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

OUR GOD IS MOVING
IN THIS WORLD AGAINST SIN
AT THIS VERY HOUR.

HE WILL NOT STOP UNTIL
HE DRIVES IT FROM
HIS UNIVERSE.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



THRU the BIBLE



WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

WHAT ISAIAH SAW



Dr. J. Vernon McGee
THRU the BIBLE Founder



This article is an excerpt from Dr. McGee's booklet **“What to Do When You Want God's Will.”** Download the full digital booklet **here**.

What brings life's greatest satisfaction? Ask anyone who has walked with God for a long time, and they'll likely say a similar thing: *To know you are doing what pleases God.* But how do you know God's will?

With that as our foundation, let's peek into the throne room of heaven at a glimpse of God never seen before

Isaiah begins his account on a sorrowful note. He takes us to a funeral. Good King Uzziah is gone. Isaiah wonders, *Now what will happen to our nation?* Indeed, these were the beginning of dark days for Israel.

With this in mind, Isaiah enters the temple where he makes a two-fold discovery, one that God's people also need to make today.



Isaiah's first discovery was that the real king of Israel and Judah was not dead, and not even sick. The real king was still on the throne.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. —Isaiah 6:1

Isaiah realized that behind Judah's earthly throne was the heavenly throne, and God was still sovereign and ruling over the affairs of this world.

A great many people today share Isaiah's feelings of hopelessness. Just look at the news—the world looks dark, even frightening. Isaiah seemed to feel hopeless about the future. A golden season in Israel's history ended with Uzziah's death, and no one could take his place.

However, God reminds Isaiah that He is still on the throne. And friend, He is still ruling in the affairs of men today.

Many people hold out the belief that someday there will be someone who will solve the world's big problems. During an election year, we're given the impression that the people running for office will have the answers to financial issues and health issues and solve everyone's conflict. My friend, don't be deceived by the fantasy that any man or woman can replace God, create a new age, a better and beautiful world, or bring about a perfect society. Behind the thrones of this world is the throne of God. And God is still on it. He still rules in the affairs down here. This little universe has not slipped from His control.

Next, Isaiah saw that the One sitting on the throne was "high and lifted up"—He was a holy God. When we learn this about God, we have no excuse for being pessimists. Every child of God should be an optimist. Our God is a holy God. Isaiah's prophecy teaches us in Isaiah 53 that God is the Savior on a cross, and now in Isaiah 6, we learn that God is the Judge on the throne, high and holy, whose sovereign will prevail down here in the end.

Next Isaiah tells us that above God’s throne “stood seraphim,” a sort of highly created intelligence, above the average angel. They seem to reach out in judgment, dealing with sin. The word “seraphim” means “burning,” indicating perhaps that they are on fire to protect the holiness of God. In God’s presence they repeat over and over, “Holy, holy, holy is God.” Their purpose is to communicate to us that we stand before a holy God.

You and I deal with a holy God who made it clear that He can save us on only one basis—by grace. Though He loves us, He doesn’t save us by love. Certainly, He does love us. It would break your heart and mine if we knew how much He loves us, but He cannot save us by love. He saves us by grace, by paying the penalty for our sins Himself.

The forgiveness of God is not sentimental. He didn’t save us because He is big-hearted. God never forgives until the penalty is paid—never. The reason He can forgive your sin and my sin is because His Son, nearly 2,000 years ago, paid for it on the cross. He redeemed us—bought us back from the penalty we deserved.

When forgiveness is mentioned in Scripture it always references the blood of Christ. We have forgiveness of sin. How? Through the blood of Christ. The penalty has been paid. My friend, that is God’s method.

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My friend,

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DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



Our God is moving in this world against sin even at this very hour. He is moving forward undeviatingly, unhesitatingly, uncompromisingly, against sin; and He will not stop until He drives it from His universe. He will not even accept the white flag of truce. He will not make peace with it. He intends to remove it from His universe. He makes that very clear.

I'm grateful to Him for that promise, because sin has brought wreckage to the human family. Sin puts grey in our hair, a totter to our step, and a stoop in our shoulders. Sin breaks our hearts. Sin brings horror and suffering. It fills the cemeteries. I thank God He will not compromise with sin! It will not be in His universe for eternity.

God has made a plan whereby He will redeem those who will come His way and accept His salvation. He is a holy God. We need to get this back into our thinking today. God is on the throne, and He is a holy God.



MY TURN

"We live in a day when people think they can rush into God's presence and treat the Lord Jesus as if He is a buddy. May I say to you that Jesus is high and holy and lifted up. If He should appear in your church next Sunday morning, nobody would rush up to Him and slap Him on the back. Everyone would be on their faces before Him. That is the picture the Word of God gives of Jesus' holiness."

