

A LIFE OF SERVICE

Pointing to the Lord



James West
Jim West Ministries

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INTRODUCTION

James West

Raised in a musical family, and deeply rooted in Gospel Music, Jimmy West attended singing conventions and music classes from the age of ten, at which time he also began piano lessons. After musical training through his teen years, Jim went on to study music in college.

Jim has ministered in evangelistic crusades and performed throughout Forty Four states as well as many nations of the West Indies, and Latin America. He ministers to the people before whom he performs.

Jim has committed many Bible Sections to memory. "The Word of God is what is going to hold us steady in these perilous times" he says. Intermingling scripture quotations throughout each performance, this man truly presents the Gospel in a unique way.



"My goal is to give them Jesus. This Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation and truly changes, and transforms lives, regardless of the culture."

- *James West*

SECTION 1

A Calling

A calling is an urge toward a greater service or purpose in life. While some are called to lead in the corporate world, or serve a country, the Lord is the deity that orders a man's steps.

Jame West was called at a young age to serve the Lord as a messenger and evangelist. He recalls his own foundation of faith and connections that wove through what has become a legacy of service to the Lord.

The calling section houses these recollections and important foundations of his life and continued service unto the Lord.



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- *James West*

SECTION I

THE MINISTRY: MY STORY

I was saved one night in the summer of 1950. As he had done every night of my life that I could remember, my dad came to tuck me in bed for the night. But first we knelt by the bed which was an old "Ginny Lynn" bed (Mom called it). This particular night at the age of eight I told dad that I wanted to be saved.

I had been in Sunday School all of my young life. Sunday morning and evening church services were never missed; as well as Wednesday night mid week service. During revivals missing a night was never an option. I knew the plan of Salvation very well for an eight year old. This night as dad led me in a "sinners" prayer (as it has come to be referred to), I was sincere in asking Jesus to forgive me of my sins and come into my heart.

I know beyond the shadow of a doubt that my life was transformed by the power of the blood of Jesus that night. I became more and more interested in the things of God. My Grandmother (the most Godly woman I have ever known) would tell me bible stories and quote scripture to me constantly.

I lived with my grandparents about half of the time in those early years. Music began to be a passion of mine even before this. By age 6, I could read music from the book and sing along even though I could not read words well as yet. We were in attendance at "singing conventions" every week on Sunday afternoons as well as some Friday nights, etc.

Even at that young age, after receiving Jesus into my life, I remember listening to the Pastor and other ministers preach and understanding what they were talking about.

I was a VERY hyper active kid.....and at age 77 I am still a HYPER ACTIVE KID. Therefore it was really something for me to be still long enough to listen to someone preach.

Time marched on and being very interested in music my folks let me begin piano lessons at age ten. My first teacher was a classical pianist who had won many awards in the Houston area as well as other parts of the country. She was very patient with me, and I learned very quickly to read the piano music. After a couple of years I changed piano teachers. I began with Melba Bigham who was an Assemblies of God pastor's wife. She was very good in gospel piano, and that is the direction that I craved to go. Well I went on to other teachers from time to time for short periods until I found myself playing for various quartets in the area.

Well, back to the ministry. The month of my 13th birthday (July 1955) I attended youth camp which was held at a YMCA camp on the water front of the Gulf at Baytown, Texas rented by the South Texas District of the Assemblies of God. That year the speaker / preacher was a young preacher from the Houston area, Joe Mazu. I do not remember a single sermon title, text or content of the messages, but when the altar call was given on about the second night service of the camp, I went forward, knelt at the altar and asked the Lord to show me what He wanted me to do.

Apparently this was the direction of the invitation by Brother Mazu. The Lord definitely called me to preach the Gospel that night. During the months to follow, I began to have doubts about that night. Perhaps, I thought, I just thought that because other kids had testified that they received a call to the ministry.

SECTION I

THE MINISTRY: MY STORY Cont'd

The very next year I went back to camp again. I asked God night after night to confirm whether or not He was calling me to the ministry. He did confirm it. I was fourteen then; and until this day, sixty three (63) years later I have never had a doubt; however, I argued with God.

"God I am so shy, and scared of people.....can't even look anyone in the eye and talk to them". "I sure can't get up in front of a bunch and do that". And "Lord my mother even embarrasses me by making me play piano in front of company." All of a sudden one night in prayer, almost as if God was in the room and speaking audibly to me; He finally got through to me.

It was not an audible voice. But, way down deep in my heart I heard Him say; "I AM NOT CALLING YOU TO 'DO' A GOOD JOB; PERFORM WELL". "I AM CALLING YOU TO)OBEY MY CALL TO CARRY THE MESSAGE WHEREVER I SEND YOU".

Wow! Now the pressure is off. It was not long after this that I began to be invited to speak at youth services, etc. Suddenly the fear began to fade away.

That's it, I discovered; I'll do it with the anointing of the HOLY SPIRIT, not my own puny intellect, or ability with words. Praise the Lord, it is Him, NOT me.

Some of the young people in attendance at those first two you camps included my cousin, Micky Wiggly; Life long friend to this day, Don Ansohn and Johnny Hagee, who is quite known in the ministry today; and many more that have been involved heavily in the Lord's work through the succeeding years.

As time went on I was privileged to be in band and orchestra from 7th grade through high school playing several brass instruments which included French horn, trumpet, alto horn, as well as tuba on occasions. This afforded more musical training.

With the call of God on my life and stamped indelibly in my heart, I enrolled in Southwestern Bible College in Waxahachie, Texas in the fall of 1960 at the "ripe old age" of 18. Before the year was up I got my first invitation to preach in a church. I was bouncing off the walls with excitement.

That had it's beginning on sunny day when there were no classes and I was hitchhiking (which many of us did in those days). I was headed to Fort Worth. In older gentleman with a pig and a few bales of hay in the back of his old 1949 red Ford pick up truck stopped to give me a ride.

As we got acquainted and talked, I found out that he was a Pentecostal man and was heavily involved in this little church in Fort Worth. Through this acquaintance I was introduced to some of his family who were part of this church, and then the Pastor. They had a regular Friday night service every week.

He invited me to preach a couple of weeks after I had met Brother Drake (who picked me up on the highway). And guess what?.....They gave me an offering for preaching...hallelujah....I be on my way now.....maybe a tent; maybe TV; maybe huge crowds, etc. What dreams and visions!

SECTION I

SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC: A LIFE-LONG HERITAGE

Having been raised in a musical family, and deeply rooted in Gospel Music I have many memories dating back to my early childhood. My maternal grandmother was a pianist and singer. My grandfather also was a singer, and choir director. My grandparents, who were farmers, had a piano in their home. As a child, I remember large groups of relatives and friends singing around the piano in the evening for hours. I soon took an interest in learning to read shaped notes in the music, which became a passion for me.

