A man with white hair, wearing dark sunglasses and a vibrant blue patterned shirt, is smiling broadly. He is standing in front of a massive crowd of people, many of whom are holding colorful umbrellas. The scene is outdoors and appears to be a large public gathering or event.

iMPACT

SUMMER 2019

Photo Reports from Ethiopia! pg 11,18

*The Old is Dead; Live the
New And Better!* pg 6

i M P A C T

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Front Page

Scene from morning service
from the stadium in the
Muslim city of Jimma.

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Postmaster: In US send change of address to
WIM, P.O. Box 433, Winchester KY 40392-9800.

Publications Mail Product Agreement No. 40011290

If you enjoyed this issue of IMPACT Magazine and
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How I See It

Provocation, the New Covenant and WIBI in Myanmar

DURING the last three months we've conducted "I Saw Jesus" rallies in 14 cities across Canada, and there are more cities to come (see ad on back page). I get a kick out of the responses I receive from people on Facebook because of the expression: I saw Jesus. Some wonder, "Peter, what have you been smoking?", or "How high were you?" Whenever people who are not believers respond on Facebook, I take it as a good thing; I am getting their attention.

The Bible gives instances of people who had a spiritual encounter with Jesus after his resurrection. Jesus appeared to Simon Peter three times in a vision, and as a man in shining clothes and with eyes of fire to John of Patmos. Saul of Tarsus saw Jesus as a man standing in the Shekinah glory of God. Whether we meet Jesus in the Scriptures, or as the one who enlightens our hearts; once we encounter Jesus we can never be the same.

Going from city to city, gives Taina and I the opportunity to meet with partners and also to make new friends. I'm grateful to all who believe in the value of the gospel, and who are willing to give of their finances, to make Jesus

known. And best of all, in these rallies people receive impartation about Christ in us!

Provocateur?

Recently somebody called me a "provocateur." I took it as a compliment, considering that Jesus provoked people into thinking in new ways. Actually I don't like to provoke, but I realize that the Gospel is, at its core, provocative. If you think provocation is out of line, take a look at Jesus and the apostle Paul.

In the lead article I write, "Something was wrong with the Law of Moses." (page 6); does that provoke you? Maybe it should. I don't write to merely explore theological nuances, but because what we believe matters a lot. It affects everything; how we see ourselves, how we think and how we address others. The prevalent mixture of New and Old Covenant in the modern church has brought about strange expressions. I mention some in the article. Let me list just a few more:

- *We need to press into God's presence to receive.*
- *God is holy; He cannot look on sin.*
- *Welcome to the House of God this Sunday morning.*

- *I'm going on a Holy Land trip.*
- *We need to open the brazen Heaven with our worship.*

Can you imagine any of the apostles – Simon Peter, John or Paul – talking like that?

Hardly!

Well then, if neither Jesus nor the apostles spoke like this, where does this jargon come from? It's rooted in the obsolete covenant (see lead article). So maybe it's time to update our understanding so that our expressions and terminology will line up with the way that Jesus and the apostles spoke.

Our mission is to bring the Gospel to every person, but it is also to bring enlightenment to Christians who have been locked into a deceptive "have-not" mentality. The reality is:

We **have** God's presence and His anointing. Christ is in us, and Jesus has opened the heavens for everyone. Buildings and lands are not holy – *we are!* And God did look at sin because he was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. If God cannot look on sin, how can he help us in our deepest need?



Feedback please!

Let me know how you see it. Your thoughts may give me reason to respond with a Facebook video teaching. Please send questions and comments to info@peteryoungren.org or text me at 1-437-776-3366.

If you are interested to know more, check page 21 for some of the best teachings about the New Covenant. Once we discover the finished work of Jesus Christ, we will never want to go back. As long as we are in the “have-not” zone, we are not different from any religion. Everybody is seeking after God, trying to find His blessing, hoping for a breakthrough. What turned the world upside-down in the first two centuries of Christianity was the revelation that we have something. We have a treasure in earthen vessels. And we boldly proclaim, “What we have, we give you.”

To Partners!

The photos and reports from our Gospel festivals are a celebration of what God is doing through YOU! Your giving, your love and faith is at work. This is about every partner standing shoulder-to-shoulder to make history for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Campus in Myanmar

As we go to print, I'm glad to announce that World Impact Bible

Institute is launching our fourth campus, this one in Myanmar. Look at the “News and Updates” section for information, but there is much more to come. This is a huge opportunity to impact the Buddhist world. Again, thank you partners – you make this possible!

Global Gospel Institute

The Global Gospel Institute is on schedule to launch in September 2019. Applications are coming in, and you can contact us at, 416-497-4940 ext 4013. The next issue of *Impact* is scheduled for the end of August and will have a lot of information. For now, look at the ad on page 3.

The caption, **Take Your Place Of Destiny Now**, is much more than a slogan. The GGI will give in-depth online training, but it will also put the student right into effective ministry opportunities. I don't know any training program in the world that offers this in such a concrete way. We will not only provide the teaching, but put the graduate on the platform of ministry to experience God's power flowing through them. If this connects with your heart at all, please make sure you contact our office.

Thank you for everything you do for the gospel! *-Peter*

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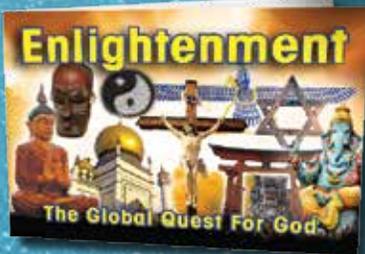
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The Old is Dead;
Live the New And Better!

By Peter Youngren

IF WE MIX THE OLD COVENANT WITH THE NEW, IN SPITE OF BIBLICAL WARNINGS, THE GOSPEL LOSES ITS ATTRACTION, AND WE SETTLE FOR LESS.

