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# TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

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Anybody can sing the blues,  
*but to sing with joy*  
from your heart you must  
*be redeemed.*

J. VERNON MCGEE



**THRU** the **BIBLE**





# WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD



## THE SPRING THAT SATISFIES

Dr. J. Vernon McGee

What the children of Israel experienced while going through the wilderness corresponds to our Christian experience; you can translate what happened to them directly over to the life of any believer today. We can expect to encounter the same problems and expect the same solutions to work for us. Every believer will experience their own particular version of what happened to the Israelites in the wilderness.

I do not believe any child of God can escape going through these experiences—they're normal and natural to the Christian life. Therefore it's profitable for you and me to follow the children of Israel for just a little way into the wilderness so we can learn something valuable.

When the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, they crossed as a *redeemed* people. I emphasize that because we need to understand God had redeemed them by blood and by power out of the land of Egypt. And when they crossed over the Red Sea and came safely to the other side, they sang the song of Moses. Up to that point they murmured and complained—they actually wanted to go back to slavery, back to the brickyards of Egypt. But then God marvelously and miraculously opened the Red Sea—due to the faith of Moses—and they crossed over. Then these people believed, entered the wilderness by faith, and could sing the song of Moses. They were a saved people singing "God is my salvation," if you please.



Download "Bitter to Sweet: God's Answers to Life's Disappointments" for free here.

YOU IN *Your mercy* HAVE LED  
FORTH THE PEOPLE WHOM *You have redeemed;*  
YOU HAVE GUIDED THEM IN *Your strength*  
*to Your holy habitation.*

EXODUS 15:13

They have crossed the Red Sea and are singing, calling themselves a redeemed people.

It's interesting, as you go through the Word of God you find that only redeemed people sing—I mean sing praise to God with joy and sing from the heart. Anybody can sing the blues, but to sing from the heart with joy you must be a redeemed person. So they began their march through the wilderness with a song and great joy.

But then they were confronted with their first wilderness experience. These redeemed people start out through the wilderness according to God's instruction and after three days they still haven't found any water. It's *bad*. I'm sure most of the families started out with a little jug or canteen filled with water, but that's all gone now. They're parched and desperate. If God didn't provide for them, they would perish.

My beloved, their experience is contrary to the accepted notion people have today of how life should be for the child of God: Becoming a Christian solves all your problems, resolves all your difficulties, and everything after is easy sailing.

But the moment the children of Israel were redeemed and got on the other side of the Red Sea, they faced bigger problems than they ever had in the land of Egypt. There is a certain freedom in slavery, and there is a certain slavery in freedom. After all, in Egypt they didn't worry about where they lived, what they ate, or what they would drink because the man who owned them took care of that. Water and grain were in abundance.

But for the people of Israel out there on that torrid desert, the cisterns of Egypt were far behind them, and suddenly their source of supply is cut off. They find themselves under different circumstances. It's a long way from one oasis to another. It will take them a little while to find the fountain of living waters.

*May I say to you,  
the Bible is a mirror for every  
child of God to look into.*

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

The interesting thing is, they are having a legitimate experience. Certainly there is nothing wrong with thirsting. And they're not out in that wilderness because of sin in their lives. They are very much *in* the will of God—and yet they went three days thirsty. You explain that.

May I say to you, the Bible is a mirror for every child of God to look into. Paul said, *“All these things happened to them as examples for us.”* Moses could have recorded a thousand other experiences. My, we ought to learn the lessons, because this thirsting is the experience of every born-again child of God.

If you are a child of God, am I not now describing your experience? After you came to Christ, received Him as Savior, and things became different—didn't you find that the cisterns of Egypt failed to satisfy you? Remember how, right after you were saved, you tried to continue in the same lifestyle and it didn't satisfy? Wasn't that your experience?

Then there was that period of soul-thirst, a yearning and a passion for the things of God. At first you had trouble finding satisfaction—perhaps still you have not found it. Sooner or later, though, if you are a child of God you are going to find the fountain.

## MY TURN

*Anybody can sing the blues,  
but to sing with joy from your heart  
you must be redeemed.*

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE


- 1 **Agree or disagree?**
- 2 **Do you know Jesus as your Savior?**  
If yes, remember for a moment what life was like before you trusted Him. Dr. McGee said, “Remember how, right after you were saved, you tried to continue in the same lifestyle and it didn't work, it didn't satisfy?” Can you relate to this statement? What's your story?
- 3 **Imagine yourself in a conversation with someone who has never known the satisfaction of following Jesus. How would you describe it to them?**

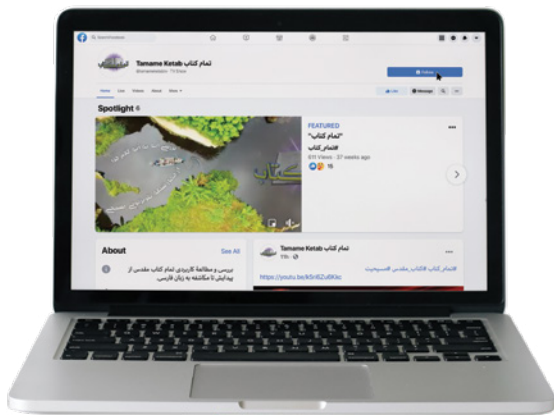
## ON THE BIBLE BUS IN IRAN

**FARSI TELEVISION PROGRAM, TAMAME KETAB, DELIVERS “THE WHOLE BOOK”**

For more than five years, the THRU the BIBLE family has been praying for and supporting the Arabic television program, *Kol el Ketab*. Now that ground-breaking program that utilizes the five-year THRU the BIBLE program to teach Arabic-speaking viewers the whole Bible through the conversations of evangelical pastors, has expanded to four other Middle East languages.