On Sundays, we faithfully attended Sunday school and church. Almost every Sunday afternoon, I would go with my grandparents to singing conventions, which were popular in the late 1940s and 1950s. The monthly conventions were usually countywide, and named after the county in which they were held. Each quarter a new "song book" was published by Stamps Music, and another by Stamps-Baxter. It was only a short drive to several counties from where we lived.

Sometimes, these conventions would be an "All Day Singing with Dinner on the Ground" which was a DOUBLE BLESSING. They would start early (usually around 11am) and break for lunch (called DINNER in the south). Usually there were very large crowds at the conventions, especially when a meal was available. I have a vivid picture indelibly stamped on my mind and taste buds, of one singing convention we attended in Leon County, Texas at Concord Baptist church.

On the grounds were board tables, each ten to fifteen feet long. What a spread it was! Someone had slaughtered and barbecued a goat. I LOVED IT...I was about 12 years of age and have been a lover of goat meat to this day.

The singing conventions gave opportunity for singers to gain experience not only singing in front of a crowd, but also leading the congregation in singing. For me, it also offered opportunity to gain experience playing for someone else to sing and/or lead the group in a song. Being that young, this would scare me so bad I could not muster up enough saliva to even spit because playing for other people to sing often meant reading the music and playing songs that I never had heard before.

Not only were these conventions a chance to learn and get experience, but also they were just plain fun. The songbooks that I mentioned earlier had been distributed to everyone at the prior convention giving folks a chance to learn the new songs ahead of time. Many of the composers of these songs, some of whom I knew personally, became famous names in gospel music, such as James Singleton and L.D. Huffstutler (wrote "Hand in Hand With Jesus"). I attended several "Singing Schools" taught by L.D. Huffstutler. He was very inspiring and made each student feel like he or she was going to be the biggest name in gospel music.

SECTION I

SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC: A LIFE-LONG HERITAGE

Cont'd

In the meantime, I began private piano lessons at the age of ten under a classical teacher named Mrs. Pitcock. She really inspired me. Although she was not into Gospel Music, she encouraged me to pursue that field of music, as she could clearly see my passion for it. At age 12, I began lessons with another teacher, Melba Bigham, who was a gospel / evangelistic style pianist.

Along with private piano lessons, I attended every quartet and gospel music concert possible. Many times during the concerts in Houston, I would go to the stage behind the curtains in full view of the Piano. From that vantage point, I would spend the whole concert glued to the piano keyboard where I could watch pianists like Jacky Marshal, Hovie Lister, Wally Varner and Joe Roper. I had a burning desire, which is still aflame today, to be able to play even half as good as those men; they were, and still are my heroes.

Although I love music, I am not just an entertainer. My real passion is presenting Jesus through preaching as well as music; and I have a heart for people. I have been in the ministry for over 50 years serving as pastor of five churches; two in Colorado and three in Texas. In 1991, I began traveling as a full time crusade evangelist throughout forty-four states as well as the West Indies, and Latin America.

In 2008, it was my privilege to meet Don Frost and participate in The Music City Gospel Showcase Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee which is still being televised nationally on Angel 2 satellite network as well as many other stations across America.

My goal is to minister to people and to preach Jesus. The Gospel is still 'The power of God unto salvation' and it truly changes and transforms lives, regardless of the culture. "Gospel Music" – that really says it. Gospel, the GOOD NEWS that Jesus died for all, and His blood can wash away every stain of sin, PRAISE THE LORD!!

SECTION I

HEAVEN! THEY SANG ABOUT IT

The piano was black, it had been the one my mother and her younger sister, Aunt Dorothy, had practiced on while taking lessons as children. In fact, my earliest memory of this piano was with my Grandmother sitting at the keys playing while many family members gathered around singing from books published by Stamps, and Stamps-Baxter. The year must have been 1947; I was five, which meant that I had not yet started to school.

The songs that they sang were varied. Many were about the Cross of Christ; others about the Christian walk of faith, such as "Living by Faith". However, the ones that stand out to me the most as I look back through the decades to those precious times were about Heaven. As they sang about Heaven, not only at Grandmother's house, but also in the church, and at the different churches hosting the "Singing Convention" each Sunday, they would get so happy. Yes, we'd go to a different singing convention every Sunday afternoon. Our county would have one on the first Sunday of each month. Then a neighboring county would have theirs on the second Sunday, and so forth.

I remember noticing the message of these songs of Heaven at a very early age, and the scripture that would parallel the message. There was the great old song "Looking For a City".....then I found Hebrews 11:10 speaking of Abraham says "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Oh yes, and then there was "When the Roll Is Called up Yonder"; and "Changed in the Twinkling of an Eye". Then in Sunday School our teacher told us what that song was about. (I Corinthians 15: 51-52) "Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the first trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

Suddenly, it all began to come together for me....then one night, at bed time, my Father came in to pray with me, and I expressed to him that I wanted to be saved....for you see at age eight I had heard the Bible stories, and already knew many of the songs and lots of scripture verses, but had never received Jesus for myself. My Dad Prayed with me and I accepted Jesus as my Savior and Lord. That has been more than 60 years ago, and this walk with the Lord still gets "Sweeter as the Days God By" as the old song says.

We talk of, and sing about all the great promises of the Bible, and that is wonderful; and oh how numerous are the promises of God. But I think the greatest of all is the PROMISE OF HEAVEN. Jesus said "I will come again and receive you unto myself that where I am there ye may be also". In these perilous times that we live in, what a hope is ours in His promised return for His children.

SECTION I

HEAVEN! THEY SANG ABOUT IT Cont'd

(Titus 2:13) "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;" When you are personally acquainted with Jesus, you can sing the old song with 'gusto' "Standing on the Promises of God". The old timers sang about that promised hope of eternal life in Heaven...and the message is still just as vibrant today.

Another great sub-theme concerning the Heaven that they sang about was the people of Heaven. As I sit at this keyboard sharing with you from my heart tonight, I can hear their voices ringing in my memory right now. "I Will Meet You In The Morning By the Bright River Side When All Sorrow Has Drifted Away". "You May Look For Me For I'll Be There". "Glad Day, A Wonderful Day.....That will Be a Glad Reunion Day". Friend, these are not just merely songs that we love the sound of; this is our inheritance that we sing about. We have a hope that the unsaved of the world do not have. I sat at a piano in an outdoor concert last evening. In the audience were people of a number of different churches. But as I was informed beforehand, there were people that had no church affiliation. One person asked the host: "what does religious music sound like". When I heard this, it literally brought tears to my eyes.

Friend, listen up; there are multitudes of people out there who need to be reached with the Gospel of Jesus. Our music; Gospel Music, is the avenue that can and will reach many of them, when they may not ever darken a church door for a "regular service". There are scores of people all around us that have no hope....but we as Gospel Musicians have a tremendous opportunity to reach them with the hope of eternal life in Heaven where sainted loved ones are waiting.