Dr. J. Vernon McGee

- 1 How do you think about Jesus' dual roles—as our advocate, friend of sinners, approachable God, as well as Him “high and lifted up—holy, unlike any other”? How does this impact/change the way you think about Jesus?
- 2 Read about this throne room of God from another perspective in Revelation 4 (it will take only a minute or two to read the whole chapter). **What do you see as similar to Isaiah 6? How do these views make you feel?**
- 3 **Why is it critical to understand God's holiness? How does it change the way you see sin and what God did to give you victory over sin?**



WE CALL HIM “TOKTER MIKKY”

A MISSIONARY FAMILY TAKES THRU THE BIBLE TO A MICRONESIAN PEOPLE GROUP

We were recently thrilled to connect with Alisha Barkman, who told us how her missionary family is using THRU the BIBLE to serve the Chuuk people. Here's her story:

I grew up in Chuuk, Micronesia. My family, Baptist missionaries, are still there and I continue to work as a translator for our Chuukese mission work from my home in Wyoming.

My father, Jody Colson, became a missionary to Hawaii in 1991 as a result of Dr. McGee's burden for the Hawaiian people. **While in Oahu, he met the Chuukese people. Their islands lie about 4,000 miles west of Hawaii** (coordinates: 7°25'N 151°47'E). He began making short mission trips there, and we moved there as a family in 1997. According to Wikipedia, about 46,000 people speak Chuukese (likely a very low estimate), which has hardly any similarities to the other languages of Micronesia.



My dad, Jody Colson, and Minoru on his 79th birthday with a cake my mom, Terry, made for him

We started an FM radio station in the islands of Chuuk about 15 years ago, and it has become one of our most effective ministries. My sister interpreted many of Dr. McGee's Sunday Sermons that air on our station. My brother also interpreted your Questions & Answers program for many years. **Dr. McGee is lovingly known as “Tokter Mikky” all over the islands.**

When we translated and printed the Chuukese New Testament, we included Dr. McGee's Notes and Outlines for each book as they appear in *Thru the Bible's* blue Bible. Many have told us how much they learned from this guide in their personal Bible study.

We've also created Sunday School lessons and other resources from *Thru the Bible* content. All are self published, printed, and distributed at our own expense. **We just want to bring Dr. McGee's clear, in-depth teaching to the people of Chuuk.**

We are also translating *Thru the Bible's* commentaries into Chuukese. It all came about because an older man, Minoru, asked me to explain a particular verse in Ecclesiastes. Minoru had been a pirate in his younger years, a very bad man. He was born again about 15 years ago and has been a faithful member of our church ever since. **Upon finishing the lessons on Ecclesiastes, he gave his testimony and said these lessons have helped him have full assurance of his salvation. He knows that when he dies he will be in heaven with Jesus. Praise the Lord!**



My husband, Timothy, me, & our children, David & Elizabeth

We praise God for the creative, fruitful stewardship of THRU the BIBLE's content that the Colson and Barkman families are doing to bring God's whole Word to the Chuukese people of Micronesia. Pray for them as they continue to translate and proclaim God's Word in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

Our folks with our first printing of the Chuukese New Testament





HAVING FOUND TRUE PEACE, ALLI CAN'T HELP BUT SHARE IT

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. –2 Corinthians 8:9

Jesus didn't come to save the rich and those who have it all together.

That's the message Alli in Niger recently heard. Here's his story.

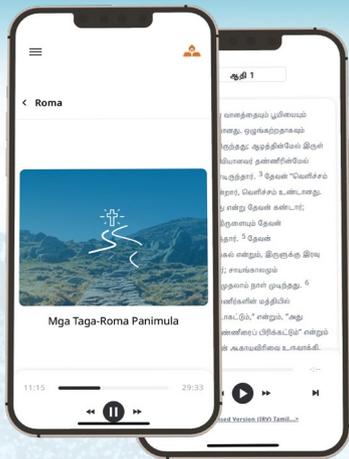
"In my country we are mostly Muslim, and we are very poor ... perhaps the poorest in the world. I was angry about this for so long, but then I found your programs. I now would like to tell the whole world, especially my Muslim brothers, to listen because it is Jesus Christ who is the solution to all the suffering that we men and women have. It is in the Lord Jesus Christ alone that there is true peace. He came to save us from our misery. He was poor, He was abused, He was cast out. He understands, He cares for us. This program has put me on the right and good path, and I cannot help but share it with others. May God bless you again and again for this teaching."

Alli is right. God does care and understand. So much so, He sent His own precious, blameless Son to die so that we can have eternal life. Knowing this, pray today with confidence. Ask God to meet the great physical and spiritual needs of the poor and hopeless in Niger. Pray knowing He loves His people and He loves to answer our requests.

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

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

What's Happening at THRU the BIBLE



CONTEXTUALIZED BIBLE APPS

KNOW ANYONE THAT SPEAKS ONE OF THESE LANGUAGES?

Invite them on the Bible Bus! Tell them about THRU the BIBLE's app in their language, available in your favorite app store.

GET THE APPS HERE

Amharic	Greek	Maithili	Swahili
Arabic	Gujarati	Malayalam	Swedish
Assamese	Hausa	Mandarin	Tagalog
Bengali	Hindi	Marathi	Tamil
Burmese	Hungarian	Odia	Telugu
Cebuano	Ilocano	Persian (Farsi)	Thai
Chhattisgarhi	Italian	Polish	Turkish
Czech	Japanese	Punjabi	Twi
English (African)	Kannada	Romanian	Ukrainian
English (Indian)	Khmer	Russian	Urdu
French	Kirundi	Serbian	Vietnamese
German	Luganda	Spanish (Latin America)	



God has blessed THRU the BIBLE to take the whole Word to the whole world by pairing Dr. McGee's study programs with the Bible in hundreds of languages, featured in our contextualized Bible apps.

