing Facts evangelist, and his wife Melanie welcomed their newest family member, Christian Isaiah, into the world in December 2003, weighing in at seven pounds, seven ounces. He joins his big brother Jonathan as the younger pair of Troxells assisting in the Lord's work. Please pray for this growing family as they continue to travel the country proclaiming the three angels' messages.



D.C. 2005

Recently, we've advertised that our 2005 satellite event would be held in Texas. However, because of its staggering growth, this meeting has now been shifted to the Washington, D.C., area, where we

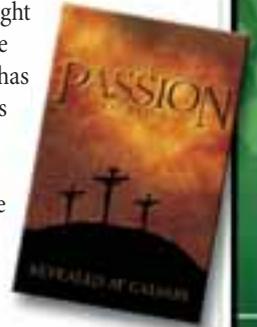
will be better able to reach the Western Hemisphere. Please continue to pray for the meetings as planning is ongoing. Additionally, It Is Written ministries will be broadcasting in Russia to the entire Eastern Hemisphere at the same time—meaning two great ministries will be working together to blanket the world with the end-time message! See page 11 for more information.

Library of Congress

Here's an amazing fact! Many of the books published by Amazing Facts have now been catalogued with the Library of Congress national books in print database. (Nearly every book should be entered by the end of 2004.) Most public and school libraries, as well as major book retailers, can access this database and find ministry publications and how to get them—even special order them! It's just one more avenue potential seekers have to acquire the trusted Christian resources found at Amazing Facts!

Passion of Love

Amazing Facts has sold and distributed more than 100,000 copies of *The Passion of Love*, the inspiring last chapters of *The Desire of Ages*. Printed in response to the controversial *The Passion of the Christ*, it provides biblically faithful insight to those who were moved, confused, or unsure about their feelings after seeing the movie. It has been an incredible blessing to be a part of this major effort alongside Remnant Publications and other publishing houses. Please continue to pray as the door of opportunity is still wide open! See page 17 for how you can order and be a part of this evangelistic outreach.



Streaming Internet

In the month of April, web surfers downloaded more than 1,110 gigabytes of streaming media full of Bible truth through our website! This is just the traffic for high-quality streaming media for such programs as *Millennium of Prophecy*, *A New Revelation*, *Central Study Hour*, *Everlasting Gospel*, *Bible Answers Live*, and *Joe Crews Classics*—and doesn't even include other media content downloads from the site.

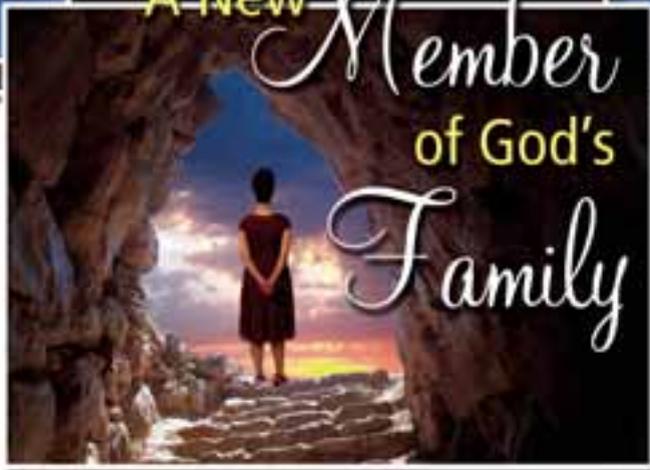
You can also download the *Central Study Hour* video from our website, available one week in advance of the quarterly study, allowing you to play it back for your church or study group.

We also have one of the most popular ministry websites on the Internet, with more traffic than many of the most popular Sundaykeeping ministry websites. Have you visited or shared with others our websites? If not, go to www.amazingfacts.org, www.bibleuniverse.com, and www.sabbathtruth.org!



Pastor Doug Batchelor meets World War II hero and Sabbath-keeper Desmond Doss. Here they pose, with Desmond's wife Frances, before a screening of the moving documentary *The Conscientious Objector* by director Terry Benedict. The film chronicles Doss's heroic efforts to save lives during WWII while staying true to his faith in the midst of discrimination.

A New Member of God's Family



The following beautiful testimony comes from Betty Brown and Edward Skoretz, pastor of the Summerville and Rome churches and Community Service/Disaster Response Director of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

It testifies to the importance of finding a solid and supportive Bible-centered church when the Lord speaks to your heart. We are blessed to know that God often uses Amazing Facts to plant the seed, and uses His local churches to water and reap the harvest.

If you have any stories of Christians who came to your church through Amazing Facts media, literature, or live evangelism, please write us today!

Betty was baptized when she was 12 years old. But years later, after marrying young, she only made it to church every now and then. Soon, as often happens, she completely turned away from God—and toward the world in a new search for happiness.

