

Fall 2019

ROCK of AGES

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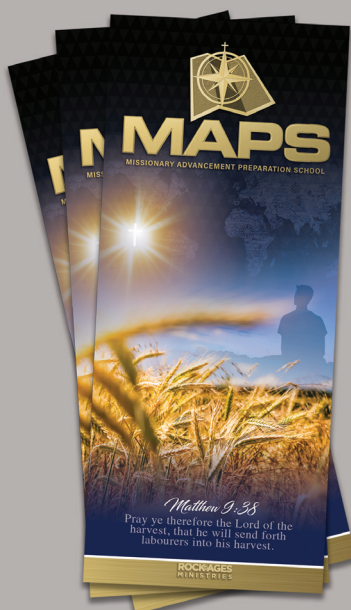
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ROCK of AGES

Digital Magazine

ABOUT ROCK OF AGES MAGAZINE

The Rock of Ages Digital Magazine is a quarterly publication of Rock of Ages Ministries Cleveland, Tennessee.

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By: Dr. Terry Ellis
Executive Editor
& President

HINDRANCES TO REVIVAL

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psalm 85:6)

Our theme at Rock of Ages Ministries for 2019 is Revival. It is the great need of the hour for our generation. At the request of my staff and pastors where I have preached "Hindrances To Revival" I am publishing an outline of the message in this quarter's magazine. I pray God uses it to challenge you concerning our nation's need for revival. May God use it to change your personal walk with the Lord.

HINDRANCES TO REVIVAL

REVIVAL - Return, recall or recovery to life from death or apparent death; return or recall to activity from a state of languor, neglect, carelessness; awakening of men to spiritual concerns (1828 Webster).

C.H. Spurgeon, "The word revive is from the Latin, and may be interpreted thus to live again, to receive again a life which has almost expired; to rekindle into a flame the vital spark which was nearly extinguished."

The term "**revival**" is not used in the Bible, but "revive" is used many times - Revival is not an evangelistic campaign; it is the restoring to life of believers and churches that have previously experienced the life of God - but who have become cold, worldly and ineffective - Revival will later affect unbelievers. Revival cannot be organized, for it is given by our Sovereign God when He sees fit and in answer to prayer." (*Word of Life Encyclopedia*)

America has more Bibles, churches, and preachers than any other nation. So, why are we not experiencing Revival?

1. DISTRACTIONS

*And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may **attend** upon the Lord without distraction.*
1 Corinthians 7:35

Attend – To set well towards, diligent service. This is the only place where the word is used in the Bible.

Distractions - Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary (1913) defines distraction as follows: ... **a drawing apart; separation.**

2. That which diverts attention; a diversion. 3. A diversity of direction; detachment. (obs.) 4. State in which the attention is called in different ways; confusion; perplexity...

This generation of Christians are busier than ever. In fact, they are so busy that they cannot seem to fit God into their schedules.

We are Distracted by our...

- a. Hurts (Absalom & Amnon with Tamar)
- b. Family issues (Joseph and his brothers)
- c. Feelings
- d. Worldly cares (Man who purchased land, another bought five oxen, and one married a wife)
- e. Money (Rich young ruler)
- f. Opportunities
- g. Media of all types
- h. Relationships (Aholah & Aholibah)
- i. Hobbies and Activities
- j. Sin

*For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. **1 John 2:16***

Distractions have robbed our:

- a. Peace with God
- b. Power with God
- c. Prayer life with God
- d. Passion for God
- e. Pursuit of God
- f. Propagation of God's Word

2. DISOBEDIENCE

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. 1 Samuel 15:23

Disobedience - Neglect or refusal to obey... breach of duty prescribed by authority.

By one man's disobedience many were made sinners. Romans 5:19

There is no secret to revival. God clearly reveals to us His requirements for revival in the scripture.

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Humility, prayer, and repentance are the main requirements God sets forth for revival. Are we willing to follow God's order?

Consequences of disobedience.

But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee... ⁴⁷ Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things; ⁴⁸ Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee. Deuteronomy 28:15-48

Consider your sin and disobedience, remembering that every evil thought, action, and deed against God is sin.

We cannot organize revival, but we can set our sails to catch the wind from heaven when God chooses to blow upon His people once again. **G. Campbell Morgan**

Most Christians are so spiritually dry, they would burn well at the stake. **C.H. Spurgeon**

The first tendency, is for the doctrine of the church to lose its power of convicting the conscience, convincing the mind, or moving the heart. Spiritual decay brings with it a formality of worship in which the ritual is so exalted that it crushes the spirit.

James Burns

R.G. Lee:

*If all the sleeping folk will wake up,
If all the lukewarm folk will fire up,
If all the dishonest folk will confess up,
If all the disgruntled folk will cheer up,
If all the depressed folk will cheer up,
If all the estranged folk will make up,
If all the gossipers will shut up,
If all true soldiers will stand up,
If all the dry bones will shake up,
If all the church members will pray up...*

Then we can have a revival!

Unknown:

*Revivals do not start with a date, but with a desire!
Revivals do not start with an evangelist, but with earnestness!
Revivals do not start with a meeting, but with a man!
Revivals do not require a collection, but a correction?
Revivals are not meetings, but moving of the Holy Spirit!
Revivals do not contain evangelistic speakers,
but earnest seekers!
Revivals do not consist of programs, but power!
Revivals do not cry for growth, but for God!
Revivals are not about our rights but His righteousness!
Revivals do not contain promotion but a commotion!*

God has given each of us a unique set of prints:

1. Finger Prints
2. Foot Prints
3. Eye Prints
4. Lip Prints

On judgement day I am convinced when many will say,

I did not handle that,
He will say, why are your finger prints on it?