The Old Covenant ended abruptly on August 4th, 70 A.D. On that day the Jewish temple in Jerusalem was burned and razed, as Roman forces defeated the Jewish rebels. This was the end of ancient Judaism. The Law of Moses drew its last breath. While the Jewish people still had the words of the Torah, their ability to live according to the Law vanished. Without a Temple, there would be no sacrifices, and without sacrifices there would be no forgiveness of sin, no relationship with God.

Six years earlier, 64 A.D., the writer of the book of Hebrews had predicted that the last vestiges of the Law *will soon disappear*.

By calling this covenant “new,” he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear. (Hebrews 8:13).

70 years before the destruction of the Jewish Temple, the angel in Bethlehem announced the birth of the Savior and a New Covenant *for all people*. Tribalism was over, and the promise that God had made to

Abraham - *to bless all nations* - was about to be fulfilled. On the cross, Jesus confirmed that the end of the old era was at hand, and announced - *it is finished!*

Within Judaism, the sacrifices at the Temple continued after Jesus’ resurrection. The book of Hebrews was written to strengthening Jewish believers, who were under pressure to leave their new found faith and return to the Law. The author urges the readers to continue with Christ and to resist temptations to mix the Old and the New Covenants. He shows that Jesus is greater than Moses, greater than the High Priest, and his covenant is superior to the Torah. And Christ’s once and for all sacrifice has ended the need of daily temple sacrifices.

Sadly, today some still seek to blend the Old and the New Covenant, the very thing that Jesus, the Apostles, and the author of Hebrews warned against. We read:

If there had been nothing wrong with the first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. (Hebrews 8:7).

Take a moment to digest this! This is strong language – *something was wrong with the covenant of Moses!* To be exact, the part of the Bible where the Law of Moses is found contains something *wrong*.

Really? Does one part of the Bible (Hebrews) say that there's something wrong in another part (Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy)? Yes apparently! Either I am wrong, or the verse I quoted from Hebrews is incorrect. We can't have it both ways. I didn't say that everything in the books of Moses is wrong. Not at all! I just stated, from the Bible that *something* is wrong.

Is this too much? You may want to quit reading, because our tendency is to discard evidence that contradicts what we have previously thought. When I received my first Bible, at the age of 10, no one warned me that the Law of Moses had faults, and that these wrongs would only come to light once my reading took me into the New Testament.

The writer of Hebrews introduces another strong word – *obsolete* (see Scripture quoted above). The Bible calls the Torah, the Law of Moses, obsolete, stating that the very existence of a new covenant makes the old obsolete, (Hebrews 8:13).

Obsolete means outdated.

Again, think! One part of the Bible, the Book of Hebrews, calls another part obsolete. Did your pastor warn you to not spend too much time in the obsolete parts of the Bible? Just because something is obsolete does not mean that it is evil. I don't use cassettes anymore, but that doesn't mean that I think cassettes are bad. No, they served their time, but now there are better means of communication. Similarly, a passport has a designated usefulness. Once the end date comes, the passport is obsolete, it's time has been fulfilled. Again, it is not bad or evil, just outdated.

If you think that I discard the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, think again. These are among my favorite parts of the Bible, because these books reveal Christ. In World Impact Bible Institute, I teach three courses, each 18 hours in length, from those very books. On the road to Emmaus, Jesus taught his disciples

that the Law and all of Scripture contain vital information about *Himself*. The Church fathers incorporated the Jewish scriptures with the New Testament for *Christological* reasons. They preached Christ from the Jewish Scriptures. Note that Jesus never said; study Moses so that you can blend my gospel with the Law.

“ DOES ONE PART OF THE BIBLE SAY THAT THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG IN ANOTHER PART? ”

So, why did God give the Law in the first place, since it was destined to become outdated? Someone may add, "Aren't God's covenants eternal; why does the Law of Moses have an expiration date?" Paul, the Apostle, answers: *Why then was the Law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promised referred had come.* (Galatians 3:19)

The answer is clear; the Law was intended to be temporary, "it was added," it had an expiration date. It would end when God had fulfilled His promise to Abraham. Paul illustrates further that the Law was a guardian until Christ would come, and once Christ had come, there would be no need for a guardian. To summarize:

The Law of Moses was time-limited covenant for the nation of Israel, while God's covenant through Abraham, which was fulfilled by Jesus, is eternal and for the whole world.

The religious leaders in Jesus' day understood that Jesus had come to make the Law obsolete. That is why they crucified him.



AUGUST 4, 70 A.D., THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM WAS DESTROYED, NO TEMPLE, NO OFFERINGS, NO FORGIVENESS OF SIN.

On at least six occasions, Jesus said: *the Law says... but I say to you*. Jesus' intentions were clear. Some of Jesus' critics thought that he wanted to destroy the Law. Knowing their thoughts, Jesus explained: *Do not think I have come to destroy the Law or the prophets; I have not come to destroy but to fulfill them*, (Matthew 5:17).

Not *destroy* – but *fulfill*! What's the difference?

Read the next verse: *For truly I tell you until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of the pen will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished*.

Pay close attention here:

#1. THOSE WHO THINK THAT THE LAW OF MOSES IS FOR TODAY ARE LIABLE TO OBEY EVERY STROKE OF THE PEN AND EVERY LETTER (King James calls it every “jot” and “tittle”).

That means stoning rebellious children by the city gate, abstaining from shrimp, pork and bacon, and don't mix your clothing (combining linen, wool and cotton is an abomination). Don't cherry pick your favorite commandment. If the Law of Moses is for us today then you are responsible for every jot and tittle. No excuses!

#2. ONCE “EVERYTHING IS FULFILLED” THEN THE LAW DISAPPEARS.

Jesus' listeners must've understood that He intended to fulfill “everything”. The Greek term translated “fulfill” is found in Matthew and in Luke, and it means to bring to a designated end. Jesus came *to bring the Law to its end*. The Law had been on a timer all along, until Christ's finished work was fulfilled.