Yes, the old timers sang about Heaven; Let us continue to do the same; don't drop the ball now. Jesus is coming soon.

SECTION I

THE INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE

In remembrance today of some of the most influential people in my life, I must begin with the pastors and evangelists who have very highly impacted my life and encouraged me in the ministry as well as my daily walk with the Lord.

I remember my first pastor, Rev. E.M. Yeats who pastored the Magnolia Park Assembly of God for 50 years; from 1926 until 1976. A powerful man of God who was well known in Houston as well as the entire Texas region. Sometimes a thought, or scripture verse will come to mind and I have flashbacks of Pastor Yeats' voice and facial expressions. He always made me (as a child) feel like I was special.

Then there was Rev. Paul W. Klinger at Parkplace Assembly in east end of Houston. Two main things I recall of Brother Klinger was his gentleness and glowing smile. His wife, Betty was such a glowing personality with a terrific voice that rang like a bell through every congregational song.

Moving along to Flynn, Texas in Leon County where my great aunt Clara Wigley had pioneered a little church in 1930. That church grew through the years to be a lively church that remains a real beacon of the light of Jesus in that whole county and surrounding area. Through the years in my lifetime I've known a number of pastors of the Flynn church who were very much a tremendous influence on me. I think of Pastor Pesche, Pastor B.B. Hankins, Pastor Clendenen, Pastor Ward in the early days of my life. One who I was very well acquainted with above others was Pastor Merle and wife Grace Heading.

At the age of 10, I was present when they came to itinerate at the church. They ate dinner that day with my grandparents and I spotted a large red fox squirrel in the pecan tree outside the south window; grabbed my 22 rifle, shot the squirrel; my grandmother skinned and prepared it and cooked it for me the next day.

In later years I pastored the Assembly of God in Florence, Colorado. I was there only a few weeks when I discovered that a couple of years earlier the Headdings had pastored that very church. After I went on the field as an evangelist for the next 30 years I preached a number of revival meetings for the Headdings in 4 different locations where they would be pastoring in Colorado, including Campo and Dove Creek. We became very close friends and kept in close contact until they both made their journey into the arms of Jesus a few short years ago.

Then there was Pastor H.C. Harris who was pastor two different times at Flynn. I was honored to preach several revivals there during his tenures, beginning in 1974, all the way through to the 90s.

SECTION I

THE GREATEST OF ALL THRILLS

Through the years, and especially more recent years, a number of folks have urged me to write about experiences in the ministry. I really do have quite a few after more than 63 years in the ministry. My youngest son, Kevin has been on my case for several years also, So I will share one that is very vivid in my mind.

The year was about 1997 I had been a few times to Belize, Central America to preach crusades. This time I started some months earlier getting a team together for the ministry effort. We flew into Belize City (largest in the country) and stayed in a compound for the first two nights. As we began to fulfill the plans the Lord had laid on our hearts, the excitement was in full swing. We went by van taking food and provisions, such as drinks to a point on the Belize River where we had to hire a boat / boatman to take the nine of us down the river to the south where the Mayan villages were located.

Along the way down river we enjoyed slowing down near the trees overhanging the water's edge; there the little Spider Monkeys would gently take bread from our hands. On the mud flats along the shore line, we saw a number of Cayman Crocodiles laying in the sun. In later years I purchased a pair of western boots in Cheyenne, Wyoming made of the skin of one of these animals. When we finally reached the drop off point, we went ashore with our cooler boxes, literature, etc. Then we hiked through the rain forest of a couple of miles to get to one of the larger villages. Along the way, we heard an awful howling noise.

We found out that these are called "HOWLER MONKEYS" which are much larger than the Spider Monkeys. The Howlers are very evasive for the most part, and weigh 60 to 80 pounds and have been known to bite off a grown man's hand. Since I love playing piano, I decided to refrain from giving it a try! We arrived at the village, as they had already been informed that we were coming, they made us feel very welcome. We held the afternoon service (outside of course), and then that evening by light that was a little more than candle light.

When preaching through an interpreter, which I have done many times in several different languages, it must be kept simple. In the U.S. it is easy to get in the habit of dropping small talk phrases, little "funnies". In Belize keeping it simple is very important. This particular night, I think I preached on the Blood of Jesus as the ONLY agent that can remove/wash away our sins. There were dozens who came forward expressing their desire to accept Jesus as their Savior. I must interject here while holding back tears of joy that a response like that is the VERY GREATEST THRILL OF MY LIFE.

I asked one of the team members to use the camera that I had with me, to take pictures both in the afternoon and night service. I'll get around to telling you why I mentioned that in a moment.

Now, fast forwarding to about the year 2002, I was honored to get to attend the annual Prayer and Bible Conference which was held in a large auditorium in Albuquerque, New Mexico

SECTION I

THE GREATEST OF ALL THRILLS Cont'd

As an appointed missionary, I set up a large display table, complete with a large display board about 42 inches square. Among many other pictures on this display as well as items of interest from Belize, Jamaica and Haiti were pictures of that first crusade that we held in the large Mayan Village of which I just spoke. It was about 45 minutes before time for the rally to begin that night, as I stood by the display, a short young man came and stood beside me staring at the display. He tapped me on the shoulder and the words he had to say to me caused me to shout, cry and laugh all at the same time.

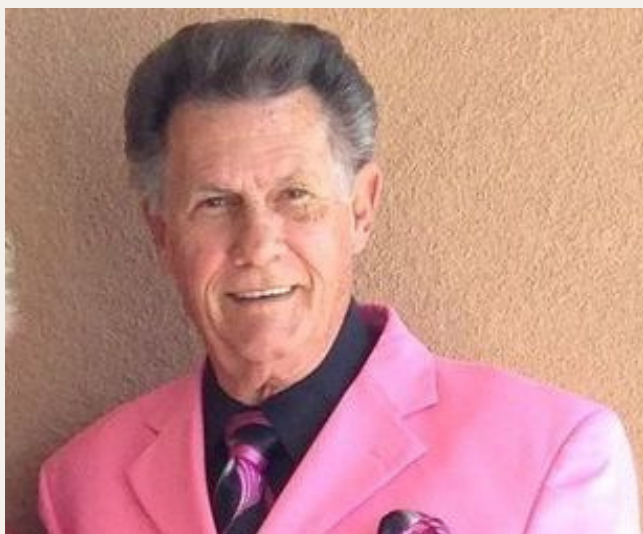
He said with a very heavy accent while pointing at one of the pictures, "THAT IS MY VILLAGE...THAT IS WHERE I WAS BORN AND GREW UP; AND YOU ARE THAT PREACHER; I GOT SAVED THAT NIGHT" I GOT WITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD MISSIONARIES IN BELIZE CITY LATER, AND THEY HELPED ME TO ARRANGE TO COME TO THE U.S. AND TAKE BIBLE CLASSES. GOD CALLED ME TO PREACH, AND I AM NOW GOING TO BEGIN IN ABOUT A MONTH TO PASTOR A CHURCH ON THE NAVAHO RESERVATION. THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING ME TO JESUS".