I did not go there,
He will say, why are your foot prints there?

I did not look at that,
He will say, why are your eye prints on it?

I did not say that,
He will say, why are your lip prints on the words?

How Much Sin Is In Our Lives?

- If a person is awake 16 hours out of a 24-hour day and sins on average every 20 minutes, he will have committed 48 sins per day.
- 48 x one week (7dys) = 336.
- 336 per week x 52 weeks (one year) = 17,472.
- 17,472 times ten years (1 decade) = 174,720.
- If a person lived to be 60 years old it would = 1,048,320 sins he would have committed!

And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Luke 6:46

3. DENIAL

DENIAL - ... an assertion that a declaration or fact stated is not true; ... A rejection, or refusing to acknowledge; a disowning; as a *denial* of God: or a refusing to receive or embrace; as a *denial* of the faith or the truth.



And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; ¹⁵I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. ¹⁶So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. ¹⁷Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Revelation 3:14-17

Christians have walked down the path of the world and the path of least resistance for so long, they are familiar with their surroundings, and have become comfortable with their walk, although they may be walking contrary to God's Word. Quote from unknown resources.

We can Grieve or Quench the Holy Spirit. He is highly sensitive.

- **We Grieve the Holy Spirit when we do that which we should not do.**
- **We Quench the Holy Spirit when we do not obey Him.**

1. The Holy Spirit Is Grieved by Our Insensitivity

... I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at naught all my counsel, and would none of my reproof. Proverbs 1:23-25

2. The Holy Spirit Is Grieved By Our Dishonesty

Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? Thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you...

Romans 2:21-24

3. The Holy Spirit is Grieved By Pride

The fastest way to grieve the Holy Spirit of God is through pride. *These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look...*

Proverbs 6:16-17

GOD CANNOT USE WHAT HE HATES.

4. The Holy Spirit Is Grieved By Laziness

The Holy Spirit will not lie at the door of the sluggard and supply the deficiencies caused by laziness.

That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Hebrews 6:12

5. The Holy Spirit Is Grieved By Prayerlessness

When we do not pray we are telling the Holy Spirit we will do the work without Him, we do not need Him—we can handle it ourselves.

...ye have not, because ye ask not. James 3:2

NO man is greater than his prayer life. **Leonard Ravenhill**

To be much for God, we must be much with God. **Leonard Ravenhill**

God's Man Mordecai Ham

He strongly denounced sin in his preaching, often carrying the battle to moonshiners, the liquor crowd, confronting rioters, disturbers, opposing modernists, praying down and pronouncing judgment upon those who contested his meetings.

One account of a meeting at Mt. Zion Church in Kentucky illustrates his courage and convictions:

The moonshine crowd stole up around the church and threw rocks. They unharnessed the horses, cut the saddle straps and stole everything they could carry off.

Ham went out and confronted the ringleader, who proceeded to pull a knife on him. **"Put up that knife, you coward. If you were not a coward you would not pull a knife on an unarmed man. Now I'm going to ask the Lord either to convert you or to kill you."**

“Do as you please,” he snarled at Ham and stalked off. Ham prayed and the bully was dead the next morning. Three others were killed when a sawmill blew up. That night Ham demanded all the stolen property returned or the Lord might kill someone else. Twenty-four hours later all had been returned but a saddle. Ham announced he was going to lead in prayer for God to judge the man who had his saddle, and one fellow jumped up and hollered, you needn't pray? It will be here in a few minutes, and it was.

4. DISTANCE

DISTANCE - An interval or space between two objects; the length of the shortest line which intervenes between two things that are separate...

*This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. **Matthew 15:8***

*Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. ⁹ Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. **James 4:8-10***

This verse implies there is a distance between man and God and that man needs to draw nigh unto God. When man takes this step toward God, God moves toward man closing the distance between them. *Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.*

It is not that we do not love God; it is just that we love ourselves, our sin, and our lifestyles more.

*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, ⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; ⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. **2 Timothy 3:1-5***

*For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. **1 John 5:3***

*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. **1 John 2:15-17***

We will never experience revival until the great gap between us and God is closed and we have drawn nigh unto God and God has drawn nigh unto us. It is in His holy presence where He communes with us and His glory is revealed that we should long to experience.

Someone has said:

1. Revival Requires, Sincere Repentance
2. Revival Requires, Sacrificial Commitment
3. Revival Requires, Significant Action

**WE NEED REVIVAL,
AND WE NEED IT NOW!**





"... the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."
(2 Timothy 2:2)

It is a blessing to be a part of Rock of Ages Ministries' "Missionary Advancement Preparation School" or MAPS. When God called me to the juvenile department of our ministry He spoke to my heart through a verse in Psalms. **(Psalms 78:4)** "We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done." It has been a blessing over the years to share the goodness of God with the troubled youth in the juvenile facilities. Now through MAPS we are given the opportunity to share the praises of the LORD, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He hath done, to the youth in the churches who have a desire to serve Him.

The classes consist of three levels; Desire, Development, and Discernment.

Level 1 Desire, deals with learning what opportunities are available and how to prepare for them. In Level 2 Development, our focus is in developing the skills and talents that God has given each individual to fulfil His call upon their lives. Level 3 Discernment, we encourage the students to use what they have learned and assist them in achieving God's will for their lives. The

classes are designed for the older teens and college or career age groups. They are taught at our Main Office in Cleveland, TN. Rock of Ages Ministries is currently in the process of raising funds to build a training center that will be very beneficial for these classes as well as other training needs. Already, we have had pilot classes for the first two levels. After the pilot classes we heard several great testimonies of how God is already using some of these youth as they are implementing the principles taught in the lessons. During Level 2 testimony time one mother wept and testified about her son who had attended Level 1 and was on his first two-week mission trip to Europe. Some of the other youth also shared testimonies of how God has given them clarity in His direction for their lives. To witness and be a part of the excitement these teenagers displayed for following God is such a blessing.