#3. JESUS WAS NOT ANOTHER ONE IN A LONG LINE OF TEACHERS AND PROPHETS; HE WAS THE END OF THE LINE.

Once a debt is paid, it is brought to its end, the debt obligation is fulfilled. Jesus was the Seed that God promised Abraham, and once the Seed had come, the

Law was fulfilled! God had no further obligation to bring salvation to the world; the promise that God had given to Abraham was now fulfilled in Jesus.

So what changed on August 4, 70 A.D.? That day the sacrifices in the Temple ceased. The consequences were enormous for the followers of Moses; no more forgiveness of sins, no more personal access to God.

Do you ever need forgiveness from sin? If you think that the Law is still for today, you better make an animal sacrifice. That could be problematic, especially if you live in an apartment, or in a city where animal

slaughter is not allowed in the back yard. Better luck if you live on a farm. But you still have a problem, because in order for your sacrifice to be valid it must be slaughtered by an approved Levite. There are not too many of those around. So you are stuck with your sins. But you say, “Peter, I just call on God in the name of Jesus and my sins are forgiven.” Not so fast. That is not allowed in the Old Covenant. That is only in the New Covenant because of the finished work of Jesus. If you believe that the Law is for us today, you had better follow the prescriptions in the books of Moses, or you are doomed.

Here's the big deal?

In contemporary Christianity, there is a tendency to blend the two covenants, which has allowed strange and weird practices to enter the Christian faith. Let me mention just a few.

Have you ever heard someone announce that God is about to judge our country because of its sins? That thinking is not from Jesus, who said that He has not come to condemn the world, but to save. The idea of judging nations is rooted in the Jewish Scriptures, not in the New Covenant, which proclaim that Jesus put away the sins of the world.

Another strange practice is to call certain buildings, places or days “holy”. That's also from the obsolete covenant. In the New Covenant, believers are called holy.

“**DID YOUR PASTOR WARN YOU TO NOT SPEND TOO MUCH TIME UP IN THE OBSOLETE PARTS OF THE BIBLE?**”

A third strange idea is that too much of the grace of God encourages people to sin. That's obsolete! The New Covenant teaches; *sin shall not have dominion, because we are not under the law but under grace,* (Romans 6:14).

Some may ask, "what about the 10 Commandments, are they not the foundation of Western society, what about their value?" Yes, the Commandments are, as the apostle Paul stated, *holy, perfect and just*. Yet, there is something wrong also with the 10 Commandments – **they cannot make us holy, perfect or just.**

“ **INSTEAD OF POSTING THE 10 COMMANDMENTS WHICH AROUSE SIN PUT JOHN 3:16 ON DISPLAY.** ”

Just like a mirror only shows the dirt on our face, and is incapable of cleansing, so the 10 Commandments are powerless to remove sin. While they cause an awareness of sin, they also, according to the apostle Paul, arouse us in desire to sin. Only the gospel of Jesus Christ gives the power to overcome sin, death and darkness. That's the hope of our society! If we are interested in the power of sin being broken the answer is not to have the 10 Commandments in public places, but to make Jesus known. Instead of posting the 10 Commandments which arouse sin put John 3:16 on display, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life".

Mixing the old and the new covenant hurts us, and it hurts our cause. One reason why early Christianity was so attractive, that the Roman Empire turned from paganism to Christ, was the early believers understood that the Law was obsolete – Jesus Christ was now the Redeemer for all. Jesus had torn down the enmity (the Law) between Jew and Gentile. Everyone was now on equal footing.

Unfortunately, after centuries of muddying the waters, many no longer find the Gospel attractive. Have we poisoned our message? To mix the life-giving New Covenant with the Law that kills (2nd Corinthians 3), is like putting poison in a healthy salad. If my words trouble you, please read 2nd Corinthians chapter 3; you may find the words of the apostle Paul even more upsetting.

Bottom line, the gospel is an attractive message, but we must get to know our message better, and then we will discover that the world is more ready to receive than we ever imagined. ✨

TIMELINE OF NEW COVENANT:

BEFORE CHRIST: New Covenant foretold.

YEAR 0: Angel announced the birth of Christ and the New Covenant.

33 A.D.: On the cross Jesus proclaimed: *It is finished.*

64 A.D.: The author of Hebrews states that the Old Covenant *will soon disappear.*

AUGUST 4, 70 A.D.: Temple destroyed. No more sacrifices. The Law of Moses draws its last breath.

TODAY: Salvation is available to all by Christ's New Covenant.



“I Saw Jesus” Tour

Peter and Taina Youngren met many friends and partners while touring from British Columbia to Quebec. Each night wonders happened as people experienced Jesus for themselves. More than 400 Salvation books were provided to those who responded to receive Jesus. One partner in Lethbridge, Alberta, said, “this was truly a marvelous night. I now see Jesus in me. I can’t wait to tell others about this!”



“I Saw Jesus” Tour in Calgary, AB

“This was truly a marvelous night. I now see Jesus in me. I can’t wait to tell others about this!”

One of the unique features of the “I Saw Jesus” Tour was the Q & A session with Pastor Peter. Hundreds texted their questions. What do I need to do to be healed? How do government policies regarding Israel effect the spiritual condition of Canada? Do you have any plans to take the Gospel to the First Nations? How can I impact people with the Gospel? What are your thoughts on smoking cannabis? Stay tuned on Facebook and by watching *You Are Loved* as Pastor Peter will answer these and more questions in the weeks to come!

3 Tanzania Campaigns

World Impact Ministries has one of its most ambitious schedules this year, with nine festivals. In the upcoming weeks Gospel campaigns will take place in Tanzania in three cities with strong Islamic influence, one of them is a city where a Gospel campaign has not been conducted in more than 20 years. Dean Morris, who will lead one of the campaigns, commented, “I am thankful for Pastor Peter teaching me how to do what he does. We are making a massive impact in so many nations with the Gospel. Amazing things will happen in Tanzania. Thank you partners.”