She was eager to find comfort in worldly attractions, longing to be accepted by the in-crowd. She believed that if she hung around with the right people and owned the right things, she would find acceptance and contentment. Instead, she sank deeper into sin, even collapsing into the despair of adultery.

Through all this, she knew she was looking for something missing in her life—that deep void that she for some reason could not fill with the things of this world. She even battled this urge by divorcing her husband and moving in with another man. She convinced herself that her husband was causing all the problems and even believed the Lord was directing her into the arms of another man. “Something was driving me alright,” she remembers, “But it was not the Lord.”

Yet that would change soon enough.

Out of the Depths

Eventually, the emptiness of living with a man and constant partying began to overwhelm any good times that might have been had. And one Sunday, while watching TV, she came upon Amazing Facts. She was impressed how the speaker, Pastor Doug Batchelor, provided strong scriptural support for all his teachings.

The more she watched Pastor Doug present the Bible, the more she saw that it was true. For three years, the Lord worked on her heart through Amazing Facts. She sensed the Holy Spirit working in her life and recognized a growing desire that she should give her heart to Jesus and join His remnant church.

Slowly but surely, she came to the conclusion that she could not live the way she was living. She had a huge fight with the man she was living with, and he kicked her out. Betty had no place to go, so she called her ex-husband, and he graciously told her she could stay with him until she found another place to go. The Lord was working more powerfully than she could have imagined!

The following Sunday, Betty watched Pastor Doug again. She could feel the Holy Spirit calling her. She felt like a sponge soaking up vital, lifesaving truth. Finally, she broke down in tears. It was like a dam had burst and years of pain and confusion came flooding out.

Betty then placed her life in the Lord's hands.

Newer and Better Heights

Since her conversion, the Lord has really blessed Betty. She and her husband remarried and are very much in love. The things she once clung to no longer have any power over her life.

Once she had a habit of smoking pot, but the Lord encouraged her to use her stubbornness positively, and she stopped smoking. She says, “Jesus can change you so that you do not want the things that are bad for you.” She has also been eating healthier than ever!

Not long after, she began searching for a Sabbathkeeping church in Summerville, Georgia. After a short hunt in the local phone book, she called about services on a Sabbath. She spoke with a young man, Matt, and told him she had been watching Pastor Doug and wanted to visit, and in fact, join the church!

Matt couldn't believe what he was hearing! Like Betty, he joined Christ's remnant church after being influenced by Amazing Facts. Betty attended the next prayer meeting and the next Sabbath, and has been going ever since. Praise the Lord!

With a supportive husband, Betty's newfound faith gave her strength and confidence to live according to the Lord's will. She even approached her employer about getting Sabbath off from work, and she lost her job. However, she knows more than ever that we must put the Lord first in all we do. Amen!

She now feels part of a wonderful church family. She's joined other church members to lead a Bible study for Betty's friends who want to know about the

things that changed her life so much. They have already supplied themselves with the *Storacles of Prophecy* and other Amazing Facts Bible study materials. The members of the Summerville church and the Amazing Facts family rejoice with Betty! —



Amazing Facts in Peru

Webmaster Leaves Computer to
Preach the Gospel in South America

Peru Facts!

Name: Republic of Peru
Size: 798,635 sq. mi. (slightly smaller than Alaska)
Population: 27,013,000
Capital: Lima
People: 45% Amerindian, 37% mestizo, 15% white, 3% other
Languages: Spanish (official), Quechua (official), Aymara
Religion: 90% Roman Catholic
Government: Constitutional Republic
Economy: GDP of \$139 billion (U.S.); 9.4 % unemployment



Amazing Fact: Peru was the cradle of one of the most advanced indigenous civilizations and most powerful empires in the pre-Columbian era—the Incas—until Spanish colonization in the 1560s. The Incas were so adept at carving up mountains for terraced farmlands that they had more land in cultivation in the Andes in the 1500s than there is today.

From the staggering peaks of the Andes, the glorious desert coastline, and the lush Amazon basin, the long swath of Peruvian land on the west coast of South America hosts some of the most beautiful and richly diverse terrain on the continent. Her people are also unusually varied, from impoverished multihued city-dwellers to often even poorer rural Indians.

However, religiously the country is uncannily homogeneous. Most of the nation is steeped in Roman Catholicism, the landscape dotted with shrines and idols, and its constitution officially recognizes the Catholic Church as an “important element in the historical, cultural, and moral development of the nation.” As such, it is given strong preferential treatment by the government in areas such as education, tax breaks, and other special privileges². Indeed, priests are even paid with public funds, and Protestant churches are barely represented.

