

Prayer Dispatch 07.06.15 / South Africa Mission – The Ministry of the Word



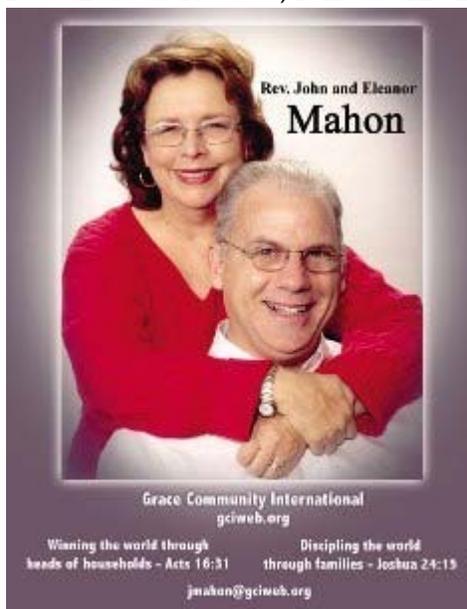
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In this Prayer Dispatch...

I. God's Word Supplied

II. God's Word Proclaimed

III. Prayer Requests: As you minister with us throughout the world through your intercessions please allow the accompanying passages from the Word of God to guide your prayers

2 Corinthians 1:11 "you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many."

A. The Parable of the Sower deals directly with the ministry of the Word - both the opposition to the Word and the blessing of the Word. Please allow this parable to guide your prayers as we minister God's holy, eternal, inerrant written Word to the nations.

Mark 4:14-20

14 "The sower sows the word.

15 "These are the ones who are beside the road where the word is sown; and when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them.

16 & 17 "In a similar way these are the ones on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy; and they have no firm root in themselves, but are only temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away.

18 & 19 "And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

20 "And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

B. As you pray for the empowerment of the proclamation of the Word of God, please claim these passages for our ministry.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

John 17:18 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

☐ *1 Peter 1:23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.*

C. That God would bless the ministry materially, that we might in turn bless those to whom we minister.

☐ *Psalms 67:1-2 God be gracious to us and bless us, And cause His face to shine upon us — Selah. That Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations.*

☐ *Psalms 67:6-7 The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us. God blesses us, That all the ends of the earth may fear Him.*

☐ *2 Corinthians 9:11 you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.*

Dear Prayer Warriors,

This dispatch emphasizes the ministry of the holy, eternal inerrant written Word of God. This is our ministry and on this ministry we stand or fall.



Your prayers, faith and generosity make this ministry possible. Wherever we go, and South Africa was not exception, we take Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference works for pastors, ministers, student workers, and lay ministers. For many, this is the first leather study Bible they have ever owned.



One of the great frustrations of my early Christian life was to be exhorted over and over to do things without being given the training nor the tools with which to apply the exhortation. I have always made it my goal to not repeat this in the lives of whom I minister. Your faith, gifts and prayers make it possible for us to not only exhort, but to train, to not only train but supply those whom we train with the tools necessary to put into application and action that which they receive.



Psalm 119:125 was the first verse to go in my prayer notebook back in the fall of 1971. It has remained there ever since and I pray over this passage every day - "I am Your servant; give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies." It also shapes my prayer of blessing before I speak at any event, "O Lord God, this is Your holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word. We are Your servants, give us understanding that we might know Your testimonies"



The objective, men praying over and studying the Word of God. This is one of the many groups of men I met with while in South Africa. Center picture is of Udobong Idemeter, our host. Notice the intensity of his prayers as he seeks to go deep in God's Word. This Nigerian missionary to South Africa is truly a man of the Word and kindred spirit with me in the ministry. It is a joy and privilege to co-labor with him in the harvest fields of the world.



Whether in homes or Sunday services our ministry is always the same. Lifting up the risen Savior, building up families and marriages on the foundation of the Word of God, training ministers and lay ministers by the Word of God. We stand and fall upon this ministry -1. Christ and Him crucified and 2. Preaching and teaching the holy, eternal, inerrant written Word of God.



One of the great joys of my heart is to see my wife Eleanor, Bible in hand proclaiming to women the truths of the Scriptures.

I close this e-mail, as always, with a deep and abiding thankfulness for your sacrificial and effectual prayers, which empower and drive this ministry ever forward in the cause of Christ.

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1

Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int. -

Please allow me to close this dispatch with a hymn from my prayer notebook that has been especially meaningful to me...

(Psalms 104:33-34 "I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.")

Link to music/tune for this hymn: <http://nethymnal.org/htm/b/t/bttblife.htm>

Break Thou The Bread Of Life

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord to me,
As Thou didst break the loaves Beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word

*Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, To me, to me,
As Thou didst bless the bread By Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, All fetters fall;
And I shall find my peace, My all in all.*

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
Thy holy Word the truth That saveth me;
Give me to eat and live With Thee above;
Teach me to love Thy truth, For Thou art love.

*O send Thy Spirit, Lord, Now unto me,
That He may touch mine eyes, And make me see;
Show me the truth concealed Within Thy Word,
And in Thy Book revealed I see Thee Lord.*

(Mary Artemesia Lathbury; 1841-1913; Daughter of a Methodist minister. Active in the women's temperance movement and wrote for several Christian periodicals. Of her gift for poetry she said she felt the Lord had impressed upon her these thoughts concerning this, "Remember, my child, that you have a gift of weaving fancies into verse and a gift with the pencil of producing visions that come to your heart; consecrate these to Me as thoroughly as you do your inmost spirit.")

How I Love Thy Law, O Lord

<http://nethymnal.org/htm/h/i/hilotlaw.htm>

How I love Thy law O Lord, Daily joy its truths afford;
In its constant light I go, wise to conqueror every foe.

*Thy commandments in my heart Truest wisdom can impart;
To mine eyes Thy precepts show Wisdom more than sages know.*

While my heart Thy word obeys, I am kept from evil ways;
From Thy law, with Thee to guide, I have never turned aside.

(Refrain)

Sweeter are Thy words to me Than all other good can be;
Safe I walk, Thy truth my light, Hating falsehood loving right.

*(Words: The Psalter, 1912 from Psalm 119:172/ Music by William Bradbury He was born on October 6, 1816 in [York, Maine](#) where his father was the leader of a [church choir](#). He had a brother, [Edward G. Bradbury](#). He moved with his parents to [Boston](#) and met [Lowell Mason](#), and by 1834 was known as an organist. In 1840, he began teaching in [Brooklyn, New York](#). In 1847 he went to Germany, where he studied harmony, composition, and vocal and instrumental music with the best masters. In 1854, he started the [Bradbury Piano Company](#), with his brother, [Edward G. Bradbury](#) in New York City.^[1] William Bradbury is best known as a composer and publisher of a series of musical collections for choirs and schools. He was the author and compiler of fifty-nine books starting in 1841.^[2] In 1862, Bradbury found the poem [Jesus Loves Me](#). Bradbury wrote the music and added the chorus: "Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus Loves me ..." He died on January 7, 1868 in [Montclair, New Jersey](#) at age 51.^[1] He was buried in [Bloomfield Cemetery](#) in [Bloomfield, New Jersey](#). He composed many tunes, including those for *He Leadeth Me*, [Just As I Am](#), [Without One Plea](#), *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, *Savior*, *Like a Shepherd Lead Us* and *The Solid Rock*, *How I Love Thy Law O Lord* all of which can still be found in hymnbooks and songbooks today..)*