



THE APOLOGIST

A Publication of Faithful Steward Ministries
And
Faithful Steward Ministries Women's Outreach

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Proclaiming Fundamental Biblical Doctrines Without Worldly Compromise



The wicked shall be turned into hell,
and all the nations that forget God.

-- Psalm 9:17

FSM and FSMWO stands firm on the fundamental doctrines of the Word of God. We believe all who presents themselves as servants of the Lord should be **READY AND ABLE** to declare unto all who ask the foundational beliefs, principles or tenants of their faith (1 Peter 3:15)



It is with much joy we announce Mrs. Stephanie Graham Tarrant, joining FSM as the director of the Woman's Outreach. Stephanie is well qualified for this position. She is a graduate of bible college, a pastor's daughter and loving mother and wife. We are grateful she accepted God's calling to this ministry and look forward to her helping us grow.

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MINISTRY STATEMENT OF FAITH

THERE IS ONE TRUE GOD IN THE FORM OF THREE PERSONS FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

Co-equal in deity, power and sovereignty
Gen 1:1; Matt 3:16-18

THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD

Verbally inspired every word without exception by the Holy Spirit
Is 40:8; 2 Tim 3:16

SALVATION IS ETERNAL THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS ALONE

It is only by the GRACE OF GOD that we are called to FAITH through the conviction of the HOLY SPIRIT
Deut.10:14 - Deut.10:15; Matt.24:22 - Matt.24:24; Matt.24:31 - Matt.24:31;
John.6:37 - John.6:39; Rom.8:28 - Rom.8:33; Rom.9:11 - Rom.9:13, 16; Ephesians 2:8-9

THE HOLY SPIRIT INDWELLS ALL BORN AGAIN BELIEVERS

Gen 41:38; Rom 8:9-14

HEAVEN AND HELL ARE LITERAL (REAL) PLACES RESERVED FOR ETERNITY FOR THE SAVED AND DAMNED

Deut 26:15; Matt 25:41

BELIEVERS ARE COMMANDED TO, AND OBLIGATED TO WITNESS/SHARE THE GOSPEL

Is 6:1-8; Matt 28:18-20

THERE IS ONE CHURCH, WITH CHRIST AS THE HEAD, WITH BORN AGAIN BELIEVERS AS THE BODY AND THE COMMAND TO FELLOWSHIP THEREIN

2 Chron 5: 1-6; Heb 10:25

BELIEVERS ARE COMMANDED TO SEPARATE FROM ALL WORLDLY INFLUENCES

Ps 1:1; 2 Thess 3:6,14

PRAYER IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR GROWTH IN FAITH AND THE DUTY OF BELIEVERS ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

Is 55:6; Matt 7:7 - 1Sam 12:23; 1 Tim 2:1

THE APOLOGIST

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WHY NOT YOU???

The mission of FSM is to “administer the Good News of Christ to those in bondage”. We minister to those recovering from addictions, inmates and ex-mates, our

SERVICES WE PROVIDE

- Direct Correspondence with those in bondage via email, letters and telephone
- Bible Study Outlines on a variety of biblical topics
- Articles and Sermons on a variety of biblical topics
- Research and Answers to Bible questions and topics
- Quarterly Publication; The Apologist (email and postal to 36 states, nine foreign countries and our military in Iraq)
- Public education via speaking engagements and literature designed to educate the public on reentry of ex-offenders
- Limited Aftercare services: we will attempt to help those being released:
 - find a local Bible believing and preaching church,
 - locate employment resources,
 - Locate Group/Therapy (AA, NA, SOTP) in the area they plan on residing prior to release.
 - Review and make recommendations to their release plan
 - Provide direct support through a minimum of a weekly meeting or phone call (depending on where person resides) Note to the incarcerated

Service's we do not provide:

- We do not send money at any time for any reason to inmates or their families
- We do not send stamps into any institution
- We will provide a self addressed stamped envelope (only (1) One per letter sent) to those inmates who are indigent and who's institution's policy permits this. We require a letter from the Chaplain, Case Manager or other Facility staff on institutional letterhead to do this.
- We do not send books to institutions (We can provide a list of places to get a free Bible if requested)
- We do not forward mail for inmates
- We will accept inmate correspondence, art work and writings but can not copy and return them

We are not a pen-pal hook up service; FSMWO is run by women for women only they do not correspond with men.

From the Director

Change, Change Change.....