With MAPS we have the opportunity of sharing our experience with the generations to come. During our Level 2 class we had a combined total of over 200 years of ministry experience through the instructors. As we try to invest our lives into the youth we pray there will be fruit that remains through them even after we are gone home to be with our Lord.

As we follow God's command to pray for laborers into the harvest we must also make preparations as He sends them. This is our way of doing so at Rock of Ages Ministries.

We have already received a good response from some pastors about upcoming opportunities for their youth concerning these classes. The dates are being scheduled for Level 3 pilot classes in the coming year and only time will tell what God will do with our efforts. **One thing is for sure, an investment in the next generation as they follow God is worth all the time, labor, and expense it costs in so doing!** Will you join us in prayer for God's wisdom, direction, and blessings upon our MAPS students and the instructors who teach them? Also, if you would like to give financially to help with the completion of the training center, contact our Main Office for details.



Bro. Larry Key, Juvenile Revival Team



Rock of Ages Brazilian missionaries working with our volunteers in a prison revival. Marciao (center) volunteers weekly, working with ex-inmates.

Dr. Ellis teaching Rock of Ages missionaries in Brazil.



Volunteers working with the Rock of Ages team in Togo, West Africa



Sunday School material in Sierra Leone; working with our partners in prison and church planting.



Team of volunteers working throughout Romania and Moldova in male and female institutions.



Restoration & Revival *Worldwide*

By Dr. Ricky Dunsford

Nehemiah 4:2 And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? **will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?**

Nehemiah questioned the state of Jerusalem and the remnant of people that were living there. After hearing the condition of the city and the affliction of God's people Nehemiah was so grieved, he fasted and wept for days. Nehemiah had a desire that God would revive the city and people. Nehemiah's burden moved him to action. He knew that revival was all that would restore the broken, burned down walls of the city of God. In Nehemiah 4:10 Judah gives the report that the strength of the bearers of burden was decayed and that there was much rubbish. There came a point where the bearers of burdens had lost sight of the stones among the rubbish that could be restored. The enemies of the people of God caused discouragement on the servants of God by getting them to focus more on the rubbish than on the stones. The enemy will say, "Do you really believe, with all the rubbish of society and the constant failure of men, that God will revive His people and restore them again?" More and more, around the world, the saints of God and the servants of God are discouraged by a world full of rubbish. It is almost impossible to hear any good news from the media and we constantly wonder how much of what we hear is real. With constant bombardment from the media and the political world one would think there is no hope.



However, the Word of God still proclaims,

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

Yes, America needs revival! The world needs revival! The enemy still wants to get the faithful to question whether our Lord will ever revive His people again. I can say that I am privileged to work with men and women worldwide that labor among the rubbish of this world restoring the broken lives out of the rubbish of this world. The enemy said, will they fortify themselves? Thanks to the faithfulness of God's people to give, pray, and volunteer, Rock of Ages is able to partner with pastors and workers around the world. Everyday somewhere in the world a sinner is pulled out of the rubbish and restored, a home begins to be rebuilt, lives are being revived out of the rubbish; thanks to all our friends worldwide that still believe God is in the reviving business.

By Dr. Ricky Dunsford
Executive Vice President



LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP



In Luke 5 Jesus used Simon's boat for a platform to teach a crowd of people who desired to hear Him speak. When He finished teaching, He instructed Simon to "launch out into the deep." I believe this is what the Lord has called my wife and I to do in regards to ministry: "Launch out into the deep."

For thirty-one years I have been privileged to pastor churches and serve as the Dean of a Bible College. However, during this time I had been fishing along the shore. Now it is time to go out into the deep.

After traveling to California, speaking with our pastor, spending countless hours in prayer, and receiving

confirmation from the Word of God, I can say with assurance that the Lord has called my wife and I to go to the state of California and preach the gospel to the incarcerated and the homeless. According to the Prison Policy Initiative, 565,000 people are either incarcerated or on probation in California. Currently, more than 239,000 inmates and 130,000 homeless reside in the Golden State. Yet, there is only one Rock of Ages missionary in the state, Bro. Greg Arrout. Thank God for the work he and his family are doing in California, but one missionary is not enough to reach the multitudes.

The Whitlows to CALIFORNIA

By: Dr. Jerry Whitlow



LET DOWN YOUR NETS

Not only did Jesus ask Simon to launch out into the deep, He also asked him to let down his nets. This was hard for Simon as he was a professional fisherman. He had spent the night fishing and had returned without a catch. He had fished during the best time, nighttime, and had fished in an area that would have been known for great catches, yet he came back empty-handed.

My wife and I have launched out from the shore. Jesus is on board, and we are following His Word. However, the difficult part is letting down the nets. Simon Peter also found this a difficult task as he did not trust the Word of the Lord. According to verse four Jesus said, "let down your nets." However, Simon said in verse 5, "I will let down the net." If he had followed the Lord completely, his net might not have broken. He would have been using more than one net. Yet, Simon did not completely trust the Lord. He thought by being a professional fisherman he knew more than Jesus. After all, wasn't Jesus the son of a carpenter? No, what he forgot was that Jesus was God in the flesh, the One Who created the fish that would soon be caught.