Muslim Leaders Welcome Dean Morris

In preparation for Peter Youngren’s campaign in Mwanza, Dean Morris visited Tanzania. He met with local Muslim leaders to invite them to be part of the Friendship Festival. “The regional sheikh and Muslim leaders are all supportive and look forward to attend the events. They extend their warmest invitation to Pastor Peter in Mwanza,” Dean reported.



Dean Morris with Muslim Leaders - Mwanza, Tanzania



City where Extremist burned 59 churches receives the Gospel!

THE Friendship Festival began with a dinner where Islamic, Orthodox and Protestant leaders mingled. Peter Youngren believes in building bridges of friendship, between leaders of various religions and political parties, all in an effort to present the Gospel to more people. In Jimma this was extra important because of the extreme violence the city experienced just a few years ago.

Jimma, the largest city in southwest Ethiopia, has had its share of violence in history. During World War II, it was occupied by Italian forces. Again, in 1975, there were violent encounters between students and local farmers. During the Ethiopian civil war in 1991, the city was captured by the Revolutionary Democratic Front. The violent clashes between Christians and Muslims in 2011 were reported by the international

news media. In addition to the burning of churches and other buildings, thousands were made homeless.

Regardless of history and backgrounds, people are ready to receive the Gospel because God has put eternity in every heart. Ultimately everyone longs for Jesus Christ: He is the desire of all nations. In Jimma, Muslims and Christians proved wide open to God's love through Jesus Christ. During the two campaigns (Jimma and Ziway) more than 50,000 individuals received follow-up material for new believers.

Ethiopia is entrenched in religion. The Muslims, the Orthodox and the Protestants all have their own, well-guarded, turf. Each religious brand has its rules for how to appease a supposedly angry deity. This makes

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



The stadium was filled and many sat on the surrounding walls to get a good view of the platform.

Peter together with Muslim and Orthodox leaders, sharing the uncompromising gospel, in an attitude of friendship.



Young lady testifies of how her paralyzed leg had been healed.



Security was everywhere; memories of the violent clashes between Muslims and Christians are fresh.

Already at the airport, Peter was met by journalist and believers, and an impromptu meeting followed.





Injured and damaged leg in car accident, now he can walk freely.



Lady rejoicing because God has opened her blind eyes.



Young man healed of paralysis.



High blood pressure had caused her to lose eye sight, now she was excited to be onward describing how she could see everything clearly.



In intense pain because of kidney infection, now healed.



Jesus opened her deaf ears.



More than 50,000 received follow-up for new believers.



the Pastors' Seminars crucially important to bring a revelation of the Gospel. With over 1,300 leaders in attendance in Jimma and another 650 leaders in Ziway this was a significant time where pastors were equipped in the Gospel. But first many of the leaders were delivered from religious bondage of performance and self-righteousness.

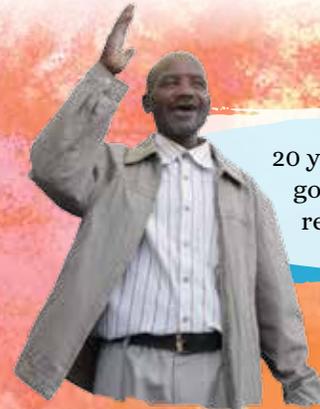
The message in the stadium was clear: "The prophet Jeremiah said: 'God, you made Heaven and earth, and there is nothing too difficult for you.' The angel Gabriel exclaimed, 'For with God nothing shall

be impossible.' And Jesus said: 'For with man it is impossible, but not with God. For with God all things are possible.'"

The truth that "with God all things are possible" reached far and wide, as people gave their testimony of what God had done for them. Peter commented after the Festival: "Seeing the response, I am reminded of the words of Jesus that the harvest is great, but the laborers are few. I believe God is giving us the tools, through the loving and sacrificial participation of our partners, to accelerate this gospel ministry."*



1300 pastors and leaders were trained in Jimma and another 650 in Ziway. Thank you partners who made this possible.



20 years of glaucoma gone now able to read small print.

Many were overcome with emotions as the Holy Spirit touched their hearts about what Christ has done for them.



Lady rejoices after Jesus is opens her blind eyes.





News and Updates (cont.)

Myanmar Co-Worker Gets Married

Congratulations to Kyaw Lin and Sansanlisu Sansan on their marriage. Both Kyaw Lin and Sansanlisu were formerly Buddhist and are now transformed by the Gospel.

Kyaw Lin has assisted Peter Youngren in setting up Gospel Festivals in Myanmar and is now leading the WIBI campus in the country.



Kyaw Lin and Sansanlisu Sansan

Jakob Wendesten to Hold First Festival

Pastor Peter's goal is to train hundreds to conduct Gospel campaigns. In just a few weeks, Jakob, who has helped Pastor Peter set up many campaigns across Africa and Asia, will host his very first festival in Magu, Tanzania. Jakob shared his expectation, "I believe this Festival will be something very special, many will receive God's gift of salvation, and miracles will follow the Gospel!" Pastor Peter added, "It brings me great joy to see others step up and do what I have been doing. If I can do it, others can do it."



Jakob with an Orthodox Leader in Ethiopia



Students from WIBI Indonesia

Indonesian Students Host Family Festival

The students at World Impact Bible Institute Indonesia put all they learned to use as they hosted a Family Festival in an area unreached by the Gospel. Over 500 families heard the good news of Jesus! Susan Hoover, director of WIBI Indonesia, was full of excitement, "The greatest joy of a leader is to not be needed but to watch the students succeed."



