

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

You can never know

THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST UNTIL
THE HOLY SPIRIT OPENS YOUR EYES
TO SEE HIM IN ALL OF HIS WINSOMENESS,
IN ALL OF HIS LOVELINESS, AND IN ALL

the glory of who He is.

J. VERNON MCGEE



THRUthe**BIBLE**



WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD



WHO IS JESUS?

Dr. J. Vernon McGee

Who is Jesus? This question has caused more confusion, difference of opinion, and division than any other. It has always been so.

During Jesus' years of earthly ministry, He walked in and out among everyday people. He taught as no other man ever taught. He performed miracles. He expressed to men and women the longing of the Father's heart for lost sinners. He mingled with people, spoke with them, ate with them. He rebuked religious rulers and spoke words of comfort to sinners. But even after living and serving among people for two and a half years, there was still confusion concerning His person—who was He, actually?

So when Jesus took His disciples aside, He asked them this question first: "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" (Matthew 13:13). In other words, *What are folks out yonder saying? Those with whom I've come in contact, rubbed shoulders with, spoken to? They've seen miracles performed. What do they think about me?*

Of course, the disciples had always mingled with the crowds, and they'd heard many things. So they gave Him a report. You might be John the Baptist. Elijah. One of the prophets.

Simon Peter then answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
—Matthew 16:16

Peter could have said nothing higher than that. What he was really saying was, *You are the Messiah, the Anointed One, the One predicted in the Old Testament.* The psalmist David said in Psalm 2:2, "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed." His "Anointed" is Christ; He is the one who is God's partner, God's equal, the Christ. Now Peter says to Jesus, *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

Now may I say to you, Peter and the other disciples are accurate on the person of Christ. They know who He is.

Our Lord speaks to them—notice this very carefully:

Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven." —Matthew 16:17

In other words, you can't come to this estimate of the Lord Jesus Christ unless the Holy Spirit of God opens your eyes to see Him. Paul says, "No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit"

(1 Corinthians 12:3). I don't mean just to say the word "Lord," because many use that term. But I'm saying no one can acknowledge Him as Lord in their heart unless the Holy Spirit reveals Him. The Lord Jesus Himself said that when the Holy Spirit has come, "He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you" (John 16:14).



Download **"The Most Important Question: Who is Jesus?"** for free here.

Friend, that is why the Bible is different from any other book in existence today. Any book written by a person can be figured out by another person. I remember what my geometry teacher used to say when I'd complain that no one could figure out the solution: "There can never be a problem made by a person that someone else couldn't work out."

But the Bible is different from any other book. You will not, nor can you, understand it—nor will you ever know the person of Jesus Christ—until the Holy Spirit of God opens your eyes to see Him in all of His winsomeness, in all of His loveliness, and in all the glory of His person. I am not disturbed today to hear an unbeliever say, "I do not believe in the deity of Christ." Actually, if they say they do believe in the deity of Christ, something is wrong. You can't believe in His deity until the Holy Spirit of God makes Him real to you.

NO ONE CAN ACKNOWLEDGE
HIM AS LORD IN THEIR HEART UNLESS
the Holy Spirit reveals Him.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

MY TURN

FROM *J. Vernon McGee*

One night in London years ago, a woman—a prostitute—lay dying in the slums. She sent her young son to the nearest church to get a clergyman to come down and talk to her. She said to her boy, "Go get a minister to get me in." So the boy went down to the church and found a minister.

The boy says, "**My mother is dying. She wants you to come and get her in.**"

At last, the man understood what the little fellow meant. But he was liberal in his theology and had never actually preached the gospel. On the way over, he wondered what in the world he'd say to her. He couldn't preach what he'd been preaching to his congregation—that message wouldn't get anybody in.

When he got to the dying woman's bedside, he asked her, "**What is it that you want?**"

"**I want you to get me in,**" she said. "**I'm an awful sinner, but I want you to get me in.**"

He didn't know what to say, but in a faltering way (he'd never done this before)—he turned to John 3:16. That's all he could think of; it was the verse his mother had given to him when he was a boy, so he read it to the woman on her deathbed: "**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**"

She asked, "**Does that mean me?**"

"**It does. 'Whoever' means you and me and anyone.**"

"**I believe it,**" she said. "**Tell me more.**"

He only knew John 3:16 for salvation, so he gave it to her again.

