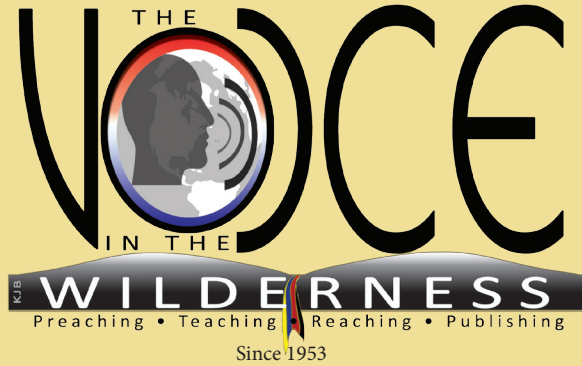


"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." - Mark 1:3



CONTENDING
for American Freedom

Ronnie and Terry Williamson
President, Evangelist
Steve and Rebekah Lilly
Staff Missionaries



CONTENDING
for Fundamental Christianity



April 2025
Free Subscription
Printed Periodically
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND PARTNERSHIP FOR 70 YEARS OF MINISTRY

MY PERSONAL MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Growing up in an educator's home, Dad (Principal) and Mom (teacher) expected me to read on a regular basis. Every summer was spent at the library checking out good books to read when it was too hot to play outside. The variety of books that I read created a love for a good story. The Medieval Ages came alive through the tales of horses, swords and gallant knights. Oh... how I wanted to be alive during that time facing the enemy and defeating his wicked ways.

But truly, some of the greatest accounts are not those found in an imaginative world, but real life biographies of brave men and women who stood in the face of giant enemies and great danger to proclaim God's truth. Now, as a gray-haired father, Esther is becoming my favorite book. When you reach chapter 4, you feel right on the edge of an epic climax. Facing the impending massacre of her people, Esther is asked, "and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" *For such a time as this*, God gave Esther unmatched influence in the palace. For us, God desires the same intentional direction in our lives. Consider the following:

The People of the book of Esther—Esther and Mordecai were Israelites of the tribe of Benjamin in a strange land governed by Ahasuerus. Their enemy was Haman the Agagite (whose ancestor Agag should have been killed by King Saul [a Benjamite] but instead lived to perpetuate a line of evil).

The Problem in the book of Esther—Haman's personal hatred for Mordecai's Godly convictions brewed a holocaust-like scheme to eliminate all of the Israelites (3:1-6). Mordecai stood - he didn't move or compromise. Spurgeon said, "To pursue union at the expense of truth is treason to the Lord Jesus." The Bible gives absolute truth that is worthy of our stand. In your personal study, commit to the Lord to stand for Biblical principles. May I offer a few topical suggestions: The King James Bible, Creation, the Deity of Christ, only 2 conception-determined genders (male and female), Godly music, dress and activities. (Find more detailed studies on our website.) I heard it once said that if you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything.

The Plan in the book of Esther—Fast and Pray (4:16). Essential!

The Protector in the book of Esther—With Ahasuerus' decree, the Israelites rose up in defense and victory (8:1-32). You are not alone. There is a remnant standing, and God is for us!

Together, you and I...*For such a time as this*....



GO250 Commemorative
Booklet Cover

*Standing, Striving,
and Serving -*

The Lillys
Steve
Rebekah
AbiNoelle &
AmiJoy



Prayer & Partnership Checklist

Thank you to
those
who are giving
towards this
need!

Additional
\$800/monthly
support

☐

Cherokee &
Navajo Witness

☐

More
in
progress!

New Website
Upgrades

☐

Printing
Projects

☐

Translation
Work in India

☐

Mailings
& Scripture
Shipments

☐

Daily
Podcast
Recordings

☐

Lilly & Williamsons
Health/Safety

☐

Praise
the
Lord!

King James
Bible Sunday -
May

☐

Gospel Outreach
2026 for
America's 250th

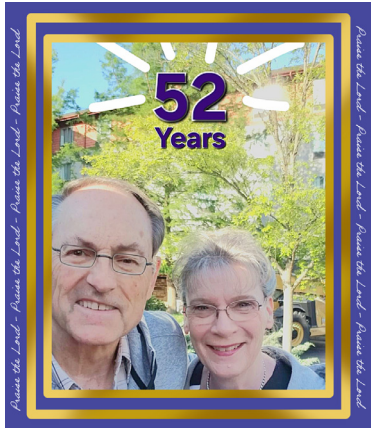
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Churches & Pastors in
India, the Philippines, Ven-
ezuela, Colombia, & U.S.