Daniel Meeting with denominational leaders

39 Denominations Rally for Campaigns in Indonesia

This fall will include three Friendship Festivals in Indonesia, in areas where many are Muslim and others practice animism, the traditional religion in Papua. Daniel Sugiarto, Peter’s co-worker in Indonesia, hosted a pastors’ rally to share about the upcoming festival. Daniel shared, “We had a wonderful participation with over 39 denominations present. You could feel the excitement and anticipation. The region is ready for a great Gospel campaign.”

Easter Services Result in Salvations

The Easter services at Toronto Celebration Church drew more than 2,000 worshipers. The auditorium was packed Sunday morning for “Ransom,” a dramatic presentation of the Gospel. Led by Peter Youngren, a crew of 30 people worked together to bring the presentation to life. Lead Pastor Nathan Thurber said, “This was the perfect way to celebrate the risen Savior with 92 people responding to the Gospel!”



Toronto Celebration Church on Easter Sunday

WIBI Expands to Buddhist World

The Buddhist world is ready for the Gospel, yet so few people are working there. It has long been a desire of Pastor Peter to train students in the Buddhist world and that desire has become a reality. In addition to campuses in Indonesia, Kenya, and Tanzania, World Impact Bible Institute will launch a campus, in



Raising up an army of Gospel workers in Buddhist Myanmar

Mandalay, Myanmar. Kyaw Lin, director of the campus said, “This is great news for my country. Dr. Peter has influenced so many Buddhists with the love of God. Now we can train many students to continue to impact this nation with the good news so many are finding in Jesus.”

Peter Youngren Coming to the Maritimes.

World Impact Ministries Maritime Conference will be held November 22-24 at Faith Christian Fellowship in Moncton, New Brunswick. Mark your calendars for three powerful days of teaching, healing, and impartation. In conjunction with the WIM Maritime Conference, Peter will also conduct rallies in Halifax and Saint John. He commented, “During my early years of ministry I spent a lot of time in the Maritimes. It feels like coming home!”

SERIOUSLY, WHY ARE WE SURPRISED?

GOD DOES NOT REMEMBER YOUR SINS!!

BY NATHAN THURBER

WHY does this statement shock us? Yes, it is and always was, a very big deal, but it isn't new. God relates to us today through the New Covenant. Yet, even in the Old Covenant God said, "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for My own sake, and remembers your sins no more" (Isaiah 43:25). If this was included in the inferior Covenant, why are we, who live under a better covenant, still shocked to hear that God does not remember our sins?

God's grace was evident when King Balak of Moab hired the sorcerer Balaam to put a curse on the Hebrew people. Balaam tried several times, but failed, stating, "what God has blessed, no man can curse" (Numbers 23:8). This was the awesome irreversible blessing of God, but how did the Hebrew people receive it?

Balaam explained. "God has not observed iniquity in Jacob, nor has He seen wickedness in Israel" (Numbers 23:21). **The key is that God did not observe/remember their iniquity.** Of course, these were not perfect people. Among the many Hebrew people, there must

have been someone who wronged a brother that morning, or lied to a parent, but God said, I don't observe that, and I don't remember their sin. **The result was: no curse, but irreversible blessing!**

That was the Old Covenant, but the New Covenant is, in one word: BETTER. "Now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for He is the one who mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on better promises" (Hebrews 8:6). Would it be better if God remembered our sins? If God allowed the curse based on our behavior? Of course not! So why are we shocked that God does not remember our sins? Why are we surprised that God irreversibly blesses us in Christ?

After all, the New Covenant is superior, but how? To describe it in two words: **New Life**. Paul said, "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). In the Old Covenant the people were forgiven and blessed, but they were still the same old sinners. Their sins were just covered. God wanted more! In

Jesus' resurrection, God gave us His life, His peace, His love, His joy and His righteousness. This is the big deal: a brand-new heart, a new you! (Hebrews 8:10). God lives in you. "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27).

Don't lower your expectations in the New Covenant. If God does not remember your sins, why do you? If God says you are irreversibly blessed, live like it! You are the righteousness of God in Christ! You can't be cursed, only blessed. There's no need to act surprised. That is our normal in Christ! **You are a new you!** ✨



Nathan Thurber is the Lead Pastor of Toronto Celebration Church.



The Campaign that shouldn't have Happened

On the heels of the breakthrough Gospel campaign in Jimma the team moved on to Ziway, another Muslim district. Sadly many organizations overlook these kinds of areas, because it so much easier to conduct evangelistic campaigns in places where the Christian community already is in majority. With very few Christians, Ziway just isn't the place where you would expect to see thousands gather at the stadium for a Gospel Festival.

Ethiopia with more than 100 million people is full of religion, and every group, Muslim, Orthodox and Protestant, have their own strict rules about how to get close to God. Yet, with all of the striving and effort, very few ever experience the truth and freedom of Jesus Christ.

The Ziway campaign had one purpose – to provide multitudes of non-Christians their first experience with the power of the Gospel. What followed was spectacular;



Thousands respond to the salvation call.

a historical week for many Muslims and others who had never before encountered Christ in a personal way.

For weeks leading up to the festival, announcements went all over town: the blind will see, the deaf will hear, the lame will walk. Many were curious, how could this happen? Right from the first meeting, they would have the answer. Crowded all around the stadium, sometimes sitting on the walls, or under a tree outside the stadium, people listened and watched with amazement. The response to the salvation call each night was historic, as thousands prayed to acknowledge Jesus as Savior.

During the Friendship Dinner the gospel was presented to leaders from Islam, Orthodox and traditional African religions.





Some, like Zacchaeus in the Bible, climbed trees to get a good view.

