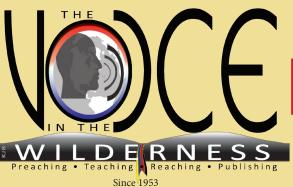
"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." - Mark 1:3



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



**CONTENDING**for Fundamental Christianity



Free Subscription Printed Periodically Supported by Those Who Care

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND PARTNERSHIP FOR 70 YEARS OF MINISTRY

### MY PERSONAL MESSAGE

Your friendship and engagement with The Voice in the Wilderness continues impacting Gospel outreach here at home and abroad. Can you believe that for over 70 years God has worked uniquely using The Voice in the Wilderness as a connection tool joining you with missions needs around the world?

#### Just in 2024.

#### your engagement

- © sent over 200,000 Scriptures Gospel Witness to the Navajo and Cherokee peoples,
- © moved over 12,000 mail pieces from our home office to impact readership,
- © produced Biblical resources online and in print,
- © supported <u>translation work</u> in India,
- © dispatched The Constitution Defender to reach hundreds in churches and schools,
- © generated some 350 podcasts to challenge listeners to think Biblically,
- © shipped hundreds of pounds of Scriptures and aid to ministries in various mission points,

#### all while....

messages were preached, songs sung, lessons taught, many miles were safely driven and a hurricane of "biblical" proportions was witnessed in our hometown!

Your faithful prayers regularly encouraged us to keep moving forward for the Gospel's sake and your offerings gave us the means to do so. Year-end offerings, according to founder, Dr. J. Royce Thomason, have traditionally been a sort of last-minute blessing from the Lord, yet in recent years, we have witnessed a shift in giving. In these early days of 2025, we are re-evaluating and asking the Lord to give great wisdom as we pursue projects while meeting expected ministry expenses. However, as many of you understand, faith missions is about 100% faithfully following the Lord believing that He will provide 100% when needed. 2024 was no exception to this principle, and, praise the Lord, EVERY need was met right on time. Special thanks to you who gave faithfully every month (this sustains His work), gave for special projects (this supports His work), gave increased offerings (this encourages and expands His work).

Today, we pray that God will help us STRIVE and THRIVE in 2025! We desire to not only remain steadfast in all that He has called us to do but to reach beyond our own thinking and into what only God can do with every opportunity.

We deeply appreciate your friendship. Please consider how you can continue to expand upon your partnership with us! The following page details some great

projects for the days ahead and more information will follow in upcoming prayer letters. Please help us move forward by returning the enclosed form in the provided envelope.

With this new presidential administration, it seems we have been given a space of grace. May we be found faithful, advancing forward, striving and thriving, 'til Jesus comes - Amen!

Standing, Striving, and Serving -

The Lillys
Steve
Rebekah
AbiNoelle &
AmiJoy

## Prayer & Partnership Checklist

Additional
\$800/monthly
support

Cherokee &
Navajo Witness

New Website
Upgrades

Printing
Projects

Translation
Work in India



Daily
Podcast
Recordings

Lilly & Williamsons Health/Safety

King James Bible Sunday -May

Gospel Outreach 2026 for America's 250th

Churches & Pastors in India, the Philippines, Venezuela, Colombia, & U.S.

## A SPECIAL WORD

by Ronnie Williamson

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

2025 brings hope and healing for many in Western North Carolina. Hurricane Helene was devastating for thousands. After months of round the clock work, a long road to recovery lay ahead. To learn more request our two Pamphlets "The Great Flood" chronicling this horrible event. A powerful Gospel witness is given in these brief pages. So many local churches throughout the mountains have stood in the gap and made an eternal difference. Yes, and many are seeing hope and healing after the storm. I thank you for your prayers and support through it all.

Now 2025 offers great opportunity and challenges. In the prayer letter and online, Steve and Rebekah Lilly give updates on The Voice in the Wilderness ministry from here to the regions beyond. Your partnership in our LORD'S work makes it all possible. Your friendship is so very precious. Then be comforted, JESUS is coming soon. Let's be found faithful.