Still, the precious souls of Peru are hungry for the plain truth of the Bible and for the faith and true gospel of the fathers. And it was under that banner that Amazing Facts webmaster John Quade traveled to Peru with church members Sara Jones and Loida Virbel to conduct a Revelation prophecy seminar. John had previously traveled to Peru in 1999, where he conducted a successful seminar in the city of Iquitos—more than 150 souls were baptized. He was happy to return there and continue the Lord’s work.

Gospel Frontier

The meetings were held in Pucallpa, a busy frontier town northeast of Lima. Like many other parts of Peru, the area is blackened with soot from unregulated industrialization and over-ridden with crime. And as in Lima, locals often must resort to barbed wire, iron gates, or other makeshift security to protect their homes and belongings. (Some even resort to gluing broken bottles

and shards of glass on roofs to keep would-be thieves at bay!) Still, the people are resourceful in an ever-struggling economy, opening up specialty shops on the street and even the nearby river to sell goods ranging from mops and dustpans to clothing and hardware.

Pucallpa was chosen by the heart of Loida, the translator for the meetings and a good friend of the ministry. She financed the first evangelistic trip

to Iquitos and co-funded the Pucallpa series alongside Amazing Facts. Her heart longs for her family and the people of Peru, and it was

her sense of urgency and love that enabled many hearts to change in Pucallpa. God always rewards in unexpected ways those hearts eager to see loved ones come to Him. “Loida and Sara,” says John, “they really made this happen. They are the real saints.”



Sharing the Gospel

The theme of the meetings was “Eventos Finales,” the Final Events. The mysterious title brought in many seekers, who filled the auditorium to capacity on most nights—sometimes a little later than John was comfortable with. “Each night we began with music,” reports John. “And as we started to sing, I would look around and start to panic because it didn’t appear that very many people were coming. But we would just keep on singing and by the time it came for me to preach, the place was full!”

Many were forced to make great efforts to attend the meetings. Because the cost of owning and operating a car is too high for the common citizen, most in the city do not own vehicles. Therefore, several participants simply walked the poorly lit roads 5 to 10 miles each night through crime-ridden areas just to hear about Jesus and the coming conflict. Children also came and received a special program hosted each night by Sara Jones.

Listeners were able to hear the remarkable truth of end-time events and were blessed with the hard work of poor but effective local church members who made the beautiful paintings and back-grounds for the series and helped organize the event. In addition, the meeting hall was secured without cost, saving thousands of dollars for the modest venture.



Reaping a Harvest

John had the opportunity to visit families with local Bible worker and guide, Orviller. This former drug addict was once lost in despair, but he did Bible work for the series and found many interests. "He was a hard worker for the Lord," says John, "And he always had a smile on his face!"

One of qualities that most affected John was the people's giving nature. Many felt honored by John's visits, offering whatever gifts they could, from crafts to simple beads, even though they owned so little. "They want to give you things," John says. "Some live in bamboo huts with thatched roofs, and all they have is the clothes and shoes they wear every day. I really wanted to give them something, not take anything."

On appropriate occasions, after John revealed the amazing truths of Revelation, the local pastor gave an altar call at the end of a meeting, and each night, people responded. By the end of the meeting, 28 souls had been baptized, and at least 40 more expressed interest in baptism by the time John left Peru.

One lady who was baptized along with her sister was a Jehovah's Witness, the first ever such conversion for John. The young woman was so thrilled and happy to have found Bible truth, which is often hard for Jehovah's Witnesses to see through all the twist and turns of their doctrines. The first day of baptisms was also a challenge, because there was barely any water for the baptism pool! But people insisted on being baptized in the ankle-deep water, including one couple who decided to get married and baptized while attending the meetings.

Another man named Fausto lived in a place no bigger than an office cubicle. Furnished only with a small bed and tiny desk, his room showed the clean and organized care of a devoted seeker. Says John,

"He was living like a king, even though poverty was everywhere around him. In that small place, he had all the series notes and his Bible neatly stacked and he was ready with deep questions about the Lord."

John believes the time is always right to share the gospel with others in the same way. Wherever the Lord is calling you, go and do. As Luke 10:2 pleads,

"The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." One inspired writer answered, "Christ is soon to come in the clouds of heaven to reward every man as his works have been. To whom will it then be said, 'Ye have done what ye could.'"

Amen. —

¹ 2003 CIA Fact Book

² U.S. State Department

The Inquisition in Peru

The Church of San Francisco in Lima, Peru, stands in stark contrast to the poverty that plagues the city. Laden with gold chairs and fixtures and decorated with ornate paintings and tapestries, it stands as a testament to the particular power and wealth of the Roman Church in the country.



Church of San Francisco



It also hosts an extraordinary antique library with books dating back to the conquistadors. In addition, a sizeable network of catacombs beneath the church holds an estimated 25,000 skeletons—in some places, these bones are arranged openly in often strange and macabre patterns.