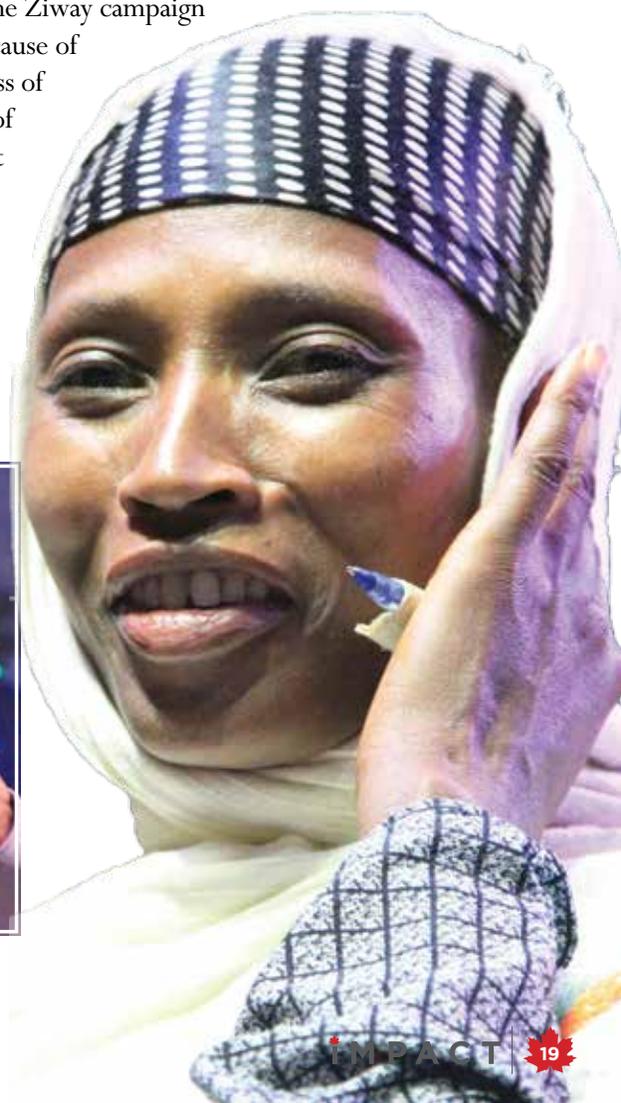
Each night, Peter prayed, “Lord Jesus, help me to preach your gospel with power, and help the people to listen, to believe and to receive.” As the people heard the good news of Jesus as their Savior, they were also healed in their bodies. Pain and paralysis vanished, the blind saw, the deaf heard, and those with tumors watched as their growths disappeared.

Peter turned one of the stadium rallies over to his associate, Dean Morris. The vision of World Impact Ministries is to train hundreds of Apostolic Ministers, who can do the same work that Peter Youngren has conducted for so many years. The people looked on in wonder as God confirmed his gospel after Dean had proclaimed that regardless of the people’s needs – Jesus is bigger. On the last night, Peter preached on the theme, *How I know Jesus is alive*, and it seemed the stream of testimonies from people whose tumors had

vanished would never end. People kept praising God long into the night.

Just like in Jimma, there was a highly anticipated seminar for pastors and leaders 650 delegates. Many of them travelled from far distances to receive a Gospel revolution. The Ziway campaign happened because of the faithfulness of the partners of World Impact Ministries. Together, we made history for the gospel.

-Dean Morris

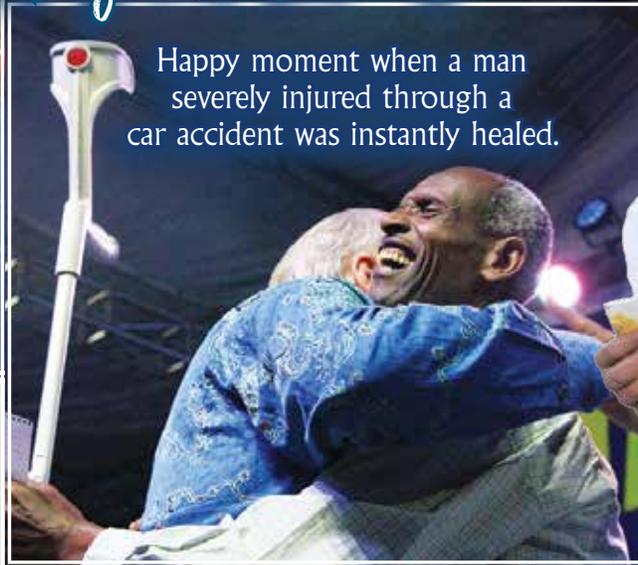
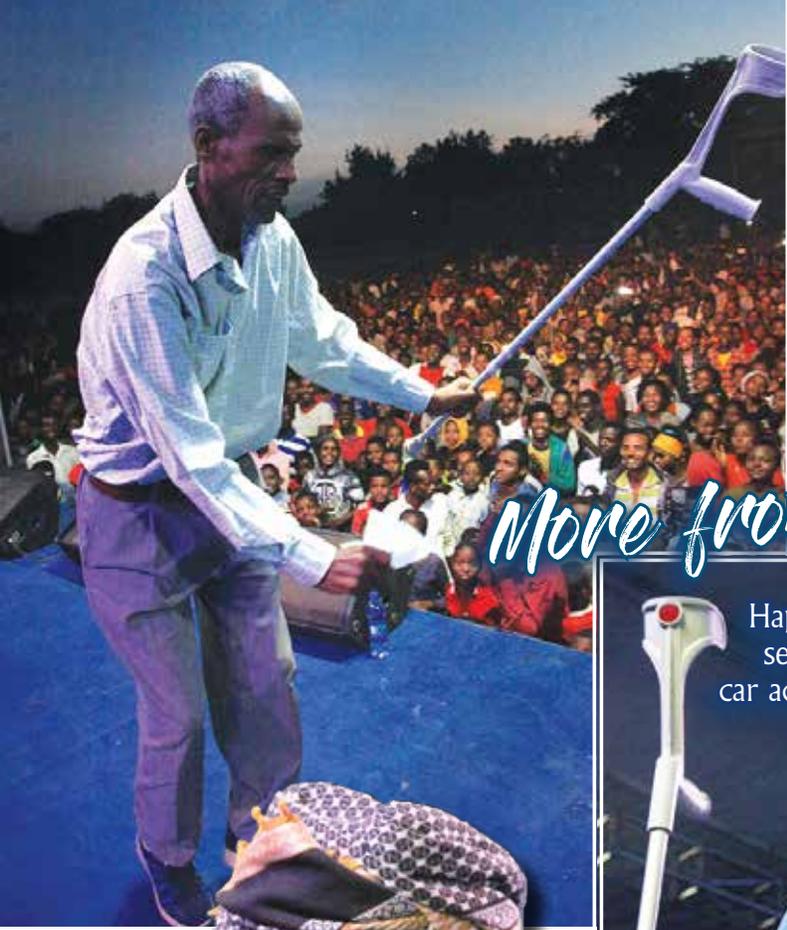


Many deaf ears were opened.