### HURRICANE HELENE

Special Hurricane Helene Pamphlets





### **NEW WEBSITE**

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to begin working on a brand new ministry website - Coming SOON!

### NAVAJO & CHEROKEE SCRIPTURES

#### Scriptures in Action!

- The Department of Adult Correction in North Carolina states there are over 2,000 parole officers who supervise some 84,000 offenders living in the state. Cherokee, NC also has its own people who have found themselves a part of the system due to wrong choices made in their life. Praise the Lord, as the Cherokee Scriptures make their way into the community, parole officers have requested copies of the Cherokee Gospel booklets to distribute as they work! Please pray for this witness to be a life-changing eternal difference for those that receive it.
- In New Mexico reservation areas, another pastor obtained copies of the Navajo Scriptures just this month. He is using them as a valuable tool while soul-winning and preaching on the streets of his community. Seed sowing - Hallelujah!













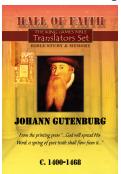


For More Information, Contact:
The Voice in the Wilderness

PO BOX 1910 Weaverville, NC 28787

### KING JAMES BIBLE

For over 70 years The Voice in the Wilderness has pledged to "Contend for Fundamental Christianity." One principle that should traverse time as a descriptor of Fundamental Christianity is faithfulness to the King James Bible. Strange winds are blowing through the church today, attacking the very breath of God. Please mark your calendar for May 4<sup>th</sup> and plan to recognize the 414<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the King James Bible. The Voice in the Wilderness plans to re-release articles on the preservation of God's pure and inspired Word along with other resources to mark this Anniversary. Prepare now, whether in your church or through your own personal witness to share God's hand in providing a sure Word for English-speaking people.

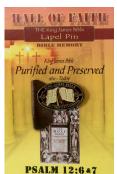


# **EXECUTE**KJB Translators Study & Bible Memory Set

Enjoy these handy cards while learning history, reading testimonies and memorizing God's Word.

#### **KJB Lapel Pin**

Show "wear" you stand! (description card & pin)



## GO250 GOSPEL TO THE U.S.A.

Happy Birthday, America! We are excited to announce first - to YOU - a uniquely patriotic outreach to America in 2026. There is no better way to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday (July 4, 2026) of our country than to share the Gospel message with over 250,000 people. The Voice in the Wilderness has designed a commemorative booklet that includes historical facts and narratives about the founding of America, biographies of patriots, Constitutional studies, the entire text of the U.S. Constitution, and the Gospel of John and Romans from the King James Bible. This is TRUTH that everyone needs to read today! These booklets will be printed and assembled in 2025 and then distribution work begins in 2026. We will need ALL HANDS on deck to fulfill this mission, and as we know from previous Bible projects, the devil is always ready to

thwart such endeavors - and this effort is no exception!

Please **PRAY**, pray, pray everyday for GO250 Consider **PROVIDING** for GO250

Commit to **PARTICIPATE** in GO250

The layout, design and proofing of the booklet is nearly complete and ready for print. Producing

250,000 copies will require \$60k+ investment. Your offerings will be a tremendous blessing! Churches, individuals, schools, groups, and businesses will be a part of our GO250 Distribution Team. Register today using the enclosed form to stay connected with GO250

Gospel Outreach. Let's reach America!



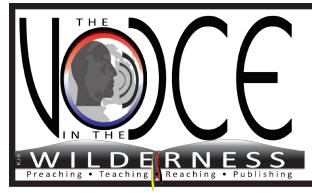
Online:

www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

Phone: 828-649-1043

Booklet

Coming



# NEWS BITS

## FROM HERE AND THERE

CONTENDING for Fundamental Christianity

CONTENDING for American Freedoms

**Right to Life:** Since 1974, the National Right to Life March has been occurring in January near the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. This year, newly elected Vice President Vance attended. With the Dobbs decision by the Supreme Court, the national legalization of abortion was stopped and the issue was returned to the States for legislation respectively. Each state would make their decision as to if abortion should be allowed and at what stage it would be allowed. Some states have taken a strict approach to banning abortion, while others are advertising to those in their neighbor states to come for an abortion. Some simple Biblical truths on this:

→We were made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). He created us, which means that He should have control over His creation. We are not to take the life of someone save in the case of war or judicial verdict.