Located just a short distance away is the Museum of the Congress and Old Tribunal of Inquisition, the place in which the Saint Office Tribunal condemned heretics to torture and death for opposing church religious law. The museum features displays showing the horrors of large torture rooms used to convince heretics, heathens, and other dissenters to accept church teaching.



In the tribunal room, charges were read aloud by a hidden accuser before church officials and state representatives. If suspects did not recant their sins, they would be immediately imprisoned and tortured. Often, heretics would be forced to don humiliating clothes and were paraded and beaten in public for their

crimes. Other times they were tied to chairs and were forced to watch others being tortured as a warning to what was coming to them—a troubling testimony to the dangers of church-state powers.

Still, as in other countries overrun with pagan worship and false religion, God's remnant church is still represented. A local church and school offer a bright light of hope in a dark place where idol worship and a false gospel saturate the country.



Witnessing Corner

Here's how one friend is doing her part in the great commission using Amazing Facts resources!



Jean Handwerk of Wilmington, Delaware, is helping to reach new souls for Christ in a unique, cost-effective, and rewarding way that we just have to share with you! She is taking advantage of free advertising in a local "Shopper's Guide" to offer free Bible studies to interested seekers and help grow God's kingdom.

Every week, Jean calls the periodical to place a no-cost ad like this:

FREE!

Bible study course by mail or video,
Makes Bible easy to understand,
Suitable for any denomination
Beautifully illustrated.

And every week, she consistently gets at least one or two calls in response to her ad placement. Jean's been doing this faithfully for the past few years and the Lord has blessed her dedicated effort. At least 155 souls have heard the good news!

Interested seekers have the opportunity to sign up for Amazing Facts' mail-based studies, which she works in coordination with another Amazing

Facts friend in another state. If you're interested in this unique outreach opportunity,

Jean suggests filling out Amazing Facts Study Guide postcards with the study interest's information and mailing them to the ministry. This only costs about a quarter (postcard plus stamp), a small investment with eternal dividends. Or you can simply e-mail the Bible School directly with their information at bibleschool@amazingfacts.org!

Our caring staff and volunteers work tirelessly grading lessons and answering Bible questions from students.

You can be assured that we offer a warm, personal touch that helps open hearts to God's end-time truths.

Jean also saves the names and addresses of interests so that when an evangelistic series comes along, she can be sure to send an invitation even if the person is outside the mailing list area for mailers advertising the event.

Video Outreach

Those interests from Jean's local area also have the option of taking the *Millennium of Prophecy* video course, which she provides to them personally. She drops off a video and two Amazing Facts Study Guides, then returns to do the same when the interest is ready to move forward in their study.

Along the way, Jean takes the opportunity to offer *The Great Controversy*, health materials, and other witnessing tools to touch the life of each study interest. It's a personal touch that goes a long way to show the love of Jesus. This often leads to further in-depth Bible studies, so she's always prepared to answer questions.

"Anyone can do this," explains Jean. "Your age doesn't matter!" She is also always looking out for similar free advertising guides when she's on the road. For instance, she has even placed an ad in a Rochester, New York, newspaper. "All it does is cost time."

The Reason

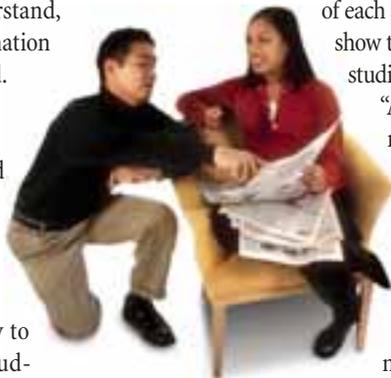
In cooperation with the Holy Spirit, Jean has seen many successes. One lady's son wanted to take the mail lesson, but the mother was also interested in the video lessons. After going through the lessons and completing the guides, the woman was baptized into God's end-time church. This new soul now uses her own set of *Millennium of Prophecy* videos to share the gospel with others!

"Your job is to faithfully present the Word," says Jean. "You have a partner: the Holy Spirit. And you have to let Him work." She realizes that most people are unwilling to accept the Sabbath truth and other controversial doctrines on the first pass, but Jean knows she simply needs to plant the seeds. "You can't take it personally. You have to plant to the seed, and the Holy Spirit continues to work with them. But we must do what we can do."

Others are enthusiastically enjoying the video series, even those whose first language is other than English. Jean worked with a Spanish lady through the videos and gave her Christian materials in Spanish. This lady is now witnessing to her Spanish-speaking community! "People are hungry," Jean explains. "So it's spreading to all walks of life."

She continues to work diligently, accepting the Lord's appointments as they come to her. She is also compiling her own study materials into a book for secular-minded people with further questions regarding important Bible doctrines. She feels many people need to see gospel truth in different ways.