A PERSONAL NOTE

May 6, 1973 - For over 52 years, Dr. and Mrs. Ronnie Williamson have served the Lord together from marriage altar to mission field. Now, nearly 30 years of that ministry together has been chronicled through the writings of The Voice in the Wilderness. Their life of commitment, not only to each other, but to the Lord, is a powerful example of how God desires to use each of us and our families for His glory. In this month of May, we pause to say, "Happy Anniversary and we pray the Lord will give many more fruitful years together in His service."

To read their story, request *Marriage & the Home* with your next offering.



THE CONSTITUTION DEFENDER

Our vehicle continues to record the miles and consume the gasoline as we travel sharing the ministry. On this trip... The Constitution Defender was enthusiastically welcomed at Heritage Baptist. Steve preached, AbiNoelle joined in the music with her violin and all the Lilly ladies provided special music. We are overwhelmed by the extra kindness shown our family! Faith Baptist provided super "comfy" accommodations for us in their mission house allowing us to save those dollars for further Gospel projects and we enjoyed singing in their Sunday evening service (AbiNoelle accompanied on her newest instrument - the mandolin!) The Shining Light church folks also gave us the opportunity to share the GO250 Gospel booklet project and supplied yummy meals and a hotel room.



VENEZUELA SHIPMENT ARRIVED

Hallelujah! The Scripture shipment to Venezuela arrived safely. Pray as the Gospel is distributed and Christ presented that lives will be eternally changed.

Will you be the one? Here are a few special ministry needs for you to consider when giving.

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Every dollar not only sustains but advances Gospel Outreach and impacts eternity! Thanks to those who helped last month with * | | |
| Launching the GO250 Project * | Distribution of Cherokee/Navajo Scriptures * | New ministry computer |
| Reprinting Sophie Muller's missions books | Translation Work in India | Ministry Vehicle Repairs * |
| | | Office water leak repairs * |
| | | USPS Permit fee * |
| | | Travel Expenses for Mar/April * |
| | | Overseas Scripture Shipments * |

For More Information, Contact:
The Voice in the Wilderness

PO BOX 1910
Weaverville, NC 28787

KING JAMES BIBLE

How did you mark the 414th Anniversary of the King James Bible? We would love to hear from you! The Voice team joined the Bridgeport church folks for a powerful Sunday morning service. How grateful we are for years of missions partnership and fellowship with these dear friends. Bro. Steve introduced the GO250 booklet project, the family ministered in special music and Bro. Ronnie brought a timely message from Matthew 26. Freedom Baptist Church welcomed the Williamsons for a great meeting as well.

Quotes from the Sermon

Prophecy will be fulfilled in the saint who trusts in Jesus and by the sinner who rejects the Saviour.

If we have to hunt-and-peck through a half dozen different Bible versions to find truth, how can we ever be held responsible for its content?



When the storm comes, I want to know that I am safe in the heart of Jesus!

GO250 GOSPEL OUTREACH TO THE U.S.A.



Happy Birthday, America!
Join our GO250 Team!

You may think that 2026 is a ways off, but it is taking every minute possible at this early stage to get the GO250 booklets ready for 2026! **!!!! EXCITING NEWS !!!!**

Our office received the first sample prototypes of the GO250 booklets. Now, we can physically show folks what an outstanding Gospel Outreach tool this will be for 2026. True history and Scriptures will challenge every reader. What do we need today?

Prayer

Protection & Provision for the GO250 Project



Distributors

Do you have connections into the military, schools, prisons, government, or other organizations? Can you distribute booklets through your church or neighborhood? Contact us! Go to our website to learn more.

Financial Investors

\$25,000 will start the printing presses



NAVAJO SCRIPTURE UPDATE

The Navajo and other Native Americans continue to be reached for the Lord. The Gospel of John/Romans for the Cherokee along with those for the Navajo are a powerful witness tool. Missionaries shared that at this year's Gathering of Nations in New Mexico there were precious souls who trusted Christ - Amen!

NEW!