On May 20, 2019, I left my position as Dean of Students at Massillon Baptist College and we let down one of our nets. However, we have more nets we must let down. My wife is working to help pay for our insurance. She went through breast cancer and colon cancer a few years ago and we must not let our insurance expire. However, we believe the Lord would have her quit her job by the beginning of 2020. This will be a major act of faith as we let down net number two.


In the spring of 2020, we plan to let down net number three as we place our house on the market trusting God for the sale. Net number four will be trusting God for a motor home to travel throughout the state of California. Then, in October of 2020, we make the ultimate cast as we move to California to begin the ministry God has placed upon our hearts.

ENLIST PARTNERS

Finally, after Simon launched out into the deep, and let down his nets, he enlisted partners to help him get his catch to shore. California has thirty-five state institutions and eleven federal institutions, not including the military institutions. Matthew 9:37, "Then said He unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few."

Therefore, we need to find churches in California that will get involved in reaching their state. Our desire is that after we finish meetings in a certain area, churches will continue to disciple the inmates. For this great work, we will be enlisting partners.

Currently, my wife and I are on deputation. Deputation is finding the churches that believe the Lord would have them become partners in bringing the fish to shore. The Lord is in the boat. He has said to let down the nets, but we must find the partners to help us with the catch. Please pray for my wife and I as we launch out into the deep, let down our nets, and enlist partners in the ministry.



GOD-CALLED OR EDUCATED PREACHER: WHICH?

By Dr. Fred Russell

My seventh-grade teacher told the following experience she had with the father of one of her students. His daughter was failing everything but math, and at the request of the teacher, he came in for a teacher-parent consultation. During the course of the conversation, he expressed that he did not see the necessity of his daughter learning language, history, geography, science, and other subjects that were required by the county school system. His reason was, "My daughter is a farm girl and she will marry a farmer. All she needs to learn

is arithmetic so she can make the correct change when she sells butter and eggs from the farm."

I have heard similar statements about Bible study in a formal setting such as a Bible College. In my early years in the ministry, I was influenced by some good men who did not see the need of Bible College training. They would say, "Which do you want to be - a God-called preacher, or an educated preacher?" It is true that a person cannot teach or preach without the power of God. I have had

the unpleasant experience of preaching without the anointing of the Holy Spirit and I assure you, I never want to go through that again! I must also confess that, while preaching, I have quoted old sayings as scripture, only to be challenged to give chapter and verse. Now, that can be embarrassing. I am convinced that a God-called preacher can benefit from a good Bible College education.

There is Bible precedent for Bible College training. Both, Elijah and Samuel, had a School of the Prophets, and Paul, after being trained in the way of the Pharisees, spent three-and-a-half years in the Arabian desert under the personal tutelage of Jesus Christ.

Can you imagine the quality of information Paul gained during that time? I had a Bible College teacher who consistently said, "In helping preachers, the Holy Spirit will use the information they have gained from studying their Bible."

I have been asked, "Which would you rather have, the call and anointing of God on your preaching,

or the knowledge for preaching attained in a classroom?" Without hesitation or reservation, my reply has always been the same, "I would rather have both!" We need men who have a burning call from God to preach His Word (Jeremiah 20:9), but we also need preachers with a good knowledge of God's Word, men who have been systematically trained to rightly divide the word of truth (2Timothy 2:15).

The Rock of Ages College of Biblical Studies and Theological Seminary can help you increase your knowledge of the Bible. We also make you this promise: you will be trained from a conservative biblical viewpoint. We will never dishonor our Lord, nor lead the student of God's Word into the liberalism that prevails in many of today's Bible Colleges.

Let us help you. Contact the Rock of Ages College of Biblical Studies and Theological Seminary by going to our web page, roacollege.org



DR. FRED RUSSELL
College of Biblical Studies





ROCK OF AGES PRINTING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

To all who pray for and give to our publishing department, Thank You. Without your help we could not supply our missionaries with quality gospel tracts and books, which to them are all free of charge. Not one of them could afford to purchase the amount of material they need to reach the souls they minister to. If they had to purchase the material from their mission support, at our printing cost alone, it would be impossible. Here is an example of just 3 orders recently filled. **For prisons in North Carolina \$1,871.00. For prisons in Florida and Missouri \$5,250.00. For prisons in Mississippi \$3,940.00. This is only 3 of the many orders needed for the work in soul winning.**

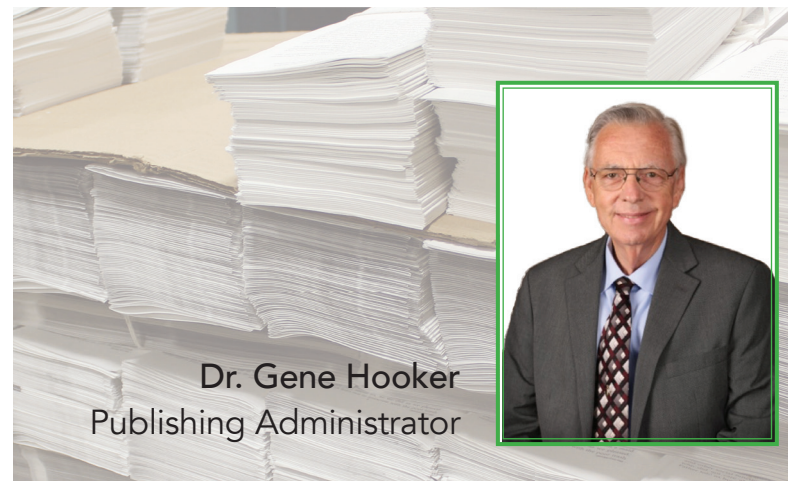
Why is the cost of material so expensive? The greatest cost is paper. Then, printing supplies such as ink, plates for the presses, equipment upkeep, salaries, utilities etc. A truck load of paper, that we are presently in need of, averages over \$14,000.00. Is it worth it? Absolutely. *"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his own soul?"*

