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

THE SAVED SINNER
LIVES BY GRACE.

GRACE IS A WAY *TO* LIFE
AND A WAY *OF* LIFE.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE





WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

WHAT DO YOU BRING TO GOD?



Dr. J. Vernon McGee
THRU the BIBLE Founder



This article is an excerpt from our **Galatians Bible Companion**.
Download the full digital booklet [here](#).

How do you want to live your life in God? You have three choices: By the Law. By license. By liberty. The Law strangles you with rules, but license kills you with permissiveness. Only when you live as free as you are in Christ does life work out for you as God intended.

The apostle Paul wrote this letter to Christians living in Galatia (modern Turkey). Years before, he visited them when the church was just getting started. Now he heard that false teachers were telling them to go back to their old ways.



Grace BE TO YOU AND
peace FROM GOD THE *Father*,
AND FROM OUR LORD
Jesus Christ

GALATIANS 1:3

This is Paul's formal greeting that he uses in most of his letters. The word grace (*charis*) was the gentile form of greeting in that day, while peace (*shalom*) was the religious greeting of the Jews. Now the grace of God must be experienced before the peace that is from God the Father can be experienced.

These Judaizers attacked the heart of these Christians' new faith. *Don't believe them*, Paul said loud and clear: *Faith in Jesus Christ is enough to save.*

This is Paul's fighting epistle. It has been the backbone for every great spiritual revival in the past two thousand years. Grace revolutionizes lives. Here's his message:

Not only is a sinner saved by grace through faith plus nothing, but the saved sinner lives by grace. Grace is a way to life and a way of life. These two walk hand in hand.

The message of the book in one verse: *Jesus gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father* (see 1:4).

We can't add anything to Jesus' sacrifice to make it more effective or valuable. Jesus Christ gave Himself. He couldn't have given any more. But why? To deliver us from this present, evil world. The gospel has the power and genuineness to deliver you. Do you have some sin chained around your feet? Jesus can deliver you. He *can* and *wants* to break that chain around our hearts. That's why Jesus gave Himself—so we can be set free.

This is the gospel of grace and glory that the false teachers in Galatia were mutilating. No wonder Paul comes out fighting. He's fighting for grace. He's fighting for us.

The Judaizers cast a sly and subtle cloud over what Jesus did for us on the cross. They say, “Oh, faith will get you started but you also need to keep these rules or you're not really saved. What Jesus did wasn't enough.”

YOU CAN NEVER BE
good enough TO BE *saved.*
Jesus CAME TO SAVE SINNERS—
that's you.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

This old heresy is still with us today. It says you have to *do* something rather than simply believe something. But the truth is you can never be good enough to be saved. Jesus came to save sinners—that's you.

Funny, most of the time, most people don't think about being "good enough" to be saved, but they think they're not "bad enough" to be saved. They refuse to believe they are lost. They don't need a Savior. They'd rather hear how valuable and loved and special they are. All they need is a helper. They just try to balance good works against sins and have enough on the plus side to be saved.

But that never works. We need someone to save us.

God never asks you to live the Christian life. He knows you can't. He wants to live the Christian life through you. This is the message of Galatians. First, we come to Jesus as sinners and are saved. Then He takes your sin and gives you life (see Romans 6:23). It's as simple as that.

Have you accepted God's offer of life in Jesus Christ?
This is where it all begins.



MY TURN

- ① Why is it so appealing to us to attempt to live by the Law, even though we come to Christ by grace through faith?
- ② How can you make grace a way of life?
- ② Why do you think it is necessary that grace comes before peace?
- ③ The gospel means that Jesus delivers us. What does this freedom mean for you personally?
- ④ How hard is it for you to rely on what Jesus has already done, as opposed to what you can do?
- ⑤ What is the difference between you doing works and God doing works through you?
- ⑥ Imagine being one of the Galatian believers who spent their lives keeping the Law before finally getting freedom after coming to faith in Christ. What would that feel like?

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CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS THRU THE BIBLE'S 50 YEARS IN SPANISH

This year, 2023, THRU the BIBLE celebrates its 50th anniversary of the Spanish Bible Bus—*A Través de la Biblia*. The program is the result of a collaboration between Dr. J. Vernon McGee, writer of the Bible study, and Dr. Paul Freed, founder of **twr** Trans World Radio.

We give God praise and glory for the millions who have been reached over the past five decades as a result of the commitment of Dr. McGee and Dr. Paul Freed.