A big change in scenery and work may be in the future for a part of this ministry. Mike and Naida are planning to move to Mississippi to partner with Lakeshore Baptist Church and Pastor Elbounre. These are full time unpaid domestic missionary positions. Briefly Mike will be, coordinating all volunteer effort, supervising the camp and most importantly evangelism in the community, and Naida will be working at Mercy House.

Please pray: First pray for Naida and I, that God would give us a clear and definitive call to this endeavor. We are hoping to be settled in MS before the end of October this year.

Second we would need to sell our house. Pray this would happen quickly.

Lastly pray for financial support. Although Naida and I are far better off than many entering the mission field we would still need between 1500.00 and 2000.00 per month to pay the bills. As the congregation there in Lakeshore is quite small we cannot expect any local support for some time.

Gad asks, America, why has thou forsaken me?

Recent events, political and judicial decisions in America have left little doubt that this once God fearing nation; has turned its back on the God of the universe.

For much of our history we depended upon the providence of God to protect us from enemies foreign and domestic. Now we have no excuse, no reasonable expectation except that God in His divine providence and wrath will cause us, The United States of America, to remember what we have forsaken.

Our founding fathers, despite what is preached, published and taught today, understood this as evident by most all of the documents, laws and quotes of the time. The following quotes are just a few of the thousands of examples of how these men considered the God of the Bible sovereign in all things.

Samuel Adams

Father of the American Revolution, Signer of the Declaration of Independence

I . . . recommend my Soul to that Almighty Being who gave it, and my body I commit to the dust, relying upon the merits of Jesus Christ for a pardon of all my sins.

Will of Samuel Adams

Charles Carroll

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

On the mercy of my Redeemer I rely for salvation and on His merits; not on the works I have done in obedience to His precepts.

From an autographed letter in our possession written by Charles Carroll to Charles W. Wharton, Esq., on September 27, 1825, from Doughoragen, Maryland.

William Cushing

First Associate Justice Appointed by George Washington to the Supreme Court

Sensible of my mortality, but being of sound mind, after recommending my soul to Almighty God through the merits of my Redeemer and my body to the earth . . .

Will of William Cushing

John Dickinson

Signer of the Constitution

Rendering thanks to my Creator for my existence and station among His works, for my birth in a country enlightened by the Gospel and enjoying freedom, and for all His other kindnesses, to Him I resign myself, humbly confiding in His goodness and in His mercy through Jesus Christ for the events of eternity.

Will of John Dickinson

John Hancock

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

I John Hancock, . . . being advanced in years and being of perfect mind and memory-thanks be given to God-therefore calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing it is appointed for all men once to die [Hebrews 9:27], do make and ordain this my last will and testament...Principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it: and my body I recommend to the earth . . . nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mercy and power of God. . .

Will of John Hancock

Patrick Henry

Governor of Virginia, Patriot

This is all the inheritance I can give to my dear family. The religion of Christ can give them one which will make them rich indeed.

Will of Patrick Henry

John Jay

First Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court

Unto Him who is the author and giver of all good, I render sincere and humble thanks for His manifold and unmerited blessings, and especially for our redemption and salvation by His beloved son. He has been pleased to bless me with excellent parents, with a virtuous wife, and with worthy children. His protection has accompanied me through many eventful years, faithfully employed in the service of my country; His providence has not only conducted me to this tranquil situation but also given me abundant reason to be contented and thankful. Blessed be His holy name!

Will of John Jay

Daniel St. Thomas Jenifer

Signer of the Constitution

In the name of God, Amen. I, Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer . . . of disposing mind and memory, commend my soul to my blessed Redeemer. . .

Will of Daniel St. Thomas Jenifer

Henry Knox

Revolutionary War General, Secretary of War

First, I think it proper to express my unshaken opinion of the immortality of my soul or mind; and to dedicate and devote the same to the supreme head of the Universe – to that great and tremendous Jehovah, – Who created the universal frame of nature, worlds, and systems in number infinite . . . To this awfully sublime Being do I resign my spirit with unlimited confidence of His mercy and protection . . .

Will of Henry Knox

John Langdon

Signer of the Constitution

In the name of God, Amen. I, John Langdon, . . . considering the uncertainty of life and that it is appointed unto all men once to die [Hebrews 9:27], do make, ordain and publish this my last will and testament in manner following, that is to say-First: I commend my soul to the infinite mercies of God ...

in Christ Jesus, the beloved Son of the Father, who died and rose again that He might be the Lord of the dead and of the living . . . professing to believe and hope in the joyful Scripture doctrine of a resurrection to eternal life . . .