I recently heard a missionary preaching and giving a testimony about his salvation. In his personal testimony he told about when he was a young man, he worked in sales and traveled a lot. He would drink every night until he was drunk and then drink coffee every morning to sober up enough to meet his clients. One day as he entered a restroom he found 3 gospel tracts. Sitting

in his car, he read each of them, then got out of his car and looking toward Heaven he lifted his hands in surrender and cried out for Jesus to save him. He grew in the Lord and pastored for many years and now serves in missions with the Rock of Ages winning those to Christ who are just as he once was.

As you read this article will you prayerfully ask our Heavenly Father what He would have you do to help us purchase a load of paper? You may be a business person who could use a tax deduction and purchase an entire truck load. Or, you may be only able to give a small amount. Whatever you can do will be greatly blessed by the Lord Jesus and much appreciated by us.

Above all, please remember us in prayer. God bless you richly for caring about souls the world has written off as "no-accounts." God loves sinners so much He gave His only begotten Son to redeem them just as He did when we were sinners. Romans 5:8



Dr. Gene Hooker
Publishing Administrator



An Update From Dr. Robert Keeton

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Romans 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."



I am sure that most Christians are very familiar with this verse. Many of you have maybe even quoted it many times. No doubt, anyone that hands out Gospel tracts believes it, and has faith in the power of the printed page to speak to the hearts of the readers when they are ready to hear.

The Rock of Ages Discipleship Institute has been printing and mailing Bible lessons into the prisons here in America and many other countries for just over 25 years. During that time, we have enrolled over 120,000 inmates into the Prisoners Bible Institute. Many of these have been released, and some of them, because of the impact of the lessons upon their lives, have continued their studies at home.

Presently, there are over 19,000 inmates actively studying the Word of God. More than 12,000 of the 120,000 inmates have completed the entire New Testament Studies, which consist of nearly 14,000 questions.

May 2019 marked a huge milestone for Rock of Ages concerning the lessons that we have printed and been

sending into the prisons. **We have received completed lessons back from inmates and have graded over 1,000,940 lessons.** We have printed and mailed many, many more than that, but we want to Praise the Lord for those that did the lessons and sent them in to be graded. The most exciting thing about the lessons is the fruit they have produced! From those doing these lessons, we have received notes and letters from **49,459 telling us that they were saved** because of God using the printed lessons to show them their sin and their need for a Saviour. Many more have written to tell us how God has used the lessons to help them grow and draw nearer to God.

God gets all the GLORY! It is the Word of God, and the precious Holy Spirit that convicts and draws the sinner to the Saviour unto Salvation.

God has been so faithful to provide the staff, volunteers, paper, equipment, supplies, printing, and postage to accomplish all of this. God has used faithful supporters to help us accomplish this amazing work for His Glory and Honour. Thank you for those who have partnered with

us through the years, through your prayers and financial support. The great news is, the work is continuing on for His Glory!

We thank God for His call 25 years ago for Rock of Ages to establish the Discipleship Institute and take a step of faith to develop these lessons that have so wonderfully affected the lives of inmates and their families. We praise the Lord for allowing the inmates to hear His Word through their studies and being saved by grace through faith.

1 Samuel 12:24 Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how



great things he hath done for you. Psalms 126:3 The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

To God be all the glory for it is He that has done all this. I am so glad He lets us be a part of something so great.



LOVELY LADIES

MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

Over the years I have seen God do many mighty works of reconciliation in the lives of prisoners among those with bitter animosity and hatred in their hearts toward fellow-inmates and society in general and now they walk in ways of kindness and forgiveness. 2 Corinthians 5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.

It was a rare occasion when Rock of Ages allowed ladies to enter a men's facility. The prison facilities are an old college campus converted into a minimum-security federal prison camp. Security is so lax that prisoners walk through the community to get to some of the prison facilities. It was at this facility during one of our revival services, an inmate began walking toward another inmate who had once put a bounty on his friend's head. As these two men locked eyes, you could feel the tension, and hear the inmates gasp as they drew closer to one another. When they met in the aisle, they grabbed each other and a surprising event happened right before us. These two men began hugging one another and asked each other for forgiveness. They fell on their knees at the altar and poured their hearts out to God and each other. After the services concluded, most of the inmates were talking about how the Holy Spirit worked in both of these men. Several others got their hearts right that day.

For many years when we would return to this prison in Yankton, South Dakota prisoners mentioned how the Lord worked on "THAT NIGHT" as **the inmates saw first-hand how God can reconcile what appeared to be an impossible situation.** I praise the Lord that He goes before us preparing even the hardest of hearts to hear, receive, and trust God's Holy Word.

I have seen God work reconciliation many times among women prisoners and their families and loved-ones. May we ever be reminded that our prayers and pleading for the Lord to go before us is an incredible task.

Jeremiah 33:3 "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Please join us in prayer as we take the Gospel to a dark, lonely world inside the prison walls.



DR. PEGGY ELLIS | Director of Lovely Ladies Ministry

The Lovely Ladies Ministry is structured to reach women prisoners and family members with the Gospel through our "Help for the Hurting Christmas Stocking" project. Working through local churches, we are able to emphasize evangelism, discipleship, character-building, and distribute Gospel literature.