My friends, that is worth any effort, hardship, sacrifice, sweat or tears that it may cost. As I sit here writing this to share with you tonight, my heart aches to go spread the gospel of Jesus during whatever time I may have left before the Lord calls me home, or the trumpet sounds.

SECTION 11

Articles

This section contains articles written by James West for various publications. James writes with passion and hopes to share the word of the Lord with anyone that will hear it. His entire life is devoted to the work the Lord for which he was called. One way to share the word is through writing.



SECTION II

SOMETHING WORTH LIVING FOR (PART I)

Inspired by that beautiful song composed by Bill Gaither in 1968 "Something Worth Living For" I started to think of what that title phrase means. As I sat at the piano one morning, I began to play the song. As the words came to mind, I sang "Life was shattered, and hope was gone; crushing was the load that I bore". Immediately the following thoughts began to flood my mind.

What does life really mean? What is life really all about? The apostle Paul stated in Philippians 1:21: "For me to live is Christ". People throughout the world seek fulfillment in all sorts of places, but to no avail if they do not know Jesus as their personal Savior. I Peter 3:15 says: "...be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you..."

So, What does Jesus give you and me that makes life worth living?

First, He gives me a conscience that I can live with. There is an old saying "let your conscience be your guide". There is just one thing wrong with that saying. Outside of Christ, the conscience does not know what is right! I Corinthians 8:7 speaks of a "weak conscience". Then look at the words of Titus 1:15: "Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled." There is a remedy, however.

Hebrews 10: 21-22: "And having an High Priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience..."

Then in Hebrews 9:14 we read: "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Now praise God, with our sins washed away by the Blood of Jesus, we can go to sleep every night totally FREE from guilt and shame. "I'm free from the fear of tomorrow, I'm free from the guilt of the past" (Bill Gaither composition).

Second, Jesus gives me a creed that I can live by. In everything whether building a building, or a business, there must be a written plan / guide. God has given us his ultimate plan for eternal life. The Word of God is a LIVABLE CREED. The Bible when rejected will lead inevitably to eternal death and destruction. When obeyed, it will lead to eternal life and Heaven. Our faith is built on nothing but the Word of God.

Through faith in God's Word there is deliverance from sin. John 8:36 "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." Within the pages of Holy Writ are found the ANSWERS TO ALL OF LIFE.

SECTION II

SOMETHING WORTH LIVING FOR (PART I) Cont'd

How the words of Romans 11:33 ring with reverberation of Devine truth: "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out" At the risk of sounding redundant, I must again state that I love the term GOSPEL MUSIC, because it means that the GOSPEL is found therein. We sing the GOOD NEWS THAT JESUS SUFFERED, BLED, AND DIED TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS, and that HE HAS GONE TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR US.

So let us "KEEP ON SINGING" as the late Andrae Crouch titled that wonderful song. May the inner song of ETERNAL LIFE continue to ring from our hearts; "SOMETHING MORE THAN MY YESTERDAYS, MORE THAN I HAD BEFORE; SOMETHING MORE THAN WEALTH OR FAME; HE GAVE ME SOMETHING WORTH LIVING FOR".

SECTION II

FOUR “Rs” CONCERNING THE COMING OF JESUS

For more than sixty years I have been very heavily involved in Southern Gospel Music. From a child I have observed that the message in Southern Gospel Music is exactly as the term implies; GOSPEL music. The gospel is the GOOD NEWS concerning Jesus. That GOOD NEWS is that JESUS the Son of God, was incarnated; that is, He who is the Son of God became the SON OF MAN that we fallen sons of men might become the SONS OF GOD. The GOSPEL is the GOOD NEWS which encompasses all of the following aspects of God's plan for man.

First, Jesus came into this world to redeem the souls of men. Listen to the words of this old, but very up-to-date song:

*Redeemed how I love to proclaim it;
redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His
child, and forever I am.*

The timing of the incarnation was in perfect harmony with ALL of the prophecies of the Old Testament concerning the coming of Messiah. The scripture says, “But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.” (Galatians 4: 4–7).

When an individual has been to the old rugged cross; that is received Jesus into his heart, then he knows by experience the true message sung from the heart; “What can wash away my sins, nothing but the blood of Jesus; What can make me whole again, NOTHING but the BLOOD of JESUS.” “In whom we have redemption thru His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” (Ephesians. 1:7)

Second, Jesus comes to revive his children. Recently across America and around the world, millions of Christians celebrated Easter. Thank God he is risen! After the resurrection, Jesus walked among men for forty days, then ascended to the right hand of the Father. Now “he ever liveth to make intercession for us” as our Great High Priest. While he is bodily at the right hand of God in heaven, he is here with us when we are gathered in His Name. “Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20).

He said “I will never leave you nor forsake you”. It is beyond our finite understanding how the Creator of the universe, Jesus, can dwell in the hearts of men. Praise God we can sing “Hand in hand with Jesus; hand in hand we walk each day; Hand in hand along the way; walking thus I cannot stray, Hand in hand with Jesus”...that wonderful song written by a precious music teacher named L.D. Huffstutler, under whom I studied when I was a teenager.

SECTION II

FOUR “Rs” CONCERNING THE COMING OF JESUS Cont’d

Jesus is as close as the mention of His name. When you are in the midst of the storm He is still the PEACE SPEAKER; In the midst of the fiery furnace He is still that FOURTH MAN that will be there with you; In Sickness He is still JEHOVAH RAPHA our healer; In the valley He is still the LILLY; In our weakness He is our STRENGTH through the JOY that He brings; When Jesus comes the scene always changes. Oh how I thrill at the message of the old song that we’ve loved so well through many years.:

*When Jesus comes the tempter’s power is broken
When Jesus comes all tears are wiped away
He takes the gloom and fills the life with glory
For all is changed when Jesus comes to stay*

Third, Jesus will come to rapture His children. In Southern Gospel Music more than any other religious music the Rapture of the Church is sung about. As far back as I can remember in our Southern Gospel circles, there has echoed the thrilling message and melody with exciting harmony and rhythm in such songs as “I’ll Fly Away”, “When the Roll is Called up Yonder”, “Heaven’s Jubilee”, “You May Look For Me For I’ll Be There”, “I’ll Meet You In The Morning”, “When We All Get To Heaven”, just to name a few that comes to mind at the moment.

Friends, we are almost home. Whatever happens, don’t ever lose sight of the fact that “This world is Not Our Home...we’re just passing through”. Jesus’ words in John 14: 3 still ring true. I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also”. And those powerful words, “For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Arch Angel, and with the trump of God;

and the dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.” The TRUTH still stands as strong as ever that says, “In a moment in the twinkling of an eye at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Corinthians 15:52).