Online:
www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

Phone:
828-649-1043

Is America really a mission field? Have you ever studied the progression of missions giving? If only the dollar could talk! Since the time of Adoniram Judson, the first American missionary to a foreign field, Americans have opened their hearts and partnered with the boots-on-the-ground worker to reach souls for Christ in foreign lands. For The Voice in the Wilderness, Dr. James Royce Thomason began his missions efforts shortly after his Army service during World War II. With a suitcase, and many times no more than a few dollars and an incomplete itinerary in his pocket, Bro. Royce began traveling to mission points. He simply intended to help wherever possible and then share needs with friends back home. Missionary accounts from the slums of India and jungle treks through South America were hard to envision for those at home. Bro. Royce, with his typewritten and mimeographed newsletters brought the need of the field right into the average American home. Hearts miles apart were knitted together, burdens were shared and the mission dollars began to flow. Churches were built, orphanages established, Bibles printed, medicines sent and the Gospel work abounded. Huts and plantain, curry and dung-fueled fires were things that captivated readers and they eagerly awaited the next newsletter to hear of the works they were assisting in far-off places. But as the decades passed, personal contact with missionaries became more frequent, telephone connections were established, the internet came to Indian villages, and what had seemed something of another world now was accessible in a personal way to virtually everyone. The deputation trail became long, the dollars more restricted and mission trips to those far-off lands became the average family's summer adventure.

One mission organization today reports that the average missionary drives over 100,000 miles on deputation, eats more than 550 fast food meals, and initiates in excess of 4,000 calls to make appointments with pastors. Many missionaries require more than \$5-6,000/month in support. Yet after all this, statistics show that nearly half do not fulfill their commitments and return home in less than five years.

Studies indicate that a significant geographical change has occurred since the early 1900s when over 80 percent of those professing Christianity lived in Europe or America. In more recent times, only 25 percent live in those areas. Brazil and the Philippines are now leaders in Christian culture with Brazil being second only after America in sending out missionaries worldwide. In fact, America itself receives 38,000 missionaries from abroad each year. Many of these "missionaries" are Catholic, Jehovah's Witness, and other religions. Thousands more fly under the radar as Muslim extremist and Marxists who seek to infiltrate and radicalize Americans.

From the times of the 1950s, when Bro. Royce's first newsletter landed in mailboxes at home, to our online downloads and emails today, to say that the working wheel of the missions scene has changed is truly an understatement. A cursory view

of history will show how Americans recovered from the Depression Era and wartimes and moved into a life of convenience that equaled women working out of the home, an entertainment-driven lifestyle, and more debt. While missions reports came even more frequently, mission dollars were spread thin. Church pews were not as full. The revival fervor waned.

Today's statistics reveal alarming truths about America: Barna Research, Pew Research, Lifeway, the Association of Religion Data and others report that:

- Only 50% of Americans read the Bible at least twice a year.
- 37% of teens say that they have never read the Bible.
- 55% of American Protestant church-goers have never shared with someone how to be a Christian.
- 68% of American churches have 100 or less in regular attendance.
- Only between 10-20% of Americans go to church weekly (polling found that the majority of people surveyed did not answer this question truthfully.)

When we consider that "Christian" and "Protestant" polling inclusively account for Catholics and others whose faith is not in Christ alone for eternal salvation, this data indicates a significant falling away from truth much less the heart-beat of missions since the 1950s. And, of course, along with this cultural change in America comes a moral decline, education failures,

**Special THANK YOU to all
The Voice in the Wilderness
supporters who have faithfully
given to help this faith ministry
carry the Gospel to precious
souls around the world.**

*The Voice in the Wilderness is also
appreciative for those who have remembered
this ministry in their Estate Planning.*

financial irresponsibility. Our country is left significantly vulnerable to false ideas.

Did you know that only 7% of Americans can name the first four Presidents of America? That is shocking! No wonder patriotism is lower and protesting and hate crimes higher.

America has become the mission field! And now, God has given us a space of grace in the midst of great confusion to reach our Jerusalem. The first American Pope has been elected and over 250,000 gathered at the Vatican to congratulate him. Our

NEWS BITS FROM HERE AND THERE

Vice President and family mix a heathen religion with Catholic deceptions, and the White House Faith Office Advisor, Paula White, promotes a false prosperity theology.