She replied, "**Do you suppose God loves me that much?**"

He answered, "**Well, He loves you so much that He gave His Son to die for you.**"

"**Oh,**" she said, "**then I'll trust Him.**" Then a smile came over her face, and she said to him, "**Minister, thank you for getting me in.**"

When that pastor told about this later, he said, "**You know, that night I got two people in. I got that poor woman in, and I got myself in. I had never been in before.**"

**THE GREATEST INVITATION EVER OFFERED IS QUITE SIMPLE:
BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND YOU WILL BE SAVED.**

It's a message for you to believe and for you to share
with everyone possible.

KEEP PRAYING FOR AFGHANISTAN

If you've been on the Bible Bus for long, you'll recall that THRU the BIBLE's impact in the Middle East has expanded with the Arabic television program, *Kol el Ketab*. Currently, that program is being translated and distributed in Persian (also known as Farsi), the most widely spoken language of Iran.

THRU the BIBLE on Persian TV is called *Tamame Ketab*, "The Whole Book," airs on six networks, and is also widely viewed on social media—especially Facebook.

Here's really great news: About half of the people of Afghanistan speak a dialect of Persian (called Dari) that makes our Persian TV ministry very easy for them to understand. This is evidenced by the fact that most of our Persian TV Facebook followers are in Afghanistan—over 35,000 of them, actually, which is more than the 2,000 to 20,000 experts estimate make up the young church in Afghanistan! That means THRU the BIBLE is known by almost all Christians in Afghanistan.

As the eyes of the world turn to Afghanistan during this national crisis, we are learning new things about how God is protecting His own and also how He is using THRU the BIBLE to reach into forbidden territory.

Like our president, Gregg Harris, says, "No matter how you look at it, the story is that God has been using THRU the BIBLE Persian TV to strengthen and encourage the two fastest growing churches in the world (Iran and Afghanistan), both of which are terribly persecuted. We rejoice that He has chosen to allow THRU the BIBLE to minister in such a strategic way."

INTERCEDE FOR YOUR FELLOW PASSENGERS ON THE BIBLE BUS. PLEASE KEEP PRAYING FOR THESE FOUR NEEDS:

Please pray for the effectiveness of THRU the BIBLE and our partner's efforts in getting Bible resources into the hands of Afghanistan's Persian and Pashto-speaking populations. Pray with confidence and faith that the light of God's Word will penetrate the darkness of this hour in Afghanistan.

Please pray for the underground Afghan church. This young body of Christ has already experienced persecution, but now they must brace for harsher conditions and possible martyrdom.

Please pray for the displaced. Many Christians are hiding in caves and mountains in the nearby desert, unwelcome in neighboring countries. Pray for supplies and survival resources to get to them before the onset of the harsh winter.

Pray fervently for the protection of women of all ages. All Afghan women are at risk at the insidious hand of the Taliban. Pray for the lives of women and girls, for their freedom and safety, for their families, and for their futures.



— **And if you missed Gregg's important video message from August, watch it here.**



Keep praying; God is at work in Afghanistan. When it feels like this injustice is larger than any of us can impact, remember you are praying to the God of all hope, who hears and answers prayer. **Stand with our Afghan brothers and sisters and intercede with confidence, asking for God's will to be done on earth, as it is in heaven.**



IT'S RISKY TO FOLLOW JESUS IN JORDAN

Buckle up, prayer travelers, today we're headed for Jordan.

While technically the Jordanian constitution allows for religious freedom (as long as Islamic law and public morality are not violated), the reality for believers is different. As Tala, a listener who joins us on the Bible Bus in Arabic, tells us:

"Your episodes are the bright light in my dim world. I have been suffering because of my faith in Christ. All of my family is against me. They want me to return to Islam, but I am strong.

"I am not able to leave my house without an escort or meet with any other Christians. Your teaching helps me understand the Word more and to love my Lord and live my life for Him.

"Pray my family will come to know the Lord and will understand my desire to serve Him."

Praise God for His Word heard in Jordan. With a population of more than 10 million, experts tell us fewer than 2% follow Jesus Christ. Pray for Tala and all those in Jordan who bravely follow Jesus despite the risks. Ask God to bless THRU the BIBLE'S programs heard in Arabic. May millions of lives in Jordan and throughout the Middle East be changed as they hear the name of Jesus!

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

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

What's Happening at THRU the BIBLE

**FLEMISH PRODUCER,
PATRICK COUCHEMENT ("THE FLEMISH DR. MCGEE")
POSTED THIS PICTURE ON FACEBOOK
RECENTLY, SAYING:**



ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

"JUST GOT A THANK YOU FROM MY DUTCH COLLEAGUES FOR MAKING THE 1000TH EPISODE."

Just 300 more to go.

This is a good reminder that every THRU the BIBLE language is a long journey of faithfulness on the part of many of our partners. Several languages are still in production.