Fourth, Jesus will come to **reign** with His children, the Church. Oh, how I can still here the joyous sounds of those days from all back through the years ringing in my mind. “Satan will be bound a thousand years, we’ll have no tempter then; after Jesus shall come back to earth again”; and “when the battle’s over we shall wear a crown”; “It will be worth it all, when we see Jesus.”

Keep on singing those good Southern Gospel songs. In spite of the injustices in this sin-soaked world; in spite of the flood-tide of evil all around us; in spite of all the wrongs encompassing this globe that we call earth, ultimate victory is yours and mine, if we know Him in whom is life everlasting.

Someday the wrongs are going to be righted; the unbalanced books are going to be balanced. Our Lord is going to have the last word. “And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse, and He that sat upon him was called faithful and true; and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called THE WORD OF GOD” (Revelation 19: 11–13).

SECTION 111

Music & Sermons

James West's name is synonymous with music. His talent in tickling the ivories combines with his passion and love of the Lord. James maintains a Youtube page in which many of his beautiful music combinations and sermons are available for viewing. Please enjoy and open your heart to what the Lord would speak to your heart. Links are provided for easy viewing.



"My goal is to give them Jesus. This Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation and truly changes, and transforms lives, regardless of the culture."

- *James West*

Youtube Channel: @Jimwest246

[Blood Medley with Lyrics](#)

[How Great Thou Art with Lyrics](#)

[Jesus Medley with Lyrics](#)

[The King & I with Lyrics](#)

[When I Survey the Wondrous Cross](#)

[When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Music Video](#)

[Christmas](#)

[Christmas Segment I](#)

[Christmas Segment II](#)

[Christmas Segment III](#)

[Little Pigeon Forge Fun Clip](#)

[Evangelist Jim West 2023](#)

[Jim West Evangelist](#)

[Highlights](#)

[My Savior's Love Medley](#)

[Ski Village Chapel – Copper Mountain](#)

[Musical Mountains](#)

Youtube Channel: @Jimwest246

When They Ring Those Golden Bells

Just a Little Talk With Jesus Medley

Just a Little Talk With Jesus Music Video

Goodbye World Heaven's Sounding Sweeter

Shelter in the Time of Storm

When I Prayed Through

There is Going To Be A Meeting In the Air

I Bowed on My Knees

Gospel Salad

Christmas Uplift

First Snow Fall of 2019

On the Jericho Road

The Haven of Rest With Scenery

Youtube Channel: @Jimwest246

Precious Word of God: Let's Talk About Jesus

My Spiritual Heritage

Gospel Power

Jim's Gems

Storm Part I

Storm Part II

Love God's Word

Love God's Word 3

Revelation 5

Jesus Saves

Missions Priority

Revival Ethete, WY

Our Mission Win The Lost

The Power of His Resurrection

Haiti 3

Youtube Channel: @Jimwest246

Curacao

Pigeon Forge – Revelation 19

Just Clowning Around on Musical City Gospel Showcase

Scriptures Easter 2022 Part I

Invitation

Invitation II

What the Bible Says About the End Time Part I

Promo

Bossier City, LA

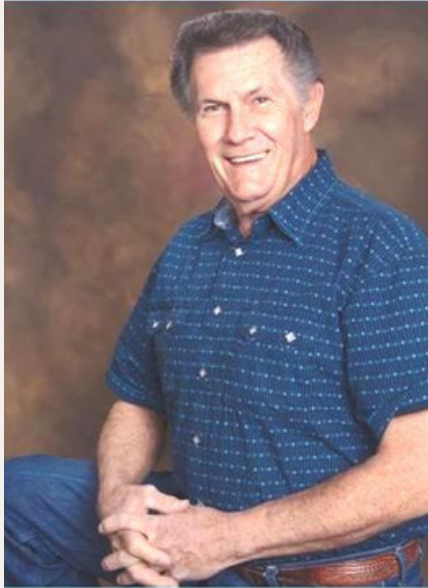
Bossier MPG II

Gospel Piano Classics

SECTION 1V

Thoughts & Posts

This section contains short tidbits of thoughts and posts by James West. If you know James, he is quite a cut up at times. He often shares his wittiness in various ways and sometimes posts them on social media. Here, you can find many of those posts.



"My goal is to give them Jesus. This Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation and truly changes, and transforms lives, regardless of the culture."

- *James West*

SECTION IV



The year was 1962. I preached my very first revival in Bastrop, Texas. The pastor that "took the chance" and invited this 20 year old "kid" evangelist was Pastor Bill Moore. Here he is pictured about that same year with his wife Dorothy and the three children at the time from left to right are Debbie, Billy and Sherrie. I'll always be grateful to this, one of my best friends in all the world for giving me a "launch" into the ministry that God had called me to when I was but 13 years of age.

Being a cement contractor on the side, and a number of jobs going on at the same time, Brother Moore and I would leave at 6 am and work concrete most of the day, quitting at around 3:30 pm, head back to the parsonage, clean up, pray up and dress up for service every night. Wow! what precious and priceless memories those two weeks held.

Brother Moore graduated into the arms of Jesus a couple of years ago; heaven gaining another hero of the faith. Heaven is surely sounding sweeter all the time! Glory!



First row: Kaye Olin, Deana Allard, Toni Taylor, Marcia Allen, Chris Hartcock, Margaret Justice, Janet Mann
Second row: Judy Kell, Russell Pate, Yvonne Willford, Nicole Eldridge, Marie Falkner
Third row: Don Holloman, Jimmy West, Bob Kowalski, Jerry Alcorn, Gene Baldwin, Gene Gaffa

SOUTHWESTERN'S HARVESTER CHOIR 1960 - 61
I WAS TOP TENOR...WELL, AT LEAST I STOOD ON
THE TOP ROW:
SECOND FROM LEFT

I awakened this morning thanking God for his love and grace toward me. Then I began to remember all of the influences in my life over the last 80 years. There were many. However, without a doubt the most influential person by far was my Grandmother, Maebelle Wigley Wolfe.

From my "high chair" days all the way through to the present the sound of her voice is eternally etched in my mind. The words that I hear when remembering her voice is scripture quotations as well as words of admonishment toward the things of reading / studying across passages that reading quoting that times in the pulpit would remember to me personally am at that moment



God. So often when the bible I come spark memories of her same passage. Many through the years I Grandmother present the very truth that I preaching to a congregation. As time marches on there are more and more friends and loved ones who have graduated to the presence of the Lord; but by far the one I miss the most is my precious Grandmother, Maebelle Wigley Wolfe. When I step through the gate of that beautiful city I want first of all to see Jesus, the one who died for me on that old rugged cross. Then I want to find Grandmother (my spiritual mother) and hold her in my arms for about a thousand years. I miss you Grandmother; but by the grace of God I'll see you soon. When the trumpet of the Lord sounds please be standing by the river, and I'll meet you there.

heritage

SECTION IV

www.jimwestministries.com



I did a "show" (so they call it) Thursday night last week at the Lincoln Meadows banquet hall in Denver. The host requested that I wear my lime green suit that she had seen on my website, as it was only a couple of days after St Patrick's day. One of the many numbers that I played was "The Blood Will Never Lose It's Power" by Andre Crouch. Afterward a little lady approached me and asked if that was a Perry Como song. I replied "no, it was one by Andre Crouch. She then asked "Did he sing with Perry Como?" Well, I don't think I ever got it across. I chuckled....but only to myself! ha!