Will of John Langdon

John Morton

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

With an awful reverence to the great Almighty God, Creator of all mankind, I, John Morton . . . being sick and weak in body but of sound mind and memory-thanks be given to Almighty God for the same, for all His mercies and favors-and considering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the times thereof, do, for the settling of such temporal estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life . . .

Will of John Morton

Robert Treat Paine

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

I desire to bless and praise the name of God most high for appointing me my birth in a land of Gospel Light where the glorious tidings of a Savior and of pardon and salvation through Him have been continually sounding in mine ears.

Robert Treat Paine, *The Papers of Robert Treat Paine*, Stephen Riley and Edward Hanson, editors (Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society, 1992), Vol. I, p. 48, March/April, 1749.

[W]hen I consider that this instrument contemplates my departure from this life and all earthly enjoyments and my entrance on another state of existence, I am constrained to express my adoration of the Supreme Being, the Author of my existence, in full belief of his providential goodness and his forgiving mercy revealed to the world through Jesus Christ, through whom I hope for never ending happiness in a future state, acknowledging with grateful remembrance the happiness I have enjoyed in my passage through a long life. . .

Will of Robert Treat Paine

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney

Signer of the Constitution

To the eternal, immutable, and only true God be all honor and glory, now and forever, Amen!. . .

Will of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney

Rufus Putnam

Revolutionary War General, First Surveyor General of the United States

[F]irst, I give my soul to a holy, sovereign God Who gave it in humble hope of a blessed immortality through the atonement and righteousness of Jesus Christ and the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit. My body I commit to the earth to be buried in a decent Christian manner. I fully believe that this body shall, by the mighty power of God, be raised to life at the last day; 'for this corruptable (sic) must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality.' [I Corinthians 15:53]

Will of Rufus Putnam

Benjamin Rush

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

My only hope of salvation is in the infinite, transcendent love of God manifested to the world by the death of His Son upon the cross. Nothing but His blood will wash away my sins. I rely exclusively upon it. Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly!

Benjamin Rush, *The Autobiography of Benjamin Rush*, George Corner, editor (Princeton: Princeton University Press for the American Philosophical Society, 1948), p. 166, *Travels Through Life, An Account of Sundry Incidents & Events in the Life of Benjamin Rush*.

Roger Sherman

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Signer of the Constitution

I believe that there is one only living and true God, existing in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. . . . that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are a revelation from God. . . . that God did send His own Son to become man, die in the room and stead of sinners, and thus to lay a foundation for the offer of pardon and salvation to all mankind so as all may be saved who are willing to accept the Gospel offer.

Lewis Henry Boutell, *The Life of Roger Sherman* (Chicago: A. C. McClurg and Company, 1896), pp. 272-273.

Richard Stockton

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

I think it proper here not only to subscribe to the entire belief of the great and leading doctrines of the Christian religion, such as the Being of God, the universal defection and depravity of human nature, the divinity of the person and the completeness of the redemption purchased by the blessed Savior, the necessity of the operations of the Divine Spirit, of Divine Faith, accompanied with an habitual virtuous life, and the universality of the divine Providence, but also . . . that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom; that the way of life held up in the Christian system is calculated for the most complete happiness that can be enjoyed in this mortal state; that all occasions of vice and immorality is injurious either immediately or consequentially, even in this life; that as Almighty God hath not been pleased in the Holy Scriptures to prescribe any precise mode in which He is to be publicly worshiped, all contention about it generally arises from want of knowledge or want of virtue.

Will of Richard Stockton

Jonathan Trumbull Sr.

Governor of Connecticut, Patriot

Principally and first of all, I bequeath my soul to God the Creator and Giver thereof, and body to the Earth . . . nothing doubting but that I shall receive the same again at the General Resurrection thro the power of Almighty God; believing and hoping for eternal life thro the merits of my dear, exalted Redeemer Jesus Christ. Will of Jonathan Trumbull

John Witherspoon

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

I entreat you in the most earnest manner to believe in Jesus Christ, for there is no salvation in any other [Acts 4:12]. . . . [I]f you are not reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, if you are not clothed with the spotless robe of His righteousness, you must forever perish.