This is made possible with global ministry partners like Biblica.com.



A Breathtaking View of Sovereignty

The Bible Bus is scaling the heights of Scripture this month, giving us glorious views of the past, present, and future from the book of Isaiah. From this magnificent perspective we see how God is sovereign.

Sovereign—a beautiful and profound word that describes God’s control over everything. He created the world. He is unfolding a plan. He directs every event toward a great purpose.

From this height we see God is the one who orders the times and seasons of our lives. He sets the “boundaries of [our] dwellings,” says Paul in Acts 17.

As we continue our mission to take the whole Word to the whole world, we can rest in absolute confidence in God’s sovereignty.

He orders the opportunities given to THRU the BIBLE to serve His purposes. Our best course of action is simply to believe and follow His lead. (That’s great wisdom for our own lives, too!)

Almost everywhere on earth today, people have access to God’s Word taught on THRU the BIBLE. God has made this possible, according to Acts 17:27, so that **as people look for God, somehow reach for Him, they find Him. In fact, He is never far from any one of us.**

What a thrill it is to read that and to know He is at work through us today. Thank you for your partnership in answering God’s call. Let’s continue to follow Him together.

Grateful for your partnership,

Gregg Harris
THRU the BIBLE, President

J E S U S I N

Isaiah

WITH DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

THE FIFTH GOSPEL

The fifth Gospel. That's what many call the book of Isaiah, as Jesus' birth, His character, His life, His death, His resurrection, and His second coming are all presented with definiteness and clarity, yet written 700 years before Jesus Christ was born. Specifically, **Isaiah invites us to see something of the suffering of Christ that we'll not find anywhere else.**

How do we know Isaiah is referring to the death of Christ? That's the question the Ethiopian eunuch raised when Philip hitchhiked a ride from him (Acts 8). The eunuch was reading Isaiah 53, so that's where Philip began as he taught him about Jesus. Jesus Himself, in John 12:38, quotes Isaiah 53 and applies it to Himself.

Isaiah 53 pictures the cross of Christ as He died there. In the first nine verses, we see Jesus' suffering; in the final two verses, we see His satisfaction. These two belong together, but suffering always comes first.

He suffers as no one else ever suffered. We're strangely drawn to Him and His cross. Jesus said in John 12:32, "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself." **Suffering has a singular attraction. Pain draws us all together. It's a common bond uniting all the frail children of suffering humanity. Let Him draw our cold hearts into the warmth of His sacrifice and the radiance of His love.**

Candidly, we do not understand why God should treat His Son this way. Christ hung between heaven and earth for six hours. In the first three hours, man did his worst. He ridiculed and insulted him, spat upon Him, nailed Him without mercy to the cruel cross, and then sat down to watch Him die. At 12 noon, God drew a veil over the sun and darkness covered the scene, shutting out from human eyes the transaction between the Father and the Son. For Christ became the sacrifice for the sins of the world. God made His soul an offering for sin. He was treated as sin. **We are told that Jesus Christ was made sin for us, He who knew no sin. If you want to know if God hates sin, look at the cross!**

If you want to know if God will punish sin, look at His Son enduring the tortures of its penalty. That cross became an altar where we behold the Lamb of God taking away the sin of the world! **He was taking your place and mine. He'd done nothing amiss. He was holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners. He was a substitute that the love of God provided for you and me so that He might save us.**

I LOVE TO

TELL THE STORY

GREETINGS FROM THE BIBLE BUS

ON THE BIBLE BUS IN NEW YORK CITY ON

the Mission
WMCA
AM 570 | FM 102.3

"I don't have the words to thank God for the impact of the Word in my life. God has filled me with His rich life, and I always ask Him to add more. I always found the Word and gospel of Christ interesting, and I listened to you on the radio since the pandemic. But two years ago, I asked God to save me at 45 years old. I am very comfortable on the Bible Bus, and I'm not going to get off." **From Francisco | New York City**

"As a calligrapher/typographer, I have a very small ministry on Facebook and Instagram based on the names of God. Daily I create sketches of the names of the Trinity. While preparing for each day's post I listen to Dr. McGee explain the day's lesson with my copy of the Word open and my sketch pad. Invariably as I listen, I always find that I can use a Bible verse or a spiritual pearl of wisdom from Dr. McGee to apply to the description of the name of God posted for the next day." **From Stephanie | Rockville Centre**

"My parents began listening to Thru the Bible when I was just five years old. Those seeds of truth are watered still today, as I soon turn 43 and still sit daily under your timeless ministry. The faithful Father delivered this prodigal again and again. The Lord picked me up, miraculously restored me, and has assigned me to serve in addiction recovery. Friends of the Savior are there. We share the truth. Thank you for feeding me daily bread that I testify to with others." **Desperate for the King, Michael**



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