BUFFALO

CHICKEN DIP

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pound of boneless skinless chicken breast
- 1 Bottle of Franks Red Hot sauce (12 oz. or 1.5 cups)
- 8 oz container of cream cheese
- 1 cup Mexican cheese blend (or your favorite blue cheese or gorgonzola)
- 1 cup Ranch dressing.
- 1 bag tortilla chips and/or veggies for dipping
- ½ t Slap Ya Momma (Cajun Seasoning)
- ¼ t garlic powder

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Boil 1 pound of boneless, skinless, chicken breast in water, Cajun seasoning and garlic powder.
2. Using 2 forks, gently shred chicken into small chunks. You can also shred your chicken in your (Kitchenaid) stand mixer using the flat, paddle beater.
3. Add Franks Red Hot sauce, to shredded chicken.
4. Spread one 8 oz container of cream cheese into the bottom of an un-greased baking pan or casserole dish.
5. Top with buffalo chicken.
6. Add Mexican cheese
7. Pour Ranch dressing on top of cheese.
8. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes, until dip is melted and bubbling.
9. Serve with chips and veggies for dipping!





ROCK^{of}AGES
MINISTRIES

**College of Biblical Studies
& Theological Seminary**

NEW ONLINE VIDEO COURSES

Through the years we have seen a need in many churches for teachers, pastors are not having enough teachers to fill their need, and pastors needing quality materials for Sunday School, Bible Classes, shut-ins, and to offer college-level classes in their church.

The eight courses that we now have available are only the beginning. Each course consists of 13 – 16 lessons that will average 45 minutes each. They can be purchased and used repeatedly in multiple classes. The courses are recorded with the instructors that have written the materials doing the teaching.

These new video courses are easy to follow and impart knowledge from God's Word with great clarity, detail, and interesting visual presentations. It is a great avenue to engage more of God's people in studying His Word as it is very effective for people with limited time.

The cost of each course is \$300.00 and will include all lessons pertaining to the course purchased as detailed in the Presentation Video.

In the long run, the materials will be much more cost-efficient than curriculum that has been made available to churches in the past.

Again, our goal is to be a help to God's people, by presenting a means or method of teaching that will enhance their desire to learn. In return, I believe they will have a greater desire to serve.

If you need more information, or have other questions, please contact us.

ONLINE VIDEO COURSES AVAILABLE

Behold the Lamb (Life of Christ)

Bible Geography (Bible lands: peoples, places, and events)

Eschatology (Last Things)

Evangelism and Stewardship

Feast and Offerings

Pastoral Theology I Timothy (Church Behavior)

Philippians (Christian Joy)
(Circumstances, People, Things, Worry)

Revealing Islam And Its Role In The End Times



**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.ROACOLLEGE.ORG
AND VIEW THE VIDEO PRESENTATION AND PREVIEWS OF EACH SUBJECT OFFERED.**

ROCK of AGES MINISTRIES

BOOKSTORE

EXPOSITORY OUTLINE STUDIES

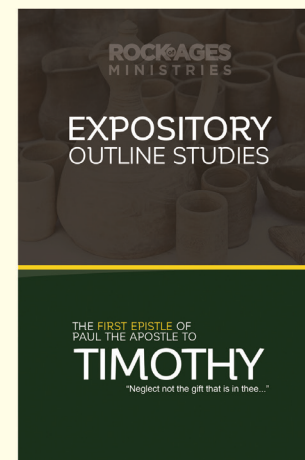
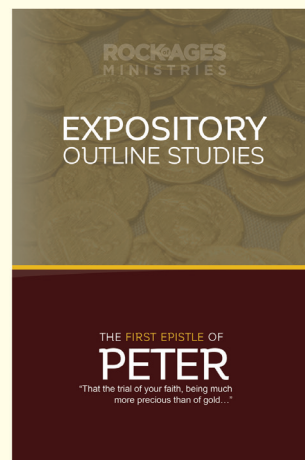
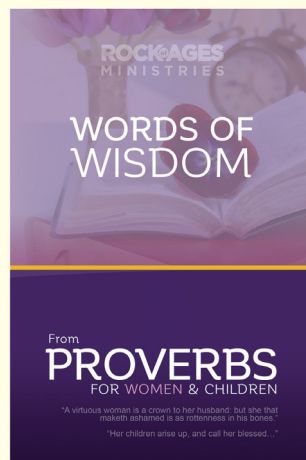
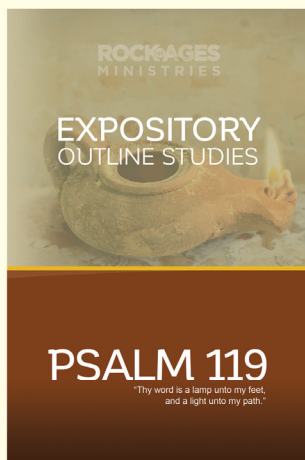
SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM



ONLY \$5.00 Each

NEW EXPOSITORY STUDIES NOW IN STOCK!

Visit our online store at roapm.org/store



The Rock Of Ages Study Bible

The Edition Rock of Ages Study Bible (printed only as the King James Bible) offers an unparalleled selection of helps that are designed to encourage the study of God's Word. Rock of Ages Ministries has used quality Oxford materials and workmanship to ensure that your copy of God's Word will withstand years of faithful use.