TO PARTNERS!

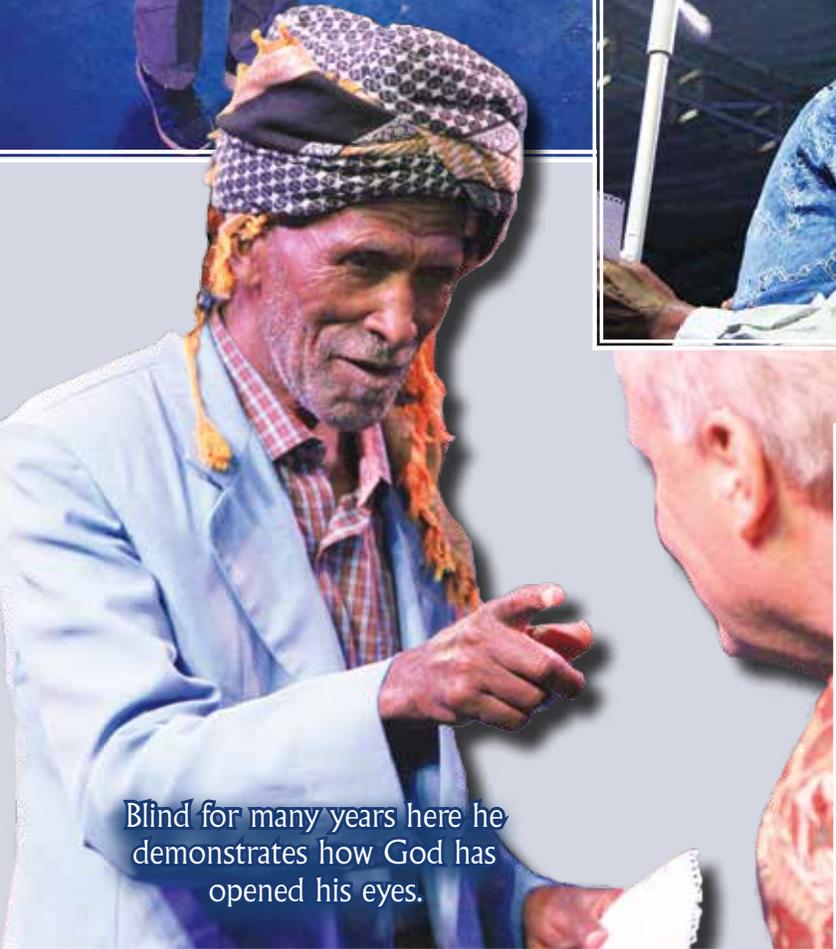
The photos and reports from Jimma and Ziway are for you. Your giving and prayers have brought great results. THANK YOU! The apostle Paul told his partners, "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches and glory by Christ Jesus." That promise is for you too! -Peter

More from Ziway

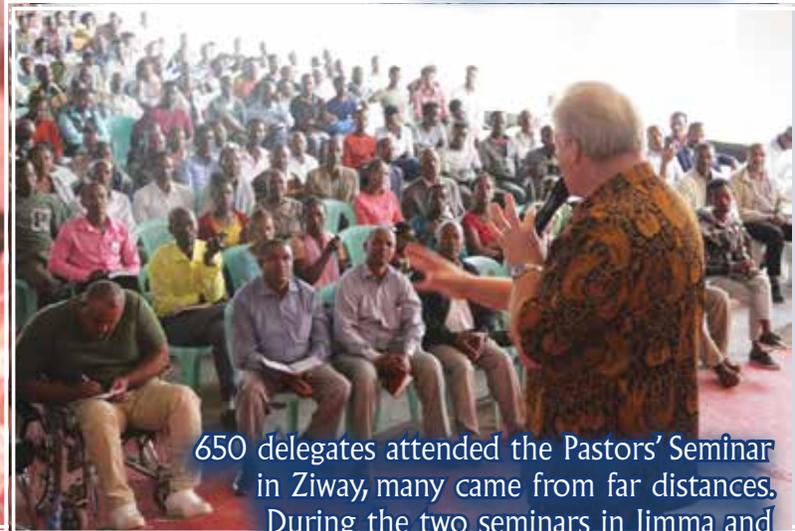


Happy moment when a man severely injured through a car accident was instantly healed.

Young Ethiopian man eagerly reading the Enlightenment booklet.



Blind for many years here he demonstrates how God has opened his eyes.



650 delegates attended the Pastors' Seminar in Ziway, many came from far distances. During the two seminars in Jimma and Ziway more than 1950 leaders received training.