Why is she so busy for the Lord? "It is my joy!"



Special Recognition

In Loving Memory of

Harold Adams from Sadie Jauch

Florence Anderson from Barbara Koepplinger

Florette Andrews from Vernon Andrews; from Myra Christianson

Marlene Anerson from Larry Case

Etta Avey from Jean and Evelyn Avey

A

Oliver Bailey from Dorothy Hughes

Orta Baker from Sadie Jauch

Helaine Baldecchi from William Tyler

James and Virginia Lee Ballard from D.J. and Evelyn Avey

Walter and Mary Barker from Bonnie Lorenz

Warren Bartel from Jean and Evelyn Avey

Arlene Bartels from Ila Genton

Micah Batchelor from Doug and Karen Batchelor; from Robert and

Aneita Doering; from Bonnie and Ed Ensminger; from Don Park

Tressie Beach from Eloise Boice; from Alta Devitt

Floy Stratton Belding from Eldon Stratton

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Shannon Burton from Mr. and Mrs. Spurgeon Lail,

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Joseph Calkins from Judy Schachten, his "grandma"

John Cameron from Anne Cameron, his wife

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Lois Carlson from Esther R. Henderson; from Carol Morris

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Roberta Dillon Chaffee from Stanley Chaffee, her husband

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Guldhammer; from Gordon Hare; from Robert and Idana Noel; from Mary Jo Ventress

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Wilda Cox from Jack Sherman

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Joe Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his wife; from Doug and Karen Batchelor; from Shelly Lowe; from William Lowe; from Mrs. Catherine Ritchie

Ronnie Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his mother

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Lura Demers from Leo Demers

Frank Den from Tony Custer

Percy Devitt from Alta Devitt, his wife

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D

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Majorie Dickinson from Kent and Dee Dickinson

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Earlena Dudney from Ed and Esther Brummett

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Edith Durham from Shelly Lowe, her granddaughter; from William Lowe, her son.

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Fred Dyer from Mercedes Dyer, his wife; from John and Idy Freeman

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Wilma Eggert from Donald and Jean Eggert

Stella Eliuk from Lenore Roffey

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Ruby Evanenko from Mildred Tarasenko

E

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C. Rayburn Ferguson from Lucille Bush

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William Fisher from Dorothy Fisher, his wife

Edward Flower from M. Florence Flower, his wife

Susanna Folkendt from Kurt Gerth

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Lynn Fox from Drusilla Fox

Jerry Freeman from Hazel Freeman, his wife

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Harry Fridley from Leon Rich

Ken Fridlund from Ronald and Purla Swanson

Margaret Frye from Demas and Verna Borba; from Elsie Buford; from Agnes Souza

Bill Fulton from Edith Fulton

F

Dr. Alan Gair from Jackie Gair, his wife

Janet Gentry from Jan Gentry, her daughter-in-law; from Allan and Catherine George; from Charles and Lois Vanskike

Hugo and Albertine Gerst from Albert and LaVerne Gerst

Gerry Giarde from Paul Giarde

Katheryn Gibas from Albert Lorenz

Bob Gleason from Mark Menkello

G

Amazing Facts recognizes contributions made as a tribute to the deceased or as an honorarium celebrating significant milestones in the lives of loved ones. Please type or print legibly to ensure correct spelling; we are unable to verify confusing spellings due to volume. Due to space limitations, a maximum of five names will be printed per donation per issue.

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from Joe Waggy; from Linda, Ben, Dan, Doris, Kathy, and
Joanne, her co-workers

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Bill Lawson from Jean Wagar
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Michael Lee from Robert Lee
Lauren Beth Lendle from Jackie Gair, her grandmother
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J. Murray Long from Pauline B. Long, his wife
Donald Lorenz from Albert Lorenz, his brother
James and Mary Lorts from Albert and LaVerne Gerst
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Kattenhorn; from Mildred Tarasenko
Lisa Lungu from John Lungu
Rose Lutes from Jean Chappell
Delia Lynd from Homer and Teresa Lynd

Don and Ellen MacIvor from John and Ruth Sipkens
Leslie Mansell from Priscilla McNeily
Fritzie Maples from J. Wayne Maples, her husband
Gerald Maples from Leda Smith
J. Wayne Maples from Elizabeth Marcussen, his niece;
from Leda Smith

Lester Marcussen from Elizabeth Marcussen, his wife
Marc Marcussen from Elizabeth Marcussen, his grandmother
Earl and Edna Marlin from Helen Marlin
Hugh Marlin from Helen Marlin, his wife