→God knew us while we were still being formed in the womb (Jeremiah 1:5). He had a specific plan for Jeremiah just like He has for you and me.

→Children in the womb have emotions (Luke 1:41). One of the joys when my wife was pregnant was to place my hand on her and feel the baby moving around. The baby would respond to our voices, music and other sounds.

→The loss of a child prior to birth brings heartache. Our family has experience this particular heartache. The joy is knowing that one day, we will see our children in Heaven (2 Samuel 12:22).

→The Declaration of Independence lists the inalienable (God given) rights—LIFE, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Life is a precious right. Man has no authority to take a person's life—inside the womb or outside of it.

On a side note, interestingly, the pro-abortion folks who refuse to admit that a baby is within the womb, now protest the new administrations halt on birthright citizenship, claiming that the unborn of an illegal has the right to citizenship. That right, no doubt will be decided by the judicial system, but, yes, abortion champions, the unborn is a life and does have a right to life!

May God help us to promote within our respective states the Right to Life.

Pardon Me—Since the election in November, pardons have been a hot topic. Would President Biden pardon anyone?....if so, who would it be. We since have learned that both President Biden and Trump have pardoned those who were involved with all of the events in and around the January 6, 2021 event. The J6 Committee as a whole was pardoned by Biden while those accused of the "insurrection" were pardoned by Trump (a fulfillment to a campaign promise). The question in my mind is, what exactly is a pardon? So I had to look it up in the trusted Webster's 1828 Dictionary. He described it as this: "to forgive; to remit; as an offense or crime. Guilt implies being bound or subjected to censure, penalty or punishment. To pardon is to give up this obligation, and release the offender. We apply the word

to the crime or to the person. We pardon an offense, when we remove it from the offender and consider him as not guilty; we pardon the offender, when we release or absolve him from his liability to suffer punishment." To accept a pardon is to admit you were at first guilty. President Biden has tried to redefine pardon by saying, "The issuance of these pardons (in reference to the pardons of his family members) should not be mistaken as an acknowledgment that they engaged in any wrongdoing, nor should acceptance be misconstrued as an admission of guilt for any offense." Yet, by accepting the pardon, based on Webster's definition, they are, in fact, agreeing that they are guilty and in need of the pardon. In *Burdick v. United States*, the Supreme Court ruled that accepting a pardon is an "admission of guilt." This explanation was made clear in Ford's issuance of a pardon to Nixon after Watergate.

We also have made offense - an offense to Almighty God (Romans 3:23) and are in need of a pardon. It was provided by Him through the finished work of Jesus Christ—nothing else. We must admit our guilt in order to accept His pardon for us. I am guilty of the offense, with my mouth I confessed that guilt, and in its place Christ granted me a full pardon. Now I am free!

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 the following special gifts:

Gifts Given in Loving Memory

Given by
Shirley Dennis
Carolum Dannin

Carolyn Denning Donna Bullington Terry Rigby

Larry G Moore

<u>In Memory of</u>

Latham "Bum" Dennis Sophie Muller

Dr. J. Royce Thomason Family Members

ore Dr. J. Royce Thomason

...and to those who have remembered this ministry in their Estate Planning.

Immigration Fiasco?—Border control was a headliner for the November election season. President Trump promised to clean up the border and deport illegals, while "The Squad" championed sanctuary cities/municipalities who say they are defending families. Tom Homan, the new border czar, countered that

# NIBWS BITTS FROM HERE AND THERE

families *can* stay together....on the other side of the border. A myriad of positions are being tried out as Trump's executive orders impact the situation.

- Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita has filed a lawsuit against St. Joseph County Sheriff's Department due to their lack of cooperation with federal immigration authorities. He stated, "This includes refusing to notify ICE properly about the release of illegal aliens and also refusing to honor ICE detainers. This deliberate decision to not cooperate with federal immigration authorities is giving safe harbor to criminal aliens that need to be removed from our country and this county."
- US planes were refused airspace over Mexico and Honduras while transporting those being deported back to their countries. Colombia also refused to accept two US military flights returning migrants. Colombian President Gustavo Petro said that his country would not accept flights returning illegal immigrants until the US started treating them with more "dignity" (without restraints on their hands and feet). He stated, "A migrant is not a criminal and must be treated with the dignity that a human being deserves. That is why I returned the US military planes that were carrying Colombian migrants.... In civilian planes, without being treated like criminals, we will receive our fellow citizens." (usatoday.com)

#### What is the disconnect?

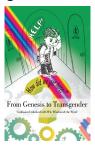
- 1. Any person who enters the country without proper approval is a criminal.....they have broken the U.S. code on how to enter into the United States properly. 8 U.S. Code § 1325 Any alien who (1) enters or attempts to enter the United States at any time or place other than as designated by immigration officers, or (2) eludes examination or inspection by immigration officers, or (3) attempts to enter or obtains entry to the United States by a willfully false or misleading representation or the willful concealment of a material fact, shall, for the first commission of any such offense, be fined under title 18 or imprisoned....
- 2. Officials in sanctuary cities are not upholding the U.S. Code. We are not to harbor or give refuge to those who have entered into the United States illegally. Homan stated, "When you release a public safety threat out of a sanctuary jail and they won't give us access to him, that means we got to go to the neighborhood and find him...but when we find him, he may be with others...Others that don't have a criminal conviction and are in the country illegally. They will be arrested too." (thehill.com) All businesses, churches, schools, or groups should promote honesty and citizenship. (*The Constitution Defender* book has been used as a study guide for the citizenship test. Request your copy today.)

**Fake News**—Who do you follow? After President Biden gave his last rounds of pardons, an Instagram post on January 23<sup>rd</sup> stated that a 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court judge ruled that the pardons given to Gen. Mark Milley, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Sen. Adam Schiff and Rep. Liz Cheney were unconstitutional. However, the judge named

The Voice

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









From Genesis to Transgender book
The Constitution Defender - book
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Enjoy more resources at www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

in the post does not even exist in the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, and there are no rulings on record for the constitutionality of Biden's pardons. The post had 80,000 "likes" in 5 days and was even shared on other social media platforms. Fake news is rampant and contagious—the liberals have multiple platforms as well as the conservatives. Vet your sources. Search for news that is from a Biblical worldview. We need to make sure that the news we watch, listen, or read is accurate. The Bible tells us to try the spirits—in other words, make sure that what you are reading and hearing is correct. Above all, read the Bible more and more in the days to come. (msn.com)

**DEI Done**— Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Board of Governors have instituted policies the past several years that would remove funding from state colleges and universities that require DEI education as part of graduation requirements. Due to the rules, 432 courses at Florida State University were removed and 67 at the University of North Florida. (abc.com) In order to get around the restrictions, the universities and colleges are now offering those classes as electives. Some who are "teaching" at these higher education centers are upset about what they call government "censorship." Let us remember what DEI stands for-Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. It rejects the Biblical principle that all men are sinners and that all men are created equal. DEI requires personnel selection based on skin color or social standing....not on merit. Deutsche Bank, Chase, and Goldman Sachs have reissued their alignment with DEI standards while Target, Amazon, Facebook (Meta), and the Smithsonian have seemingly withdrawn from their previous DEI positions. Lowes and Ford Motor Company have announced that they will end their participation in DEI programs and events. Subtly, some companies are renaming positions/job titles, etc. in effort to hide continuing DEI agendas. Trump has banned transgender options in the military and unequivocally stated in his inaugural address that the U.S. government will only recognize the male and female genders. Trump also reinstated higher, merit-based hiring standards for the FAA. Keep a watchful eye - be not deceived!