John Witherspoon, *The Works of John Witherspoon* (Edinburgh: J. Ogle, 1815), Vol. V, pp. 276, 278, *The Absolute Necessity of Salvation Through Christ*, January 2, 1758.

Or how about these orders from Presidents Lincoln and Washington can you imagine the uproar if this was said today. Oh, that God would provide men of conscience and faith to bring about revival in America

GENERAL ORDER RESPECTING THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH DAY IN THE ARMY AND NAVY

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

Washington, November 15, 1862

The President, Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, desires and enjoins the orderly observance of the Sabbath by the officers and men in the military and naval service. The importance for men and beast of the prescribed weekly rest, the sacred rights of Christian soldiers and sailors, a becoming deference to the best sentiment of a Christian people, and a due regard for the divine will demand that Sunday labor in the Army and Navy be reduced to the measure of strict necessity.

The discipline and character of the national forces should not suffer nor the cause they defend be imperiled by the profanation of the day or name of the Most High. "At this time of public distress," adopting the words of Washington in 1776, "men may find enough to do in the service of God and their country without abandoning themselves to vice and immorality." The first general order issued by the Father of his Country after the Declaration of Independence indicates the spirit in which our institutions were founded and should ever be defended:

The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavor to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

George Washington's original General Orders:

February 26, 1776

All Officers, non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers are positively forbid [den from] playing at Cards, and other Games of Chance. At this time of public distress, men may find enough to do in the service of God and their country without abandoning themselves to vice and immorality.

July 9, 1776

The Hon. Continental Congress having been pleased to allow a Chaplain to each Regiment, with the pay of Thirty-three Dollars and one third pr month—The Colonels or commanding officers of each regiment are directed to procure Chaplains accordingly; persons of good Characters and exemplary lives—To see that all inferior officers and soldiers pay them a suitable respect and attend carefully upon religious exercises. The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary but especially so in times of public distress and danger—The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavor to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.

[Source: The Writings of George Washington, John C. Fitzpatrick, editor (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), Vol. 4, p. 347, February 26, 1776 Order; and Writings (1932), Vol. 5, pp. 244-245, July 9, 1776 Order.]

The prevalent thought in society today (in clear contradiction to America's beginning) is that man is basically good and therefore has no need of a redeemer. Man can do good on his own and that is all he needs to strive for. But the bible clearly states otherwise.

The following is a study on Man's Good Works that the "Prince of Preachers" C.H. Spurgeon affirmed:

A Faith to Confess: The Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689

Rewritten in Modern English

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CHAPTER 16 - GOOD WORKS

1) ONLY the works that God has commanded in His holy Word are to be accounted good works. Such works, as men have invented out of blind zeal or upon the mere pretense of good intentions, are not good, for they lack the sanction of Holy Scripture.

[Isa. 29:13; Mic. 6:8; Matt. 15:9; Heb. 13:21.](#)

2) Works that are truly good, and which are done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and living faith. By means of them believers make known their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance of salvation, edify their brethren, adorn their Christian witness, and deprive their opponents of arguments against the gospel. In sum, they glorify God who has made them what they are, namely, new creatures in Christ; and as such they yield fruit that evidences holiness, eternal life being the outcome of all.

[Ps. 116:12,13; Matt. 5:16; Rom. 6:22; Eph. 2:10; Phil. 1:11; 1 Tim. 6:1; Jas. 2:18,22; 1 Pet. 2:15; 2 Pet. 1:5-11; 1 John 2:3,5.](#)

3) The ability of believers to do good works does not spring in any way from themselves, but is derived from the Spirit of Christ alone. But besides the graces which they receive from Him in the first instance, they need His further actual influence to give them the will and ability to perform the works that please Him. Yet this does not mean that, without that special influence, they are at liberty to grow careless of duty, for they must be diligent in stirring into activity the grace of God that is in them.

[Isa. 64:7; John 15:4,5; 2 Cor. 3:5; Phil. 2:12,13; Heb. 6:11,12.](#)

4) In rendering obedience to God, those believers who attain to the greatest height possible in this life are so far from performing works of supererogation (that is, beyond what God actually requires) that they fall short of much which, as their duty, they are bound to do.