Julie Marlin from Helen Marlin, her grandmother
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N. Kenneth McElmurry from Clark and Ada Willison
Dorothy McGill from Florence Hanson
Dr. Robert McReynolds from Orville Bleuer
Elise Hirsch Mears from Warren and Phyllis Wright
Isaac and Alice Meier from Everett and Yvonne Dickerson
John Mellish from Donna Mellish
John and Harriet Meyers from Helen Marlin
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Hazel Moe from Allene Tattrie
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Gerry Morris from Thayer Morris
W.E. Morris from Thayer Morris
Jay Mortenson from Ramona Mortenson, his wife
Dorothy Morville from Thelma Horner
Mildred Mundy from Homer and Teresa Lynd
Muriel Munson from Howard and Ferne Munson
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William Parks from Phyllis Lacey
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Howard Pendleton from John and Lillian Titus
Dorothy Peters from Homer and Teresa Lynd
Laura Piper from Lewis Hart
Maxim Pivovarov from Andy and Anna Creutzburg
Aime Poirier from Alyce Hall, her sister-in-law
Jeanette Poirier from Alyce Hall, her sister
Mary Polizzi from S. L. and Jane Alvarez
Frank Pollack from Mary Pollack, his sister; from Anne Cameron
Pauline Pollack from Mary Pollack, her sister;
from Anne Cameron
Bobby Potter from D.J. and Evelyn Avey
Len Pounders from Joyce Pounders
Virgil Pounders from Joyce Pounders
Edie Cain Powell from John and Anita Silvestri
Rose Pratt from Jean Chappell, her sister
Wanietta Mae Pratt from Frances Ahlers; from Johnna Cook;
from Danny Durkee; from Ira and Mary Durkee; from Joe and
Shirley Fields; from Donald and Violeta Gambs; from Rick and
Alice Lawlar; from Arnold and Laura Meert; from Reba Patton
Michael Prelog from Robert and Donna Van Devander

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Dr. R. Eugene Prout from Warren and Phyllis Wright

Betty Remington from Homer and Teresa Lynd
Sam Renk from Helen Renk, his wife
Earl and Grace Reuss from Max and Barbara Qualley
Robert Reynold from Herbert and Norma Douglass
Earl Reynolds from Irene Reynolds, his wife
Betty Richards from James Land
Max Ritchie from Mrs. Catherine Ritchie, his wife; from Lu Ann Crews
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Dorothy Rowse from Florence Hanson
Wilfred and Amelia Rowse from Florence Hanson, their daughter
Pansy Ruddle from Francis Ruddle
Alice Rushold from Sadie Jauch
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Delmar Saxton from Jessica Saxton, his wife
Alice Schafer from Beulah Griffith
Rich Schafer from Clinton and Goldine Franklin; from his church family
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Esther Smith from Donald Smith, her husband
Loretta and James Smith from S. L. and Jane Alvarez
Lyndon Smith from his two daughters
Walter Smith from Helen Smith, his wife; from Linda Smith, his daughter
Helen McElmurry Spalding from Clark and Ada Willison
Robert Spangler from Ila Genton
Harlan Specht from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Wilma Spiva from Rosebud O'Neal
Dr. Reuben Sprengel from James Schooley
Harold St. Amant from Anthony Lester
Edith Steger from Rodolfo and Hilda Steger
Hugh Donald Stotts from Eldon Stratton
Millie Sumner from Nancy Patterson, her sister
Edith Jensen Sundin from Ruth Haller; from Clark and Ada Willison
Thelma Sutton from Gordon and Jackie Tall

Elberta Swaim from Everett and Yvonne Dickerson; from Goldie Oblander
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Arnold Tarasenko from Mildred Tarasenko
Mychal Tarasenko from Mildred Tarasenko, his grandmother
Duane Tattrie from Jennie Tattrie, his mother
George Tattrie from Allene Tattrie, his wife
Roy Tattrie from Jennie Tattrie, his wife
John Thiel from Dorothy Hughes
Pearl Thompson from Betty Dull
Grace Travis from Barbara Mayes; from Marion Meyers
Helen Truscott from Doug and Karen Batchelor
Paul Trynchuk from Lenore Roffey

Fred Byron Van Dolson from Leo Van Dolson
Howard Van Houten from Naomi Van Houten, his wife
George Vandeman from D.J. and Evelyn Avey
Edward Allen Venn from Ardatha Pederson, his mother
Katherine Vining from Noble Vining; from Russell Ayers and Linda Ayers; from Virginia Creel; from George and Barbara Lower; from Ruby Lucas; from William and Barbara Platt; from Lawrence Rice; from the Barbie Stricker family

Rosetta Waddell from Goldie Hein, her daughter
Dale Wagner from Beulah Griffith
John and Marian Wagner from Joyce Siegel, their daughter
Sigrid Wallen from Jose and Ethel Acosta; from Ralph and JoAnn Davis
Thelma Waln from Leon Rich
Robert Wareham from Justine Slack
Frank Warner from Bill Warner
Zack Wasson from Gerald and Barbara Lammerding