Pray for these producers!



THRU the BIBLE

A WORD FROM GREGG HARRIS

Who introduced you to THRU the BIBLE?

Almost every day, we hear about how a mom or dad or a grandparent or an uncle first helped someone board the Bible Bus.

Even on our tiny staff, one team member just told me her grandfather took classes with Dr. McGee at Biola University back in the 1950's. And today she and her grandmother listen together and discuss what they learned. What a heritage!

Faithful generations pass the torch to faithful generations that follow them. We hear about this all the time. Like this summer when we got this email from James:

"This Saturday, my wife and I welcomed into the world our first child (baby boy Noah). We were released from the hospital last night and this morning he became a third generation Bus rider!"

"To borrow from Jacob in Genesis 48: The God before whom my fathers walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil: bless the lad."

"Dr. McGee's broadcast helped my father to a strong faith in Jesus, which he passed on to me, and my wife's grandfather actually got to meet Dr. McGee and take Bible study classes from him in person at Biola and the Church of the Open Door."

"Thank you for continuing Dr. McGee's broadcasts, and may this ministry continue to bless many more generations to come."

Did a loved one from a previous generation introduce you to the Bible Bus? Send us a picture and your story!

Grateful for the faithful of every generation,

Gregg Harris
THRU the BIBLE, President



WHY STUDY LEVITICUS?

Join in the studies on *Thru the Bible* NOVEMBER 11—DECEMBER 23 or anytime online, by podcast, or by mobile app.

Remember when God rescued the children of Israel out of Egypt? The book of Leviticus opens and closes at the same geographical spot, Mount Sinai, where the children of Israel were marking time while God gave Moses the Law. At the end of Exodus, the Tabernacle was complete. Now Leviticus picks up with the giving of the order and rules of worship in the Tabernacle. Leviticus is the great book on worship.

"I didn't know what would happen as I began teaching Leviticus. I confess I had misgivings as to the value of Leviticus for a contemporary exposition on the Bible. However, I discovered that Leviticus is a thrilling book, and not only that, but it is one of the most important books of the Bible. If we got the message of this book into people's hearts who are trying to be religious, all cults and 'isms' would end." —Dr. J. Vernon McGee

CALLED

The first word in Leviticus is *wayyiqra'*, meaning "and God called." That's what Leviticus means: **God calls people to meet with Him and shows them how they are to come and walk before Him.**

The exact meaning of the church, the *ekklesia*, is the "called out ones." **We are also those who have been called out.** In that day, God spoke from the Tabernacle and asked them to come to Him. **Today, the Lord Jesus calls us to Himself.**

The word "atonement," which means "cover up," occurs 45 times in Leviticus. The blood of bulls and goats didn't actually take away sin but covered it over until **Christ came to take away all sins by the sacrifice of His life.**

ATONEMENT 45x | HOLINESS 87x

KEYVERSE

"And you shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine." —Leviticus 20:26


IN GENESIS WE SEE **MAN RUINED** >> IN EXODUS WE SEE **MAN REDEEMED**
>> IN LEVITICUS WE SEE **MAN WORSHIPPING GOD**





WHY DO YOU

the Bible?



“Today on the program, Gregg and Steve were talking about new passengers on the Bible Bus and I just wanted to reach out and let you know that you have one right here!

“When I was a kid in middle school, my dad would pick me up listening to Dr. McGee. I never forgot his voice (because his southern drawl would usually put me into a sleepy trance by the time we got home). **Through high school and college I maintained my Christian walk, but always struggled to grow and find a stable footing to further my faith.** After graduating college, I found a great job even in a very bad time (Covid-19, political turmoil, family conflicts, etc.).

“I was listening to a few different podcasts and I just so happened to rediscover *Thru the Bible!*

God’s timing was perfect as I hopped aboard at the new five-year journey and have been listening every single weekday when I go to the gym before work. **I’ve finally found that spiritual growth I’ve been seeking—as my prayer life, Scripture reading, and all-around fruits have been so much more abundant.**

“Thank you so much for all that you do, you’re my friends every morning before the sun comes up. **May all glory go to God for the great things you do with this ministry, and of course, may God richly bless you, my beloved.**”

————— **WITH BROTHERLY LOVE, CHARLES** | Fayetteville, North Carolina



Box 7100, Pasadena, California 91109-7100
P.O. Box 25325, London, Ontario, Canada N6C 6B1



1-800 65-BIBLE (24253)



TTB.org



BibleBus@ttb.org



/ThruTheBibleNet



/ThruTheBibleNet



/TTBRadio



/ThruTheBibleNet