[Job. 9:2,3; Gal. 5:17.](#)

5) We cannot, even by our best works, merit either the pardon of sin or the granting of eternal life at the hand of God, for those works are out of all proportion to the glory to come. And furthermore, there is infinite distance between us and God, and no works of ours can yield Him profit or act as payment for the debt of our former sins. Indeed, when we have done all that we can, we have done but our duty and remain unprofitable servants. We are also to remember that,

so far as our works are good, they are produced by His Spirit. As far as they are our work they are marred, and mixed with so much weakness and imperfection that they fall utterly to meet the searching requirements of God's standards.

[Ps. 143:2; Isa. 64:6; Luke 17:10; Rom. 3:20; 4:6; Gal. 5:22,23; Eph. 2:8,9.](#)

6) Nevertheless, since believers as to their persons are accepted by God through Christ, their works also are accepted as being wrought in Christ. Not as though they were, during this life, beyond reproach and unreprouvable in the sight of God, but that, as He looks upon them in His Son, He is pleased to accept and reward that which is sincere, even though it is accompanied by many weaknesses and imperfections.

[Matt. 25:21,23; Eph. 1:6; Heb. 6:10; 1 Pet. 2:5.](#)

7) As for works done by unregenerate men, even though God may have commanded them, and they may be highly useful both to themselves and to others, yet they remain sinful works for the following reasons: they do not originate in a heart purified by faith; they are not done in the right manner prescribed in Scripture; and they are not directed to the glory of God as the only right end. Hence they cannot please God, nor can they make a man fit for the reception of grace. Yet the neglect of such works is more sinful and more displeasing to God than is the performance of them.

[Gen. 4:5; 1 Kings 21:27,29; 2 Kings 10:30; Job 21:14,15; Amos 5:21,22; Matt. 6:2,5; 25:41-43; Rom. 9:16; 1 Cor. 13:1; Titus 3:5; Heb. 11:4,6.](#)

Many thanks to Founders Ministries for this document. You can find the entire 1689 in modern English at: <http://www.founders.org/library/bcf/confession> or the original version at: <http://www.vor.org/truth/1689/1689bc00.html>

Women's Outreach

Answering the Call — Stephanie Tarrant

I am the daughter of a Baptist minister so I was raised in the church and attended Christian school for my primary education. I was saved and baptized as a young child. After high school, I attended Eastern Nazarene College and received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. My faith was quite stagnant my first few years in college but I began to grow towards the end of my third year. My senior year in college I was invited to go on a missions trip to the Dominican Republic. I wanted to go, but I had to raise funds and I also knew I had get serious with my faith. I went on the short term missions trip and had an awesome and life changing experience. While there I really felt the Holy Spirit working in my heart and felt the full assurance of my salvation.

Needless to say, whenever I look back on that experience I am reminded of the persistence of the Holy Spirit and the truth that God will never leave us nor forsake us even when we walk away for a time. After graduation, I became involved with the youth in my church and stayed involved until my son was born six years ago. I have felt overwhelmed with life the past few years so much that I didn't think I had the time to serve on a ministry.

Mike Poirier a couple months ago asked me to pray and think about getting involved with Faithful Steward Ministries and everyone thought I was the person for the job but I didn't think so. In, fact for a time I purposely didn't pray about it probably deep down because I didn't want the responsibility.

Recently we had a guest speaker come to the church to tell us about the good work God has been doing in his life and community. I felt a stirring and said to myself, "I wish there was more I could do for God". Immediately, I texted Mike to let him know that I was ready. God works in amazing and mysterious ways. I pray that God will be able to use me in a mighty way to reach those who need His love.

Pastor's Page

Steven Graham

In my studies preparing for a sermon on Numbers Chapter 20, I came across an interesting reading in Psalm 105. The Psalmist is writing about the events that took place in Number 20 from a historical perspective, sort of looking back and remembering those events.

As I made my way through the 105th Psalm, I came across six verses which spoke of Joseph's imprisonment in Egypt. The information the psalmist records is not previously recorded in the Genesis account of Joseph in pharaoh's prison. The verses enlighten us as to how cruelly Joseph was treated and how God provided a reprieve and release for Joseph.

I would like to take a few moments of your time and hopefully encourage those of you who read this article not to give up hope in God's promise of forgiveness, God's love for His elect and a future opportunity to serve God.