Frieda Wearner from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Martha Weh from Carol Morris
Howard and Margaret Weir from Hank and Lori Steensma
Evelyn and Stanley White from S. L. and Jane Alvarez; from Lola Genton
Dorothy Whitehead from Ron and Millie Beardsley
Yvonne Whitten from Eva Ora
Mel Wiese from Joan Wiese, his wife
Del Wiggins from Al and Arlene Wiggins
Ruth Wiggins from Al and Arlene Wiggins
Richard Williams from James and Robbie Land; from David and Martha Pope
M. Earl Willison from Clark and Ada Willison
Carl Wilson from Bonnie and Ed Ensminger
Ken and Ida May Wilson from Bonnie Boyd, their daughter; from Joan Reppel, their daughter
Ralph Winchester from Leon Rich
John Wohler from Beulah Griffith
Nettie Wolfe from Alyce Hall, her sister
Orval Wood from D.J. Avey and Evelyn Avey
Jan and Bob Wuerstlin from Oscar Wuerstlin

Leoma Yngsdal from Goldie Hein
Anderson Young from Lurecer Young
Joylin Campbell Yukl from Margaret Campbell, her mother

Bill Zima, Jr. from Patricia Zima, his mother

Bill Zima, Sr. from Patricia Zima, his wife

Happy Anniversary

Myrle and Anna Greavu Dean (64th) from Tom and Helen Ipes

Happy Birthday

Stephen Batchelor (11th) from Bonnie and Ed Ensminger
Aletha Ensminger from Bonnie and Ed Ensminger
Jana Ensminger (15th) from Bonnie and Ed Ensminger
Larry Redmond (65th) from Leah and Warner McClure
Marge Johnson (85th) from Grace Alice Mentzel, her sister
Florence Frank (96th) from Jim and Mary Lou Crutcher
Frank Tyroff from Anna, Abigayle, and Dale Estep
Gayle Tyroff by Anna, Abigayle, and Dale Estep
Florence Grose from Paul and Jeanette Rau
Fred Karr from Frederick Karr
Mercedes Karr from Frederick Karr
Paul Rau from Ralph J. Grose

Happy Marriage

Dean and Judy from Helen Hope Holt
Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Miller from Mr. and Mrs. William Stephenson

In Honor of

Mrs. Pauline Danforth from Julia Danforth
Nolan and Joyce Stoltz from Steve, Terri, Colton, and Courtney Stoltz
Martha Sumner from Christopher Schlenker

In Honor of Mother's Day

Caroline Champion from Barry Champion, her son



Health Bite

CHOLESTEROL

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly

More than 50 percent of U.S. adults have high cholesterol, putting millions at risk for heart disease—the number one killer in the nation. Yet cholesterol doesn't need to be a scary word! In fact, for the most part, it's all good for you! It's true.

Cholesterol is made in the liver and is used to build healthy cell walls and hormones, produce vitamin D, and it also aids in digestion. Low-density lipoproteins (LDL) carry cholesterol from your liver to your cells, while high-density lipoproteins (HDL) return excess cholesterol to your liver.



The Good, the Bad, the Ugly

But what's this about "good" and "bad" cholesterol? First, your body manufactures both HDL, the "good," and LDL, the "bad," at a clip of about 1,000 milligrams a day. If you didn't make either substance, you couldn't survive. (We won't even get started on triglycerides or VLDL cholesterol.)

However, the "bad" comes when you have *too much* LDL, which transports cholesterol to your cells in excess amounts. This superfluous cholesterol in the blood sticks to the internal walls of your arteries, clogging the flow of blood not only to your heart but other vital organs. So a high level of LDL means you run a greater risk of coronary heart disease!

And that's why HDL is known as "good" cholesterol. It's the refuse collector, grabbing unnecessary cholesterol in your arteries and dragging it, kicking and

screaming, back to the liver. It is often said that a high level of HDL counteracts a high level of LDL, but recent studies indicate that this isn't true—it's not about just increasing your HDL to deal with high LDL, but very much more about lowering LDL to a safe level!

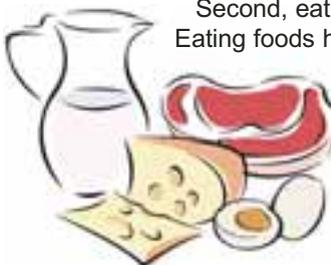


Getting It Right

Unfortunately, your liver often insists on making LDL even when it doesn't need it, which is why we need to follow certain health principles to make sure we keep our risk of heart disease to a minimum.

First, it is recommended you get your blood screened for cholesterol at least every five years, and more often if your doctor recommends it.