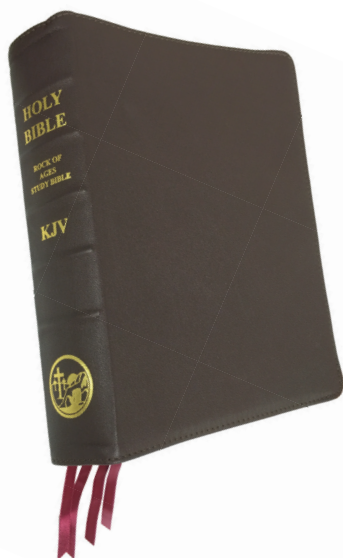
The Rock of Ages Study Bible features:

Over 975 in-text notes for instant background information
 35 black and white in-text maps provide geographical context
 33 in-text charts for easy to understand factual information
 Asterisks by keywords indicate where study notes are available

Introductions with outlines set the stage for each book of the Bible
 16 pages of Oxford Bible accurate, indexed, full-color Biblical world maps
 Sectional headings and outlines are indicated within the text
 250+ page Concordance of the most prominent words in the KJV

Plus Thousands of concise, bottom-of-page study notes on the topics of Salvation, Baptism, Prayer and more.

Premium Goat Skin & Calfskin Edgeline



Features:
 - Premium Deluxe Goat Skin or Calfskin Cover
 - Supple Calfskin Lining
 - Stitched Cover Edges
 - 4 Marker Ribbons



Colors:
 Brown
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 Red

\$150.00

Cowhide Edgeline



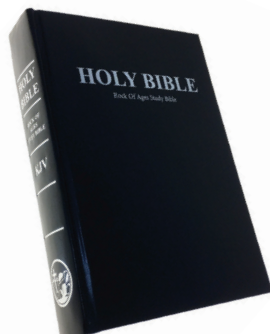
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 - Supple Calfskin Lining
 - Stitched Cover Edges
 - 4 Marker Ribbons



Colors:
 Black
 Red

\$150.00

Pew Bible



NEW!

Hardcover
 Rock of Ages Study Bible

Colors:
 Black



Introductory Price
 \$15.00

PU Vinyl Bible



Features:
 - 2 Marker Ribbons

Colors:
 Black
 Brown



\$40.00

Please visit our online store at roapm.com for additional Bible Offers!
 (Please call for case lot orders and shipping options 423.479.3243)

The Soul Winner's Discipleship New Testament

It has always been the goal of Rock of Ages Ministries to provide materials that will be a blessing and offer assistance to local churches, schools, colleges, and individual Christians. We have developed this New Testament with soulwinning and discipleship in mind and, to our knowledge, it is the only one of its kind. The Soul Winner's Discipleship New Testament is filled with wonderful resources that every soulwinner will truly appreciate.

The Soul Winner's Discipleship New Testament features:

The Soulwinner's Presentation Page

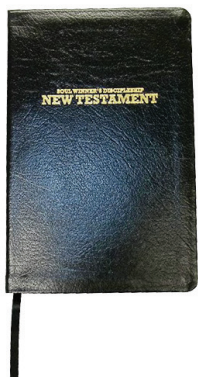
This page, in the front of the Bible, is presented to the individual that was saved. It records their name and the name of the one that led them to Christ, the name and address of the church or ministry represented, and the date, time, and location where the individual trusted Christ as their Saviour.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Soulwinner's marked edition A Summary of all major doctrines of the Bible A "How to study the Bible" section A "How We Got Our English Bible" section A section dedicated to soulwinners past, present, and future The Plan of salvation on the outside back cover | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Introduction to the New Testament The Romans Road in the opening pages An "About The Bible And Its Author" section A "Where to find help in the Bible" section The "You Must Be Born Again" section with detailed information on how a sinner can be saved |
|---|---|

Plus it consists of the Book of Proverbs, a full concordance, and the all of the notes and in-text maps from the New Testament of the Rock of Ages Study Bible!

The Soul Winner's Discipleship New Testament is a compact 5x8 size, features an easy to read number ten font size, and offers a variety of cover choices.

Genuine Leather



- Features:
- Genuine Leather Cover
 - 1 Marker Ribbon
- Colors:
- Black
 - Red

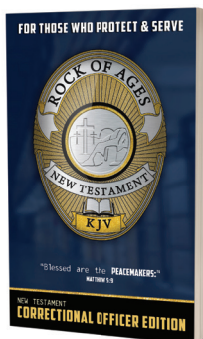
\$25.00

PU Vinyl



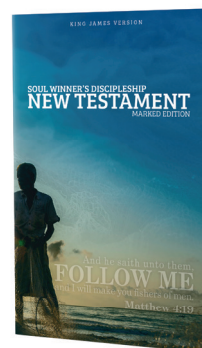
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- Colors:
- Light Brown/Tan
 - Black

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NEW!
Correctional Officer Edition
New Testament
Full Color Paperback

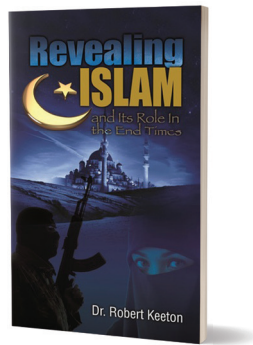
\$3.00 each
or \$2.50 / Case lot



Full Color Paperback
New Testament

\$3.00 each
or \$2.50 / Case lot

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



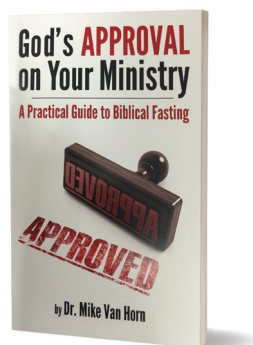
Soft Cover \$15.00
E-Book \$9.99

Revealing Islam By Dr. Robert Keeton

Since May of 1996, Dr. Robert Keeton has taught missionaries and held church seminars on the religion of Islam. In *Revealing Islam*, Dr. Keeton gives us an informative look at the beliefs and practices of Islam that will help to equip the reader with knowledge of how to reach them. This instructional book reveals his research to us, and the blessing he has had to put his findings into practice. He does this by providing examples of his experiences witnessing to many Muslims and seeing them come to Christ.