The story of Joseph being sold by his brothers for 20 pieces of silver to the Midianites, who then resold Joseph to the Potiphar, whose wife accused him of rape for which he was imprisoned, is well known. The psalmist tells us more about that prison: *"whose feet they hurt with fetters; he was laid in iron: until the time came that his word came: the word of the Lord tried him. The king sent and loosed him; even the ruler of the people and let him go free."*

Joseph's time in prison was a trial from God, *"The Lord tried him"*. The trial of his faith in God and his resolve to continue to trust God was not without pain, humiliation and suffering. The text says he was *"fettered"*, he was *"laid in iron"*. Joseph was chain hand and foot to the wall or floor. I am sure this was painful and humiliating. The chains and iron would leave scars that Joseph would carry through life, even unto the grave.

One would think that as the days turned into weeks and the weeks into months and months into years that Joseph might begin to feel sorry for himself. Some would wonder what was the point in living for God each day, who would care since you were all bound up in prison? Well God would care, and was watching Joseph, He was testing Joseph. Remember years are like days to God. A long time to us is but a speck of time to God.

Joseph did not fail his trial. He trusted that God, in His time, according to His will, could and would deliver him. Joseph also remained positive about the possibilities of God using him, an ex-con, in a future work. Joseph's faith and trust in God were rewarded and he was set free and made *"the ruler of the people"*. God made Joseph lord of his house and ruler of all his substance; able to bind princes at his pleasure and to teach his senators wisdom. Not bad for an ex-con.

Joseph reminds us that no matter the situation our God is bigger than it all. He will never leave nor forsake his children. Sure you may have to deal with many trials but you too can be an overcomer like Joseph. All you have to do ask Christ to forgive your sins and make Him Lord of your life.



And you think you have Trials and Tribulations?

Location: **Pakistan** Arrested: **June 2009**
Days Imprisoned: **1118**

Asia Bibi, a 37-year-old Pakistani woman from the village of Ittanwali, was arrested by police on Friday, June 19, 2009. Asia (also called Asia Noreen) is the wife of 50-year-old Ashiq Masih, and their family is one of only three Christian families in a village of 1,500 families.

Many of the local women, including Asia, work on the farm of Muslim landowner Muhammad Idrees. During their work, many of the Muslim women have pressured Asia to renounce Christianity and accept Islam. In June, the pressure became especially strong.

On Friday, June 19, there was an intense discussion among the women about their faith. The Muslim women told Asia about Islam. Asia responded by telling them about her faith in Christ. Asia told the Muslim women Christ had died on the cross for sins, then asked them what Mohammad had done for them, according to VOM sources. She told them Jesus is alive, but Mohammad is dead. "Our Christ is the true prophet of God," she reportedly told them, "and yours is not true."

Upon hearing this, the Muslim women became angry and began to beat Asia. Then some men took her and locked her in a room. They announced from the mosque loudspeakers that she would be punished by having her face blackened and being paraded through the village on a donkey. Local Christians informed the police, who took Asia into custody before the Muslims could carry out their plan. She was held at the police station in Nankana city. Christians there urged the police not to file blasphemy charges, but police claimed they were under pressure from local Muslim leaders.

Seventeen months after Asia's arrest, she was convicted of violating subsection C of Pakistan's 295 blasphemy law - blasphemy against the prophet Muhammad - and was sentenced to death. No Christian in Pakistan has ever been executed under the blasphemy law, but in several cases, extremists have murdered Christians after their release from prison. Asia's conviction and death sentence have brought international attention to the country's blasphemy laws. Christians have called for Asia's release and for a repeal of the laws, while extremists in Pakistan continue to demand that she be executed.

The Voice of the Martyrs urges Christians around the world to pray for Asia Bibi and her family.

Prison is Tough, Even for the Most Faithful

In April, Asia was going through a rough time. She had to celebrate yet another Easter away from her family. She told her husband, Ashiq, "I am fine, but to be alone and away from my family is frustrating to me. I want to run away from this imprisonment."

Ashiq encouraged her, and said, "You have been steadfast in your faith so far; be patient and trust in God. He will surely guide you."

In June, Ashiq reported that Asia was feeling better. She said another group had brought her some food and clothes, and she was thankful for them and for all her prayer supporters.

Monthly Visit With Family

Imprisoned Christian Asia Bibi was visited by her husband, Ashiq, on March 6, 2012. When Asia inquired after her two young daughters, Ashiq told her that the children were healthy and doing well in school. She told him she was feeling discouraged about ever being released.

He said, "Yesterday when we had family prayer, I asked the children what they were praying for. They said, 'We are praying for those people who are helping us and who are trying to release our Mama.'