This from one of the Music City Gospel Showcase TV tapings in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee a number of years ago. Some of the greatest men in Southern Gospel Music. I was so honored to have been on the program and shared the stage with these precious friends of highest integrity. From left to right:

Ron Pauley; one of the greatest pianists of all time....special friend for many years. Ron & I had been in the process of planning some duet concerts together across the country until his untimely accident which took his life in Charleston, WV 3 or 4 years ago.

Roy McNeil; great tenor singer who was with the Prophets & Rangers as well as the Statesmen Quartets.

Bill Shaw; one of the greatest of all tenors sang with the Blackwood Brothers quartet for several decades.

Yours truly : Though the "youngest" of the bunch yet not much.

Roy & Bill have also graduated to the arms of Jesus since this picture.

In reading John chapter 20 this morning I suddenly was captivated by verse 29. This is the first time after the resurrection that Thomas saw Jesus. "Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet believed." Suddenly that phrase grabbed me big time; and the powerful revelation hit me! I AM ONE OF THOSE MENTIONED THAT HAVE NOT SEEN JESUS PHYSICALLY, AND YET BY FAITH I CAN AND HAVE MANY TIMES ENTERED RIGHT INTO THE HOLY OF HOLIES AND HAVE PERSONALLY SEEN AND HAD MANY PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS WITH THE KING OF KINGS. HE KNOWS ME; HE KNEW ME BEFORE I WAS CONCEIVED; HE LOVED ME WHEN I WAS UNLOVABLE. HE IS MINDFUL OF ME AND MY EVERY NEED. HE IS TOUCHED WITH THE FEELING OF MY INFIRMITIES! PRAISE THE LORD I DON'T WALK THIS ROAD ALONE!

SECTION IV

It was uncomfortable for the first 40 minutes. I had accepted an invitation to preach in certain church on a Sunday night a few years ago. I arrived a bit early. this was in a state east of the Mississippi River...I'll just leave it at that. I sat close to the front as the house lights were turned off, and strobe lights began twirling and flashing. Then the "rock concert" began with smoke rising from different points on the stage...there were dancers, flag wavers and singers giving it all they had. When everything finally settled down and the house lights were once again turned on he pastor went to the front, called for ushers, prayed and the offering was received as some recording was played.

After the young pastor returned to the podium and made a few announcements, he was very complimentary in his introduction of me. I preached a message on the "BLOOD OF THE EVERLASTING COVENANT". In the message I brought out the fact that no individual can get into heaven without being CLEANSED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS.

After the service several older people complimented me on the message. One lady made this statement that really shocked and saddened me. **"THAT IS THE FIRST MESSAGE I HAVE HEARD ON THE BLOOD OF JESUS IN A VERY LONG TIME"**. The question that IMMEDIATELY came to my mind was: **"WHAT IN THE WORLD IS BEING PREACHED?"**

I left after that weekend feeling GOOD about what I had preached; but at the same time SADDENED at the words of that dear lady.



I JUST RECEIVED WORD A FEW MINUTES AGO THAT A VERY GOOD FRIEND AND GIANT OF THE FAITH WAS USHERED INTO THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD THIS MORNING. REV. CHARLES TURNAGE. I WAS HONORED TO PREACH SEVERAL REVIVALS THROUGH THE YEARS FOR BROTHER TURNAGE WHEN HE PASSED IN PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI AND EVANSVILLE, INDIANA. I'LL MISS YOU MY DEAR FRIEND; BUT SEE YOU SOON AT THE HOUSE. BE STANDING BY THE RIVER, OK?



We had a wonderful time last Sunday in concert at Diboll First United Methodist Church with Pastor David Goodwin and his great congregation. This growing church was packed and was graced with many vibrant young people as well as a tremendous spirit. Thank you Pastor Goodwin for inviting me.

SECTION IV



A guy asked me this question in Hendersonville that night after the concert. "Do you have as much fun doing that as you act like?" My answer: "Absolutely; and even more; These are songs about Jesus who died for me....they EDIFY the saints, MAGNIFY JESUS; AND NOBODY HAS A HANGOVER AFTERWARD like those out in the world who do not know JESUS."



This is Amber. She was about 4 or 5 here. We were preaching a crusade in Southern Belize, Central America about 24 years ago. she would be all grown up by now of course. Notice that little hand in my pocket to see what she could find. I did not notice that until I saw the picture. What a little angel she was!

PRAISE GOD FOR MY HERITAGE

I was just watching and listening to the Cathedrals Quartet. They mentioned the shaped notes, singing schools and singing conventions. My mind goes back to my childhood. at about 10 or 11 years of age (1952 or 53) I wanted a suit and tie to wear to those singing conventions which were held each month. One county had one on the 1st Sunday of the month; another the second, etc. My folks finally broke down and bought me one. Now you've got to understand that nobody that I knew had air conditioning in their vehicles. Some cars might have had it; but I never had seen it. I "absolutely refused take off my suit coat while riding to a singing convention. I would sweat thru that suit coat sometimes. I DEARLY LOVED THOSE conventions. That is where I began to play in front of people. Often I'd be called upon to play one of the new songs accompanying someone leading the audience in singing. Often at those times (at least in the beginning) I'd be SCARED SPITLESS! But my determination was stronger than my fears. I can look back now and see the hand of the Lord preparing me toward the ministry he later (at age 13) called me into while attending the ASSEMBLIES OF GOD YOUTH CAMP OF 1955 at the camp located near Baytown, Texas. Oh what precious memories. I wouldn't trade that journey for anything in this whole wide world. Praise God for his hand of mercy upon my life.

SECTION IV

WHAT ARE WE DOING IT FOR?

(re written from a year or so ago)

Some time ago I received a call. The person on the other end of the line said "I know you probably would not want to com minister to a small group like ours? My response surprised him I think. I said; "Brother God called me to go. He called me to minister. In a little more than 62 years doing so I have **NEVER** refused an invitation based on size of group congregation, etc.; and I don't plan to start now".