Now *Kol el Ketab* is broadcasted into Farsi, the most widely spoken language of Iran (formerly Persia) and also spoken in Afghanistan. THRU the BIBLE’s Farsi television program, *Tamame Ketab*,

“The Whole Book”, airs on six networks and is widely viewed on social media, especially on  Facebook, with over 31 thousand followers. While THRU the BIBLE covers the production costs, satellite channels raise their own funds through listener-supported efforts, grateful we’re providing them content in their language.



HERE’S HOW YOU CAN PRAY FOR THIS STRATEGIC, WONDERFUL MINISTRY IN IRAN, AFGHANISTAN, AND AMONG PERSIAN PEOPLE WORLDWIDE:

- ① **Pray for more Farsi-speaking people** around the world to discover *Tamame Ketab* on television and social media.
- ② **Praise God for the news this week** from one of the stations that 21 people recently believed in faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior, as they heard the gospel on *Tamame Ketab*.
- ③ **Intercede for God’s protection** and will to be accomplished in spite of the efforts of government restrictions and resistance to the gospel in the Middle East.

CELEBRATE THESE BROTHERS AND SISTERS, FELLOW RIDERS ON THE BIBLE BUS:

**JAMAL FROM MICHIGAN:** “I constantly follow this program, **learning from God’s servants who explain God’s Word with clarity and depth.**”

**SAEED AND ZAINAB FROM KERMANSHAH, IRAN:** “**We thank God for your channel because it helps us grow in faith.** We follow your programs constantly, especially *Tamame Ketab*. It is like a teacher for us and teaches us how to read and understand the Bible in our Farsi language while we are in the midst of difficult circumstances. **Churches are far away and conditions are dangerous for believers here. This program answers our questions.**”

**REZA FROM IRAN:** “I live in the Ahvas region. **I believed in Christ nine months ago through your channel** and was very attached to your programs, especially *Tamame Ketab* that teaches me from the Bible. I have no Christian friends and there are no churches close to me. **I am very happy because I feel that this program is produced to me personally in order to teach me about the true God and in Persian.**”

**ABDULLAH FROM IRAN:** “I am 25 years old. **I left Islam after I started watching your channel, and I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior.** I am glad I found *Tamame Ketab* in my language, that **teaches me clearly and simply about Christ’s love, God, and faith.**”





## THE POWER OF PRAYING NEIGHBORS

Who introduced you to Jesus?  
 Was it a parent, brother or sister,  
 or a close friend?

Akhila from Odisha, India, tells  
 us her story:

*“When I was 12 years old, my neighbors invited me to their house to listen to Thru the Bible. I liked it very much, and I began to visit often. I was surprised when they told me they had been praying for me since I was a baby. Because they cared so much, I was motivated to learn more and more about Jesus Christ.*

*“One day I committed my life to the Lord and informed my family members also about Jesus. Since they were worshiping different gods, they opposed me and threatened me. But slowly they also started listening to the program and believed in the Word of God. Now we all are in the faith.*

*“Thank you so much for this program which changed my life. Please pray for me and my family so we may continue to grow in the Lord.”*

Praise God for faithful friends and neighbors who pray and share the love of God with those around them. Ask God to bless all those who boldly share Jesus in their communities. Pray He gives us opportunity to share His good news with those around us, too.

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we are traveling the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. We invite you to join us in covering the entire earth with prayer every year.

**GO TO [TTB.ORG/PRAY](https://ttb.org/pray)  
 TO SIGN UP.**

# J E S U S I N

## Exodus

WITH DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

 **Read:** Exodus 12 & 1 Peter 1:19

**One of the epic events of history was the day God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt.**

You remember the ten plagues, each one confronting the gods of Egypt. Finally, God directed every home to cover their doorpost with the blood of a lamb, or else the firstborn of that household would die.

At midnight that night when the land held its breath, the angel of death visited every home without the blood on its doorpost. In one final blow, every family who ignored God's instruction suffered loss. Crushed in spirit, pharaoh released his grip on God's people, and they were given a way out of Egypt.

What an awe-filled, awful night! Ever since, Jewish people, including Jesus, have celebrated that miraculous exit called Passover. In addition to its dramatic place in history, Passover is an eloquent portrait of the Lord Jesus in the Old Testament.