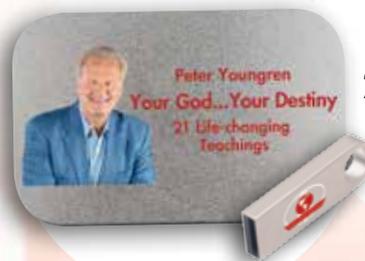
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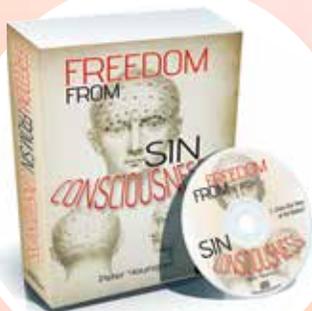
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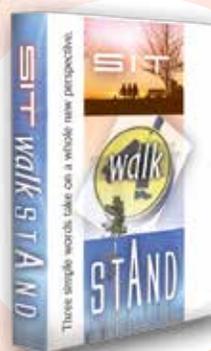
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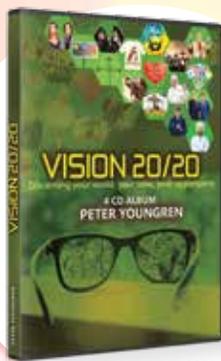
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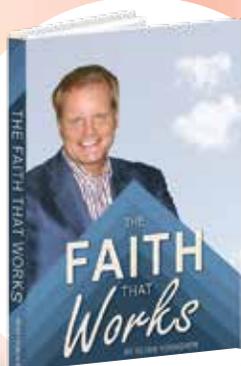
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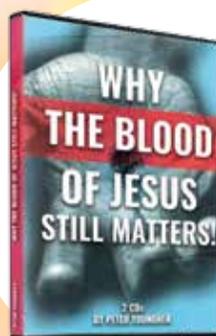
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Last Word with Taina



Membership that Matters

PETER and I fly a lot. Almost all airlines have their own membership programs. Miles, points, rewards, coupons, redemptions... Sounds great, but if you travel a lot you may have noticed how difficult it is to actually use those benefits? There are more restrictions than I care to mention, and they often hinder your plans and hopes of a free flight.

Once again, we are on a plane en route to Vancouver, British Columbia, and my mind goes to one special membership program that never expires and the benefits remain continually redeemable – membership in the Kingdom of God!

I can't actually imagine a better deal than what we have through Jesus Christ; 24/7-365 days per year access to the Throne of Grace, the headquarters of His membership program. It never closes its doors – you can access as often as you

wish. No waiting time, no line ups, no requirements. You are always received with overflowing joy and everlasting love. Even God's wisdom is provided freely in times of need... and let's not forget about His comfort in hardships and restoration in brokenness.

One unbeatable benefit is good health. Sometimes we forget about this great benefit of physical and emotional well-being! I remind myself about this especially when taking communion; "Jesus, you took my sickness, my weakness, and traded it for health and life." What a provision – membership in God's Kingdom, sounds pretty good, eh?"

Have you realized that we also reap the bountiful benefits of God's wisdom for our finances? God has proven Himself faithful in my life. In the ministry, we often don't have the necessary funds on hand

for a Gospel Festival or a Leaders' Seminar (actually it is the case each time, the vision comes first and then the finances) – but God helps us and makes a way for His gospel to be presented to hungry hearts. And He does it through willing partners.

I have used terms "God's Kingdom" and "membership program" interchangeably, and may be a bit playfully in this article. The truth is that you and I are the beneficiaries of the Covenant between Jesus and the Father – and that's what really matters. Our membership is secure because God, the Father, and God, the Son will never fail. This membership program comes with an absolute guarantee. No earthly membership program comes close.

My friend, let's enjoy our benefits by seeking (being mindful of) God's kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to us. ✨



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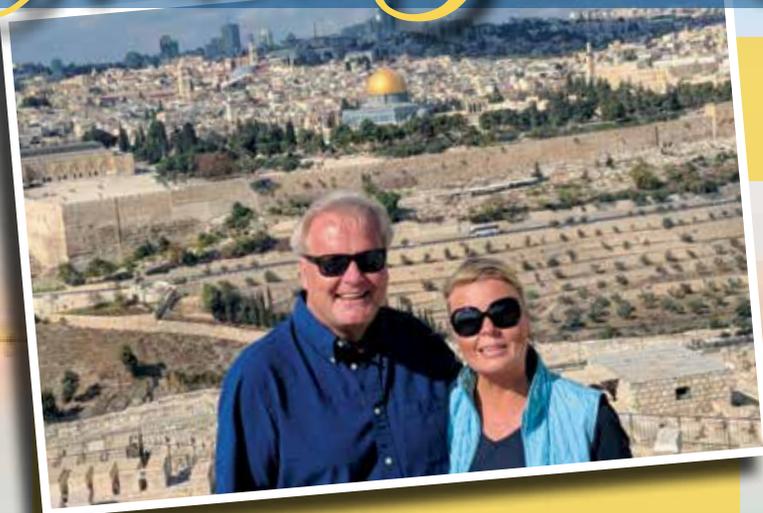
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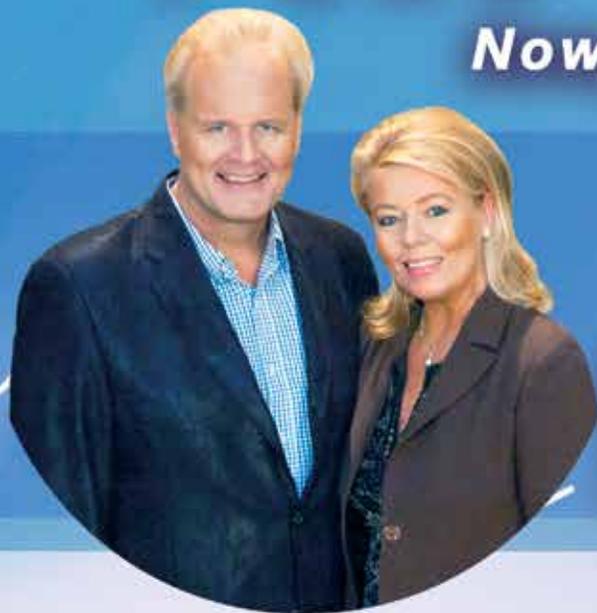
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