Their group is about 18 to 20 people. I am scheduled there next week. Folks, as we all know there are some ministers, evangelists, etc who think they are NOT successful if they are not seen and heard in very large crowds, etc. ; but I also have gone to very small humble churches many times across this nation and several other nations of the world. Here is a picture of ONE altar call RESPONSE in the West Indies. This group standing at the front up against the stage in this open air crusade is several times



larger than the group where I will be next week. Are we called of God to impress others with how **BIG TIME** we are? Is success defined by **LARGE NUMBERS**? A thousand times **NO!** The call is "go ye into all the world and preach the gospel". Let's come off of this **HERO** mentality when it comes to the things of God. **Jesus is OUR HERO** and He is coming very soon...let's get busy about the Master's business! **AMEN?**

A VERY IMPORTANT TRUTH TO NOTE

To clear up some misunderstanding concerning the Passover which typifies Jesus shedding His blood on the cross. Many times I have heard someone misquoting scripture. The main one which stands out to me is talk of some "DEATH ANGEL" passing over the land of Egypt. The story is in Exodus chapter 12. There is **NO MENTION WHATSOEVER OF ANY ANGEL** having to do with the Passover. **GOD SAID "I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn..."**(verse 12). Angels have no part in this. It is strictly an act of God; the same as at the crucifixion of Jesus....

I thank God FOR THAT **PRECIOUS BLOOD** OF HE EVER-LASTING COVENANT WHICH **JESUS SPILLED AT THE CROSS!**

SECTION IV



I had forgotten about this picture taken in a little church out of Albuquerque N.M. a few years ago. I preached a revival there as well as played a concert a couple of years later. I have had some musicians as well as preachers to tell me that I would not make it going to "these" little churches. My answer?.....

Jesus said "upon this rock I will build My CHURCH"....Folks if there is 1000 in attendance or 12, Jesus said He would be in their midst. It is still the church regardless of the size or number. As you can tell by visual assessment I am not "starving".

My attitude is "KEEP ON KEEPING ON AND GIVE 'EM JESUS WHETHER IT IS IN SERMON OR SONG.....THIS GOSPEL STILL WORKS."



Sometimes God's work includes helping butcher a pig for a church pig roast; sometimes preaching to a small church; interacting with and offering encouragement to struggling pastors; or preaching to hungry souls outside in the night air. The harvest is ripe.



In 2006 preaching a revival at Lewis Ave Assembly of God in Tulsa, Oklahoma I went one day all over the neighborhood on foot door to door to invite folks to revival meeting. This lady and her 4 children came and all received Jesus. And now 17 years later she, her husband, and all four children are still in the church. In addition Donna is on the minister staff of the church and doing an incredible job teaching God's word.

HAD A GREAT CONCERT TONIGHT IN GLOSTER; NOT ONLY PLAYED MANY SONGS FROM MY LIST, BUT ALSO TOOK REQUESTS FROM THE CONGREGATION, AND THEY KEPT THEM COMING....THEN QUOTED A LOT OF SCRIPTURE BETWEEN SONGS. MUSIC IS GREAT, BUT GOD'S WORD IS EVEN BETTER...PUT THEM TOGETHER AND YOU HAVE A WINNING COMBINATION. I FINALLY JUST HAD TO QUIT....WENT FOR TWO HOURS....I THINK THEY'D HAVE STAYED FOR ANOTHER 2 HOURS.....THEY ALMOST WORE ME OUT !SURE WAS FUN THOUGH. WORE MY PURPLE SUIT AND PURPLE AND WHITE SHOES....AFTER ALL , I WAS REPRESENTING ROYALTY, RIGHT? HE (JESUS) IS THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!



SECTION IV

SUNSET?

In pondering the fact that another year is drawing to an end, it dawns on me that my generation is rapidly approaching the sunset of life here. I am in contact often with lifelong friends and fellow ministers and musicians in the work of God. Almost daily I receive word, see on Facebook or am told by a mutual friend of one who is housebound, wheelchair bound, in life threatening physical condition or otherwise at death's door. Then I look in the mirror and DO NOT like what I see; (in fact it is DOWNRIGHT SCARY) and realize that there may not be many more miles left on this road. But this morning the powerful message of a couple of beautiful songs comes to my mind.

"The anchor holds though the ship be battered; The anchor holds though the sails are torn" and then there is the precious old song I grew up hearing: "I've anchored my soul in the Haven of Rest". We are headed home.....I can almost see the lights of that city; how about you?

Folks some of us are getting close to the end of this life; but listen.....as long as we have breath we can still give it all we've got (which may not seem like much) in the work of the kingdom of God.

I Cor. 15 tells us that "...the sting of death is sin and the strength of sin is the law; but thanks be unto God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore my beloved brethren be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord!"

Let me encourage you today; When that devil bends down to JERK THAT RUC OUT FROM UNDER YOU... KICK HIM RIGHT IN THE MOUTH... THIS IS DONE THROUGH PRAYER AND THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD!

PRaise GOD FOR MY HERITAGE

I was just watching and listening to the Cathedrals Quartet. They mentioned the shaped notes, singing schools and singing conventions. My mind goes back to my childhood. at about 10 or 11 years of age (1952 or 53) I wanted a suit and tie to wear to those singing conventions which were held each month. One county had one on the 1st Sunday of the month; another the second, etc. My folks finally broke down and bought me one. Now you've got to understand that nobody that I knew had air conditioning in their vehicles. Some cars might have had it; but I never had seen it. I "absolutely refused take off my suit coat while riding to a singing convention. I would sweat thru that suit coat sometimes. I DEARLY LOVED THOSE conventions. That is where I began to play in front of people. Often I'd be called upon to play one of the new songs accompanying someone leading the audience in singing. Often at those times (at least in the beginning) I'd be SCARED SPITLESS! But my determination was stronger than my fears. I can look back now and see the hand of the Lord preparing me toward the ministry he later (at age 13) called me into while attending the ASSEMBLIES OF GOD YOUTH CAMP OF 1955 at the camp located near Baytown, Texas. Oh what precious memories. I wouldn't trade that journey for anything in this whole wide world. Praise God for his hand of mercy upon my life.

With temperatures below zero outside I'm watching the Hymn Sing video conducted by Gerald Wolfe taped in Australia. As they sang so many of the great songs with biblical messages so many precious and priceless memories have been flooding my mind from years and even decades ago. I recall the faces, expressions and examples of Godly people throughout my life who had such tremendous influence on my life and ministry. I recall old saints of God who were in their latter years; 70s, 80s and even 90s when I was a young boy and into my teen years. I remember observing these giants in the faith as they would sing such songs as I have listened to here tonight and remember the tears flowing down their cheeks. "How Marvelous; How Wonderful; and My Song shall ever be; How Marvelous, How Wonderful is My Savior's Love For Me". Oh how precious and priceless are those memories that at the time I did not fully understand. But now in these latter years of my own life I have full view and understanding of the Joys, Thanksgiving and Praise for the Grace of God through His only Son Jesus who died for me so I could live forever. Praise the precious name of Jesus.