In 1981, Dr. McGee wrote, “*A Través de la Biblia* has become a missionary program. I never imagined that we would be reaching the majority of the world’s population who can hear God’s Word only on the radio.”

A few weeks before going to his heavenly home in December 1988, Dr. McGee wrote these words in a letter to THRU the BIBLE partners:

"When I think about how these practical studies of all of God's Word have spread throughout this hemisphere and then throughout the world—first in English and now in some 35 languages—I am compelled to conclude that it is the result of the Lord's work, and it is wonderful in our eyes! And when I think of all those who have given and provided with such faithfulness and sacrifice to make this possible, I am overwhelmed. Let us praise the Lord together. This is His work, and you are one of His faithful workers who has responded to the words, 'The field is white for harvest.' Because we are collaborators, and the harvest is good."

If your family/friends' heart-language is Spanish ...

tell them about *A Través de la Biblia* on  @ATravesDeLaBiblia and Radio Trans Mundial at transmundial.org/a-traves-de-la-biblia

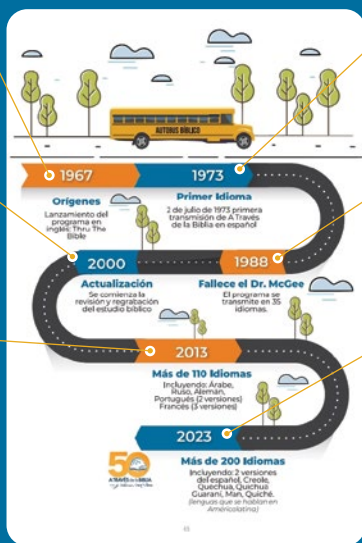


In 1969, during a visit to the TWR radio station on Bonaire, Dr. J. Vernon McGee first realized the incredible power of radio to teach the Bible not only in the United States, but also in the rest of the world.

1967 | Origin: English Program Launch: Thru the Bible*

2000 | Update: The revision and re-recording of the Bible study begins*

2013 | More than 110 languages: Including: Arabic, Russian, German, Portuguese (2 versions), French (3 versions)*



1973 | First language: July 2, 1973 first broadcast of *Thru the Bible* in Spanish*

1988 | Dr. McGee passes away: The program airs in 35 languages*

2023 | More than 200 languages: Including two versions of Spanish, Creole, Quechua, Quichua, Guaraní, Mam, Quiché (languages spoken in Latin America)*

*Translated from Spanish to English.



PRAYING FOR SPIRITUAL MATURITY IN RWANDA

No matter our age, there are times in life that demand we grow up and face our circumstances with courage and maturity. It's the same with our spiritual lives, too. God calls us to leave the basics and move toward a more resilient, effective faith. That's the message we find in the book of Hebrews, and it's also the message we hear from Dedan in Rwanda. He shares:

"I have been living peacefully since my salvation, but I found myself making excuses not to attend church and to read the Bible. This year has been difficult with the illness of a child and the death of my father. At times my faith wavered. A friend told me about your programs, and they have helped. Hebrews has been my favorite so far. Through it I have learned it's time for me to develop in my faith and to study God's Word so I can learn to trust Him when things are not easy."

Thank God for His Word that grows us and guides us. As THRU the BIBLE is heard in the language of Kinyarwanda today, pray more people develop a desire to increase in spiritual maturity. As we hop aboard the Bible Bus together may we become "perfect and complete, lacking nothing" (James 1:4) in our love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

GO TO **TTB.ORG/PRAY**
TO SIGN UP.

J E S U S I N

Galatians

WITH DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. –Galatians 5:1

You know, don't you, that we have been saved by grace rather than by law? **Neither should the Law be the rule of life for the believer. We are saved by grace, and now we can live by grace.** Grace supplies the indwelling and filling of the Spirit to make it possible for us to live on a higher plane than law demands. **This all is our portion when we trust Christ as Savior.**

In Christ we receive everything—salvation and sanctification. We don't need to seek a second blessing. When you came to Christ, you got everything you needed. You have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus. **Let's believe Him and start trusting Him for all those spiritual blessings. Let's stop trying some legal system or rote of rules.**

We have a liberty in Christ. He doesn't put us under a list of rules that we must do to please Him. The Ten Commandments are not our law of life. Certainly, we shouldn't break the Ten Commandments—that would lead to our arrest by local authorities. But instead of living under the commandments, we're called to a higher level to live.