At that moment, Ashiq "felt God's presence, and he said to me, 'Don't be afraid, I am with you.'"

**Want to contribute to The Apologist?
Send us your artwork, article or
poem , but please keep it brief.**

DEVOTIONALS

FROM DAYS OF PRAISE

Lest We Forget November 9, 2009

"Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons." (Deuteronomy 4:9)

This admonition was given by God through Moses as the children of Israel were preparing finally to enter God's promised land.

God had done mighty things for them--delivering them from slavery in Egypt, parting the Red Sea for them, feeding them for forty years with water from a great rock and daily bread from heaven--and it was important for them to teach their descendants, "lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen."

It was especially vital not to forget the actual words of God. "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it" (Deuteronomy 4:2). The writer of Psalm 119 (the longest chapter in the Bible) stressed no less than seven times how important it was not to forget the words of God.

"I will not forget thy word" (v. 16).

"Yet do I not forget thy statutes" (v. 83).

"I will never forget thy precepts" (vv. 93, 141).

"I do not forget thy law" (vv. 109, 153).

"For I do not forget thy commandments" (v. 176).

Our nation has seen God do marvelous things. It was founded by a small band of Christians, and in a short span of history has become the greatest nation in the world. Yet we also seem about to forget, as Israel once did.

We would do well to rehearse again and again the poignant words of Rudyard Kipling, in words written over a hundred years ago: "Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget, lest we forget." HMM

The Promise of Liberty May 9, 2012

"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage." (2 Peter 2:19)

This chapter consists of a strong denunciation of false teachers. They are, among other things, sensuous, beguiling, covetous, and accursed (v. 14). They desire personal wealth (vv. 15-16), but their message is empty, and even destructive, and will be judged (v. 17), appealing to the pride and lusts of their hearers (v. 18).

In our text we see the false teachers are quick to make promises. Promises are cheap; they cost nothing. Satan first revealed himself to mankind with a promise: "Ye shall be as gods" (Genesis 3:5), and later attempted to seduce the Son of God with "all the kingdoms of the world" (Matthew 4:8). Empty promises are Satan's golden hook, and many are the foolish ones who take the bait.

In this case, the false teachers promise liberty--liberty to act without the shackles of responsibility and moral law. But they themselves are "servants of corruption," slaves of a most abhorrent mentality. And who are they to offer liberty? These are indeed "great swelling words of vanity" (2 Peter 2:18), for slaves cannot rightly offer liberty.

How is this promise kept? Bondage. Bondage to that which has overcome. The liberty that sin promises is slavery, and the greater the sinner, the greater the bondage to the sin. There is perhaps no more wretched a state than to be in bondage to abject corruption in the name of liberty. It is a bondage of the spirit; a captivity of the soul. Of all states of slavery, it is the most lasting.

On the other hand, through grace we can "stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free," with no need to be "entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Galatians 5:1). JDM

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INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Please join us in praying for:

Also Bi- weekly updates online at
our Web site or Face Book page

Our President, and legislature, the courts

Christians to not be ashamed and get busy doing God's work

God's continuing providence for America as we are in a period of moral and ethical decay that is unprecedented in modern times

Pray for our Armed Forces everywhere

Our youth that they walk in the light of the Lord

Salvation for lost family, friends and those who oppose us

Please pray for our friend and supporter Tony D. who just got another set back to being released. Many of us believe he is unjustly held and only God knows why he is still there. He needs our prayers for strength to hold fast to his faith.

Missions and Missionary Friends

Angave Peoples Ministry Papua New Guinea

Anthony Kwadwo Okyere a young evangelist in Ghana West Africa

The Harmon's missionaries in Manati, Puerto Rico for 18 years; In their quest to start a new work in San Juan.