SECTION IV

There is something that has bothered me for quite some time. I am a **PREACHER** of the **Gospel of Jesus**...that is **FIRST AND FOREMOST**. I am also a **PIANO PLAYER** (which could be a matter of opinion). Now to my point. I see / hear some in the ministry (that means **PREACHING**) as well as some in the field of **Gospel Music** who think they have to **HAVE THEIR NAME, PICTURE OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS DISPLAYED ALONG WITH SOME VERY POPULAR OTHER ARTIST, PREACHER, OR OTHER WELL KNOW PERSON** in order to **BE SOMEBODY** and receive recognition for their accomplishments. Folks, I am sorry if this **HURTS OR OFFENDS YOU**; BUT THIS IS JUST **WRONG**. If you are in the **WORK** of the **KINGDOM OF GOD**, AND YOU ARE SINCERE IN THAT CALL TO THE MINISTRY OR FIELD OF SERVICE IN MUSIC, ETC. YOU DO **NOT** NEED SOME "**POPULAR**" PERSON TO MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE **SOMEBODY**.

I learned **LONG** years ago that if I am called (and I was at age 13) to the **MINISTRY**, it matters **NOT** how big the crowd is, fancy the building, classy the congregation is; God will lift you to where you need to be if you **WILL REMAIN FAITHFUL TO HIS CALL ON YOUR LIFE**.

Some of the greatest thrills in preaching the gospel has been in some out-of-the-way place in **Haiti, Jamaica, Antigua, St Lucia, Belize, or other island or nation**....standing under a grass shed held by hand cut poles. When the power of the Gospel is presented and someone or more than one steps forward to receive **JESUS INTO THEIR HEART**...FRIEND THERE IS **NOTHING THAT CAN POSSIBLY COMPARE TO THAT**.

Now excuse me while I cry a bit...then I'll finish this.. The verse to a precious song comes to mind right now...

"OH THE LOVE THAT DREW SALVATION'S PLAN; OH THE GRACE THAT BROUGHT IT DOWN TO MAN; OH THE MIGHTY GULF THAT GOD DID SPAN AT CALVARY" "MERCY THERE WAS GREAT AND GRACE WAS FREE; PARDON THERE WAS MULTIPLIED TO ME; THERE MY BURDEN SOUL FOUND LIBERTY AT CALVARY.

Friend I am not giving you **MY THEORY**...THIS I HAVE PROVEN MANY TIMES OVER THROUGH 61 YEARS OF PREACHING THIS GLORIOUS GOSPEL AND SEEING RESULTS....NOT RESULTS OF GREAT ORITORY OR ELOQUENT SPEECH...BUT RESULTS OF THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS. HIS BLOOD STILL WASHES AWAY EVERY STAIN OF SIN. PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS!

THE BAPTIZING TO BE REMEMBERED

I was just calling to remembrance the **FUNNIEST SPELL** I had ever witnessed someone having in church. If my memory is correct it must have been 1968. (56 years ago) Bethel Assembly of God in Snyder, Texas during the oil boom. The Pastor was getting ready to **BAPTIZE** quite a number of new converts that day. Standing waist deep in the water in the steel baptistery which was behind the choir loft, he reached out the opening with one hand and **GRABBED HOLD OF THAT CORDED MICROPHONE**. HE **JUMPED, SHOUTED LOUDLY AND FLUNG THAT MICROPHONE HALFWAY ACROSS THE AUDITORIUM AS THE CROWD OF 100 PLUS PEOPLE CHEERED LIKE THEY WERE AT A BALL GAME**.

I NEVER TRIED THAT AGAIN!

That was the first baptizing in my first pastorate.

SECTION IV



Above: about 4 years ago



Tuesday morning (the day before driving to Arizona) about an hour before daylight as I went outside to check on something at the west end of the carport, I detected some movement up the slope of the hill a bit. Upon further investigation there was this huge Buck. As I turned on my spot light and started to move closer, he came to me...at that point I recognized my friend "BABY" whom I have been petting and feeding since he first lost his spots, about 9 or so years ago. As you can see he pays me no attention when he has corn under his nose. Sometimes he will come up behind me in the dark and nudge me behind my arm with his nose to get my attention which scares me if I don't know he's there.

Sitting at the desk near the piano in my piano room with the window to my right where I sometimes prop my elbow I heard the loud gun shot. Now you need to understand that I lost most of the hearing in my left ear a few years ago; but still have 100% in my right one. This means that it is very difficult to detect the direction that sound is coming from. It was about time to hit the sack last night (Saturday), so it was quite late. Suddenly the gun shot rang out, and the bullet hit the steel siding just outside near the window that I was sitting near. Being still pretty quick minded for my age I lunged for one of the guns, grabbing the 870 Remington 12 gauge loaded with 000 buckshot rather than the pistol or rifle. Running around the corner to the outside wall of the house I hit the switches and turned on all of the 2000 watts of lights that I had installed...it lit up the whole mountain side and part of the valley below. Pumping a shell into the chamber and fingertip on the safety button I threw west end door open as I dropped to my knees in order to be a smaller target. There was NO SIGN of ANYTHING...NOT MAN BEAST OR "BOOGER". I went back inside, locking both locks as I closed the door. Then my mind finally kicked into gear.

YEP...YOU GUESSED IT...THAT BISCUIT BOOGER

ALMOST GOT

frigerator is
behind where



ME! The office re-
on the stand right
my head was.

SECTION IV

I be a HEAP BIG CONCERT PIANIST.....While waiting to appear on the Music City Gospel Showcase Television show one of those years; I needed to EAT...so I hired out on the road job about 25 miles out of Nashville....That ole scraper tractor put beans on the table and helped pay bills for a couple of months prior to the show. Sure would rather PREACH and PLAY PIANO! 🤔



Looking at the outside thermometer just now and it read "17".

I had a flashback a few years ago when I was operating the above Cat Scraper on the job in Gallatin, Tennessee. These pictures were taken about the last week in August. By December the winter had set in real good. Every day for the last 10 or 12 days before they shut down for the winter, we'd start at the crack of dawn. With no exceptions every morning the temp was SEVENTEEN (17) degrees. As you can see there are no sides on that cab...only a WINDSHIELD and TOP! We needed the income for the moment. But every morning those last few days I would HEAR MUMBLING "OOZING" OUT OF MY OWN MOUTH SAYING...."YOU IDIOT; WHY ARE YOU STILL OUT HERE?" Well, that is my story. I know if I had the same opportunity, I'd be right back out there again. In all seriousness though; I thank the Lord for the strength, energy and opportunity to do such. But I'd still rather WEAR A SUIT AND TIE AND PREACH AND PLAY PIANO.....IT'D DISPLAY MY DIGNITY MUCH BETTER....WHATCHATHANK?