Thank you for joining in over 70 years of ministry through The Voice in the Wilderness as we continue to **CONTEND FOR FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY AND AMERICAN FREEDOMS**. The following is the first part of the biography of Dr. Joseph Warren, exclusively written for the upcoming GO250 History & Gospel Outreach booklet. As you read, we pray that your burden for our own home country will grow exponentially as we together push towards this special evangelistic effort in 2026. Our vision and actions continue to assist those abroad, but we cannot neglect reaching America.

THE PATRIOT BEFORE THE CONSTITUTION

"Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes!" was the order that came down the line. Joseph Warren, a voluntary private in the militia, steadied his aim and with steeled resolve faced the oncoming enemy that sought to crush their notions of independence and freedom. "The whites of their eyes?" - that's certainly close enough to peer into the innermost soul of a man and see exactly for what he stood. And see they did, this enemy of Warren. What did they see?

Born in 1741 in the Boston area, Joseph was the oldest of the four sons of Joseph and Mary Warren. He was educated at Roxbury Latin School and Harvard College, became a medical doctor, married Elizabeth Hooten (who brought a large dowry with her at marriage) and had four children: Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary and Richard.

Dr. Warren was welcomed amongst Boston society because of his wife's status and inevitably became friendly with the British elites during the turbulent decades of the 1760s and 70s. He was also the personal family physician for John and Abigail Adams and their children. Adams' sway led Warren to engage in Massachusetts politics, especially in Boston. Leading the dismayed colonists through the Stamp Act era, burdensome taxes and imposed military dictatorship, Warren naturally became what we might now call the "Father of the Patriots" or perhaps the Grandfather of our nation. Befriending men such as John Hancock, Paul Revere, William Dawes and Samuel Adams, Dr. Warren initiated the Sons of Liberty and led the Committee of Correspondence. His easy association with high society Boston and amity with the Governor of Massachusetts gave way for Warren to ascertain British strategies for squelching colonial uprisings. His incites were passed along to the Adams cousins, Hancock and the rest of the Sons of Liberty, giving them advantage over the increasing tyrannical oppression of the British.

Dr. Warren served as one of the chairmen of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress, which the Patriots authorized in 1774 as the government for their state. It was the first of such in the

colonies—a self-governing body to rule the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an independent state from Great Britain. This provincial congress was to govern the state, collect taxes, buy goods and provide a militia to protect its citizens (in other words, it provided for the common defense and promoted the general welfare of the state). As part of the Committee of Safety, Warren, John Hancock, Benjamin Church and several others were given full authority of the militia. In response to threats of further British subjugation, The Committee chose to place storehouses of munitions and supplies in Lexington and Concord. General Gage, the British military governor of Massachusetts, heard of this, and on April 18, 1775, sent orders to seize it all and arrest John Adams and John Hancock. Since Dr. Warren was a friend of General Gage's wife Margaret, it is speculated that she notified him of her husband's plan. Joseph sent word to Paul Revere and William Dawes to raise the militia and warn the two Patriot leaders, Adams and Hancock, of the plot to capture them.

The morning of April 19, as Dr. Warren stealthily left Boston

Don't Forget to request these resources when you give an offering to The Voice in the Wilderness.

Get ready for a Patriotic Summer!



Defender Package includes:
The Constitution Defender
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
Truth or Myth
Constitution Card Set
History Biography Brochure
 AND

access to the 15 lesson online Constitution Course.

and joined the fight, the "shot" was heard "round the world" as the British soldiers moved from Lexington and Concord toward Boston. Warren led the fight, harassing the rear column of the Lobsterbacks. He was nearly killed as a musket ball severed part of his wig. When his mother heard about this narrow escape for her son, she implored him to not risk his life. Joseph replied, "Wherever danger is, dear mother, there will your son be. Now is no time for one of America's children to shrink from the most hazardous duty; I will either set my country free, or shed my last drop of blood to make her so."

Weeks later, Warren found himself atop Bunker Hill volunteering against the oncoming British. The ocean lay in view - this same vast water that had brought his Puritan forefathers to a new world free of religious persecution and intolerance. They had left oppression and persecution, but now this same strong-arm had set foot on their shores threatening this thirst for freedom. With rifle in hand, Warren would stand for freedom on the same shore as his ancestors had just over one hundred years prior. (More in next month's edition.)



Listen Daily on our website & Podcast Platforms
 Biblical Alert Podcast
 Junior Tutor Podcast
 News To Me Podcast