Hannah Overton - A mother wrongly imprisoned

Lakeshore Baptist Church in Lakeshore, Mississippi; they have for over 6 years been on the forefront of the rebuilding of Hancock County MS after hurricane Katrina. Their needs are still

The Messer's (all 8 of them) missionaries to Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) Africa

The Rivera's, Ben and Becky with Campus Crusades for Christ

Rev Varon and his family in the Philippines

The Tabb's, Dan and Amy as they minister to youth in Ireland

Wells of Salvation - African Mission, East Otis, MA Bringing fresh water and the Gospel to Africa

Pray these and the many others serving God in the mission fields will get the financial & prayer support they need

Our fellow ministries serving the incarcerated:

Amazing Grace Ministries, Woburn, MA
Bethany Fellowship International, Bloomington MN
Bluegrass Gospel Sing and Jam, Belchertown, MA
Christian Pen-Pals, Statesville, NC
Freedom through Christ Ministries, Ft Lauderdale FL
Freedom Ministries, Elizabethtown KY
J.A.R. Ministries, Bay Saint Louis, MS
Jimmy Huff Ministries, Colorado City TX
The Least of These Prison Ministries, Gloucester City, NJ
Meet Her at The Gate Ministry
Mbeya Prison Ministry, Mbeya Tanzania
New Beginnings, Malden MA
New England Prison Ministries, Lowell MA
Robin's Song Inc., Big Spring Texas
Set Free Ministries, Easton MA
So Blessed Ministry, Bakersfield CA
Spirit House Ministries (For Women) Georgetown, TX
The Master's Female Prison Ministry, Decatur, AL
True Freedom Outreach New Zealand, Warkworth New Zealand
Reaching out to the incarcerated in Egypt
Wells of Hope Prison Ministry, Uganda
Wings of Faith Missions, Tanuku India

The incarcerated everywhere for

Health issues
Financial needs
Upcoming court cases
Renewed family relationships
Spiritual Growth
Those they left behind at home

Prison Churches: Their leadership and the countless Christian volunteers serving the Lord in prisons; that they do so never compromising the Word of God.

NEVER FORGET THOSE SERVING OUR MILITARY

CPT Patrick Joyner and family, Navy Chaplain to USMC -The Joyner family includes seven children, William – 17 yrs., Audrey – 15 yrs., Jordan – 15 yrs., Maggie – 12 yrs., Noah - 10 yrs., Laurel Anna – 6 yrs., and Mary M'Cheyne – 4 yrs.

The Veterans Coalition Ministries of Faith

Military Ministry - Serving military members, veterans, and families across the globe

Christian Military Fellowship (CMF) supports United States military personnel and their families, worldwide

Special Requests form you our friends:

Wells of Hope Academy in Uganda since last Dec they have purchased land some 20 miles outside Kampala. They continue to need prays and support as they have unfinished buildings and lack of water and food.

Rev Varon in Philippines Please pray with us for the provision of jeep renewal registration to Land Transportation as needed yearly taxing and dues and processes this month of July. We have been praying on this several months now... no finances yet... but trusting the LORD to provide us the needed funds so that our preaching to schools be not hindered. Any cheerful giving contribution as God enables is highly appreciated.... Philippians 4:19. God bless you all and fervently praying for you all as well.

Our dear friend **Helen Spear**, who was our missionary in Texas at Mercy Ships. She is recovering from a stroke and needs our prayers.

For this Ministry

Financial Support to continue our work

Help from mature men in Christ to correspond with men on the inside

We will continue to service God for His Glory alone

That we'd hear from more of the 250 inmates and ex-mates who get this Publication

As noted on page 5 Naida and I request your prayers as we consider moving to MS.

Please keep Stephanie Tarrant ion prayer as she takes over the helm of the Women's Outreach

Please contact us for more information about any of the ministries listed.

CONTACT US

_____ Yes, I will partner in prayer for the needs listed this month

_____ Yes, I will pray for Wisdom and financial blessing for this ministry

_____ Yes, I will contribute to this ministry \$ _____

Please note we are not a recognized non-profit tax exempt organization. Your contributions may not be tax deductible.

Please Send information on:

- _____ Available Study Outlines
- _____ Available Articles and Sermons
- _____ Information on (Specify Topic)
- _____ Available lecture and forum topics

Other : _____

** Note those requesting aftercare assistance should make every effort to contact us at least 6 months prior to expected date of release and preferably a year prior. We need that time to review your release plan and help facilitate your transition.

Send Requests to:

**Faithful Steward Ministries and
Faithful Steward Ministries Women's Outreach
PO Box 424 Chicopee, MA 01021-0424**

Email's:

directorfsms@gmail.com
directorfsmwo@gmail.com

OUR NEW BLOG/WEB SITE

<http://fsmandfsmwo.org>

ON FACEBOOK

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Faithful-Steward-Ministries-and-FSM-Women's-Outreach/178166535561150>

Member in good standing International Network of Prison Ministries:
<http://prisonministry.net/fsms>