Dr. Keeton also reveals the rapid advance of Islam in our present day and its emerging role as the one-world religious platform for the antichrist during the tribulation period.

This is a wonderful resource, and has been instrumental in many accepting Christ as Saviour through the Biblical principles it presents.



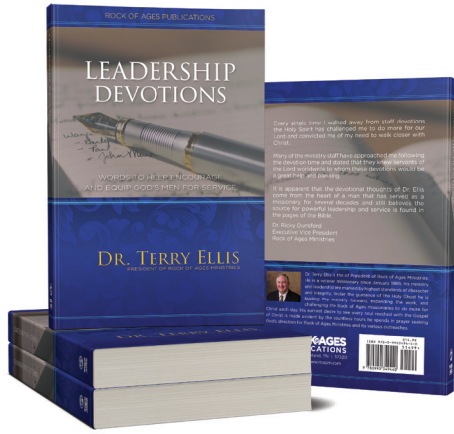
Soft Cover \$5.00

God's Approval on Your Ministry By Dr. Mike Van Horn

God has given every born-again, Bible-believing Christian his/her very own ministry, and in order to fulfill the ministry the LORD has entrusted us with, we must learn to tap into His powerful resources. Dr. Mike Van Horn has a great burden to awaken 21st century Christians to the seemingly forgotten practice of fasting. In *God's Approval on Your Ministry: A Practical guide to Biblical Fasting*, Dr. Van Horn shows us that there are not only many different Biblical reasons to fast, but that God's Word gives us guidelines for why, when, and how to fast.

Read and find out how every Christian today can add fasting, the secret weapon in God's arsenal, to his/her prayer life!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



WHETHER YOU ARE THE LEADER OF YOUR HOME, MINISTRY, STAFF, OR BUSINESS, THIS BOOK WILL BE OF GREAT VALUE.

Leadership Devotions By Dr. Terry Ellis

A new resource filled with devotional thoughts and lessons gleaned from the personal devotions of Dr. Terry Ellis, President of Rock of Ages Ministries. Dr. Ellis has also done additional research to help encourage, equip, and give Biblical insights to God's men and those that follow them.

It is apparent that the devotional thoughts of Dr. Ellis come from the heart of a man that has served as a missionary for several decades and still believes the source for powerful leadership and service is found in the pages of the Bible.

Soft Cover \$12.00

Dr. Ricky Dunsford
Executive Vice President
Rock of Ages Ministries



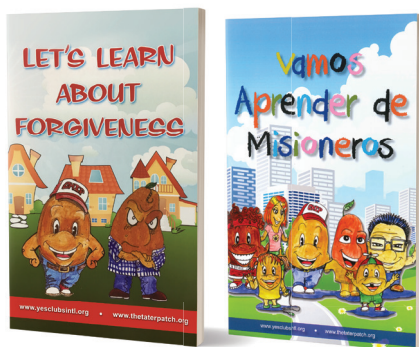
Soft Cover \$3.00
(10 or more \$2.00 each)

God's Wisdom, Our Topics

A tremendous topical reference tool for finding specific subjects in the King James Bible, for learning more about character, morals, ethics from God's Word, and for growing closer to The Lord from His promises.

- Features:
- Simple table of contents for easy topical look-up
 - Lists some of the many topical Scriptures.
 - Pocket size

A great ministry tool and gift idea for anyone ages seven and up!



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NEW COLORING BOOKS

Let's Learn About Forgiveness Coloring Book Vamos Aprender de Misioneros (Spanish)

Bright and cheerful, Christian coloring books for children of any age that uses the cheerful "Tater" characters to teach about missionaries, God's creation account, God's plan of salvation, and much more!

- Features:
- 40 pages of beautiful, full-page coloring illustrations.
 - Memory verses from the King James Bible.

A must-have for grandparents, parents, ministry leaders, or anyone reaching out to children.

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

ROA Logo Gold Cufflinks
\$20.00



ROA Logo Gold Lapel Pin/Tie Tack
\$7.00



Red ROA Tote
\$20.00



ROA Ink Pens
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ROA Tumbler

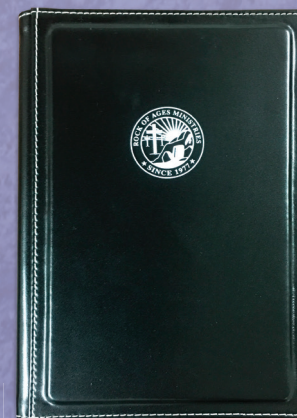
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ROA PU Vinyl Journals with 2 ribbons & front pocket
Colors: Blue, Red, Black
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ROA Leather Journal
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Rock of Ages Ministries, Inc.

PO Box 2308

Cleveland, TN 37320

Phone - (423) 479-3243

Email: info@roapm.net

Rock of Ages Ministries was established in 1977 and is a worldwide outreach ministering on the continents of Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America. We offer ministry outreach to prisons, schools and the military, through our Publication Department, Revivals, Chaplaincy Program, Discipleship Institute, and our College of Biblical Studies. For further information on any of these ministries, please go visit us at www.roapm.org, call us at 423-479-3243, or email us at info@roapm.com.



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