That level is where there is freedom in Christ. You have a liberty in Jesus Christ that is not a rule, but a principle. Your conduct should please Jesus Christ and Him alone. Refuse the “yoke of bondage” that anyone else tries to put you under. Your goal is to please the Lord—and if that's your goal, your conduct will be just fine.



50 Years of Taking the Whole Word to the Whole World in Spanish

As you read on pages 6-7, **we're celebrating a tremendous milestone in our global ministry—*A Través de la Biblia* is 50 years old! This first translation of THRU the BIBLE laid the foundation for ministry in over 200 languages. What began in 1973 was the genesis to take the whole Word to the whole world.** We're forever grateful for the team that got us started and have the highest level of confidence in what they're building now. They're not only the first, but one of the best! I love that now they have multi-generational stories! You can read a few of them on the back cover.

One of the last words Dr. McGee shared with our listening family was about the Spanish ministry. You may know, he was skeptical about translating his studies at first. **But in the last decade of his life, he heard THRU the BIBLE in some 35 languages. Never in his dreams would he imagine the 200+ language translations available today and the dozens of delivery methods.** Something tells me he would be the biggest cheerleader of all the various ways we are today taking the whole Word to the whole world.

Can't you just picture Dr. McGee smiling and shaking his head in wonder? I echo what he said, "This is the result of the Lord's work, and it is wonderful in our eyes!"

Thank you for your part in this fruitful effort. Until God calls us home, let's be faithful to keep getting the Word out every way we can.

Grateful for your partnership,



Gregg Harris
THRU the BIBLE, President



WHY STUDY GALATIANS?

Join in the studies on
THRU the BIBLE JULY 5—AUGUST 1
or anytime online, by podcast,
or by mobile app.

When you “think Galatians, think grace.” That’s what the first readers of this letter from the apostle Paul were prompted to think. These first-century Jews who followed Jesus forgot that Jesus had saved them by grace, rather than by the Law of Moses. They also forgot that Christian Gentiles came to faith in Christ the same way they did.

“The Law could not give us life. Only Jesus can. Yet Jesus could not love me into heaven. He had to give Himself for me. The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus that you receive by faith. We are saved by faith, we must live by faith, we must walk by faith. This is what it means to walk in the Spirit.” –Dr. J. Vernon McGee

LESSONS TO LEARN FROM OUR STUDY IN GALATIANS:

- **How do you know you’re living in the power of God’s Spirit rather than in your own power?** Check for fruit.
- **You don’t have to earn God’s approval**—you have it in Christ Jesus.
- **The Holy Spirit changes us** so we can show Jesus to others.
- **You can’t earn your relationship with God.** You can have it only through Jesus.
- **RE: Rules.** Swing too far to the right and you’ll be legalistic. Swing too far to the left and you live like the world.

KEY VERSE

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. –Galatians 2:20

DID YOU KNOW?

GALATIA IS
Modern-day
TURKEY



I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

GREETINGS FROM THE BIBLE BUS



50th Anniversary of the Spanish Bible Bus Edition

“When I was a child, my mother listened to ATB on KBNL in Laredo, Texas. I’m 35 now, and it’s amazing as this program has been engraved in my heart. **I am from that generation that grew up listening and that now love the Lord Jesus Christ with all my heart and soul.**” **From Pole | Aulipas, Mexico**

“I started listening to the station when I was about 12 years old. *A Tráves de la Biblia* began at 9 p.m. It caught my attention because of the peculiar style of studying the Bible verse by verse, reviewing and analyzing passages that other programs went past unnoticed. I first wrote you when I was 13 years old. I collected the outlines of all 66 books of the Bible. **It has been very helpful for me to have listened to this program for all this time. I have learned quite a bit about many biblical topics. No matter how delicate the subject, they have always been treated by deep reasoning in a clear and logical way to understand God’s message.**” **From Arturo | Dominican Republic**

“Right now, I listen to the program online. You have always been a blessing to my life. Just listening to the music that starts it up comforts my soul. I started listening to *Thru the Bible* in 1979. We tuned in by shortwave direct from Bonaire in the Netherlands Antilles. **This program was the link that the Lord used to communicate with me and tell me many things, among them, that He had never abandoned me, nor He never would, despite all my mistakes.** That’s why I have love for you. May the Lord richly bless you is my fervent prayer.” **From Olga | Argentina**



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