Second, eat healthy and know your fats! Eating foods high in saturated fats actually



signals your liver to make too much LDL cholesterol. The highest source of saturated fat comes from animal products, like organ meats (e.g., liver) and eggs, and is also found

in red meat, poultry, cheese, and butterfat. This includes some vegetable-based oils such as palm and coconut. Use saturated fats very sparingly, if at all!

Polyunsaturated fats (corn, soy, sunflower) lower both LDL and HDL. Monounsaturated fats (peanut oil, olive oil, canola oil) reduce LDL only.

Of course, there is no cholesterol in plant food such as fruits, vegetables, and grains, which is why a vegetable-based diet or total vegetarian diet is best for your heart. You should also get your



daily allowance of carbohydrate- and fiber-rich foods!

Third, exercise! Aerobic activity, such as jogging and swimming, increase HDL level in your body. However, it does not decrease LDL levels, so you must include a healthy diet to make it all work effectively!

Fourth, even though following the first three steps will reduce just about anyone's cholesterol level, many still need the help of medicine to play it safe.

However you decide to address your cholesterol level, be sure to get the advice of your doctor! Amazing Facts also has some great cookbooks to encourage healthy eating without sacrificing the pleasures of your taste buds!

An Amazing Fact



Many U.S. states trade and sell in trash! In fact, in 1996, Pennsylvania imported more trash for its landfills than what it produced on its own. Nearly 6.7 million tons of Pennsylvania garbage went to landfills from its citizens, but the state imported 7.9 million tons of trash from other states and countries.



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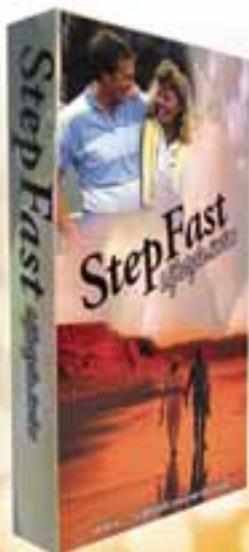
See order info on page 18.

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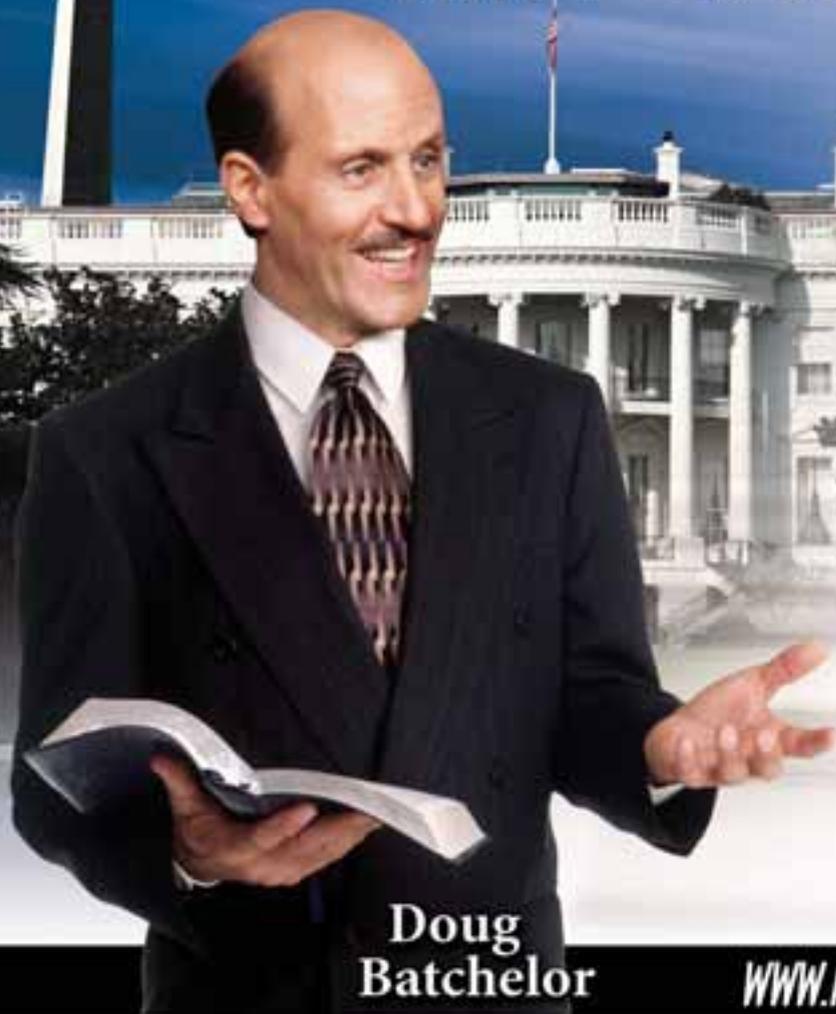


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