***Why were they saved that night? It comes down to one reason. God says, “When I see the blood, I'll pass over.”***

They weren't saved because they did the best they could and paid their debts and were good people. Or because of their righteous thoughts or devout feelings. Only those who believed God and trusted the blood were saved.

**Today, it's the shed blood of Christ that will save you. Nothing else.**

As the first Passover marked the Hebrews' freedom from Egyptian slavery, so Jesus' death marks our freedom from the slavery of sin (Romans 8:2). **Jesus is our Passover Lamb, the One without sin. He's the only one capable of giving people a way to escape death and a sure hope of eternal life.**

How appropriate that the last supper Jesus shared with His disciples before He gave up His life was the Passover feast. The next day His blood would be shed like on a doorpost.

**Next time you take communion, remember Jesus “the Lamb of God” (John 1:29), “our Passover, sacrificed for us” (1 Corinthians 5:7).**





THRU the BIBLE

A WORD FROM GREGG HARRIS

*Whatever means possible.*

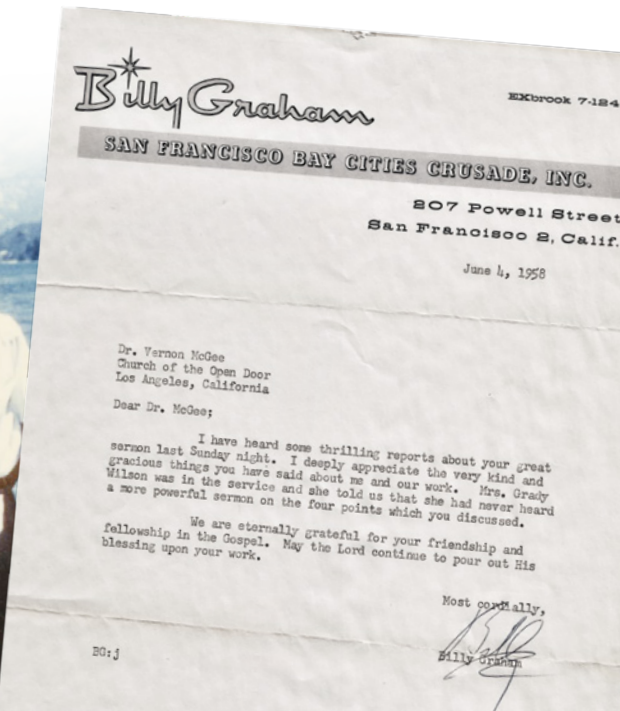
That's how we're committed to getting God's whole Word to the whole world. I like to quote our board chairman when I say, "We'd use carrier pigeons if we thought that was the best way ...." Recently I was honored to represent THRU the BIBLE at the National Religious Broadcasters convention and receive the Billy Graham award.

Dr. McGee and Billy Graham were friends from way back. They were both used by God in amazing ways to reach their generation with the gospel.

Thanks for standing with us today in carrying the gospel to our generation. May all who come behind us find us faithful to this great and glorious commission.

Grateful for you,

Gregg Harris  
THRU the BIBLE, President



# What's Happening at THRU the BIBLE

## THRU THE BIBLE AWARDED AT NRB'S 2021 CHRISTIAN MEDIA CONVENTION

On June 24, THRU the BIBLE was awarded the Billy Graham Award for Excellence in Christian Communications by the National Religious Broadcasters.



### BILLY GRAHAM AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATIONS

Billy Graham, the world-renowned evangelist, was a pioneer in Christian broadcasting, exemplified a commitment to excellence, creativity, and biblical fidelity in his use of electronic communications in furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

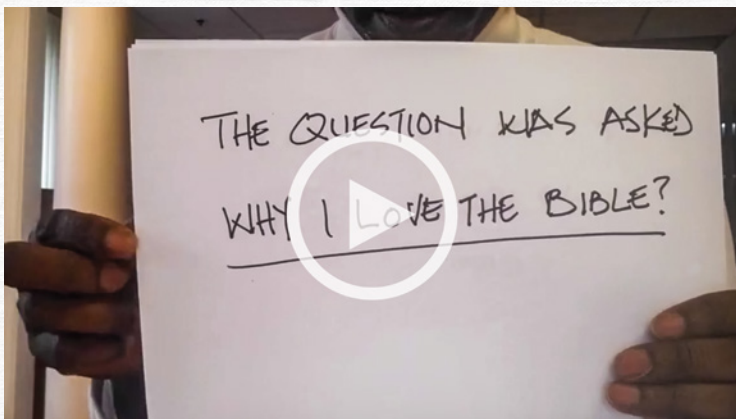
**The Billy Graham Award for Excellence in Christian Communications is presented annually by the National Religious Broadcasters to a Christian organization that effectively and creatively uses multiple electronic media technologies in fulfillment of its mission, while maintaining fidelity to the message of love, redemption, and hope found in the Holy Scriptures.**

WHY DO YOU

*the Bible?*

WHAT A CREATIVE, SIMPLE WAY

*to declare your faith ...*



WATCH THE VIDEO AT [TTB.ORG/LOVE](http://TTB.ORG/LOVE)

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