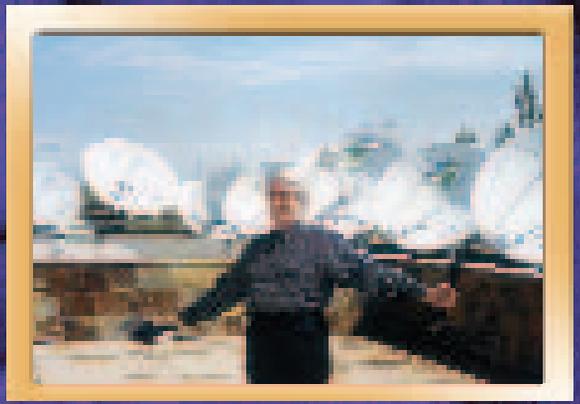




Praise the Lord

OCTOBER 2004 · VOLUME XXXI · NUMBER 10



When we bring our **FIRST FRUITS** offering to the Lord, He promises to multiply it back to us **“MORE THAN ENOUGH!”**

FIRST FRUITS — MORE THAN ENOUGH!

“THE LORD INSTRUCTED MOSES, ‘DEDICATE TO ME ALL OF THE FIRSTBORN SONS OF ISRAEL, AND EVERY FIRSTBORN MALE ANIMAL; THEY ARE MINE.’ EX. 13:1 TLB

One of the most interesting studies in the Bible is that of the many feasts, festivals and offerings which the Lord required of the children of Israel. What makes it so fascinating is that all of them pointed in some way to the person of Jesus Christ who was to come.

Actually, if we stand back and look at the Holy Book, we see it as one long and winding road leading all us “sinners” back to God. From Genesis 3:15 — “THE SEED OF THE WOMAN” — to the final words of Jesus on the cross, “IT IS FINISHED,” we see the Bible as one big LOVE LETTER from God the Father to everyone who will simply receive it! But this is another whole, wonderful study; so let me come back to one of the glorious truths that can **HOLD YET ANOTHER KEY** to your need!

The children of Israel were required to bring about twenty-two different offerings to the Lord — some great and some small. The one I want to point you to in this letter is the **“OFFERING OF THE FIRST FRUITS.”** This offering was unique in that it *promised multiplication or “MORE THAN ENOUGH”* to the giver! I’ll prove this to you from Scripture in a moment.

Now, as always, we have to first understand: *Who are the children of Israel today?* Oh, I know, there is controversy on this subject! But I believe most Bible scholars agree that **WE ARE!** Jesus makes it clear that, **“I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES...”** (John 15:5). Yes, we have been grafted into the family of God by faith in Jesus our Savior. The apostle Paul goes on to say:

“AND NOW THAT WE ARE CHRIST’S WE ARE

THE TRUE DESCENDENTS OF ABRAHAM, AND ALL OF GOD’S PROMISES TO HIM BELONG TO US!” Gal. 3:29 TLB

Well, that settles it for me; so back to this “more than enough offering,” or as the Bible calls it, **“FIRST FRUITS.”**

First of all, let’s not confuse this offering with the tithe or ten percent of our income. That, technically, is not an offering because it belongs to the Lord. When we bring our tithe to the Lord we really have not **“GIVEN”** Him anything yet. We are simply even or at sea level. Of course, we are **“blessed”** by the Lord for bringing our tithe into the **“storehouse”** as the prophet Malachi proves, but **“FIRST FRUITS”** is different. The tithe **“opens the windows of heaven,”** but the **“FIRST FRUITS”** offering brings the glorious



While in Baghdad earlier this year, Paul purchased a satellite dish from a street vendor. Praise the Lord — the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ is reaching people throughout Iraq!

INCREASE!

First of all, let’s identify why God said, **“THE FIRST FRUITS ARE MINE.”** The story is exciting — the Israelites are leaving Egypt after 430 years of slavery. God is preparing to kill all the first born of Egypt — the last of the ten plagues — because Pharaoh would not let them go! There is a chilling truth right here: *the Egyptians would not GIVE, so God TOOK!* Believe me, I would rather **GIVE** my **FIRST FRUITS** willingly and lovingly to God, rather than have **HIM TAKE IT!**

So why **FIRST FRUITS**? God told Moses:

“AND IN THE FUTURE, WHEN YOUR CHILDREN ASK YOU, ‘WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?’ YOU SHALL TELL THEM, ‘WITH MIGHTY MIRACLES JEHOVAH

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BROUGHT US OUT OF EGYPT FROM OUR SLAVERY.” Ex. 13:14 TLB

Egypt is often used as a type of sin, so it is clear here that the FIRST FRUITS was a “THANK YOU” OFFERING to God, as we see from the next line:

“PHARAOH WOULDN’T LET US GO, SO JEHOVAH KILLED ALL THE FIRSTBORN MALES THROUGHOUT THE LAND OF EGYPT, BOTH OF MEN AND ANIMALS; THAT IS WHY WE NOW GIVE ALL THE FIRSTBORN MALES TO THE LORD — EXCEPT THAT ALL THE ELDEST SONS ARE ALWAYS BOUGHT BACK” Ex. 13:15.

The purchasing back of all the eldest sons is, of course, a beautiful type of Jesus’ sacrifice as a spotless male lamb who was offered by the priest on the altar to God.

Finally, God tells Moses:

“IT [THE FIRST FRUITS] IS A REMINDER THAT THE LORD BROUGHT US OUT OF EGYPT WITH GREAT POWER.” EX. 13:16 TLB

The analogy is most evident: God has brought us out of our Egypt, or sin, with even a greater power — the death and resurrection of God’s own FIRST BORN! Therefore we too can bring our FIRST FRUITS to God in great thanksgiving for, as Paul puts it — “SO GREAT A SALVATION!”

So, what are my FIRST FRUITS to God? Well, first of all it is an offering, not our tithe. It could be your first pay check on that new job; it could be a portion of the sale of that house or piece of property; it could be a portion of that new paycheck most of us receive every week or two weeks. In Bible times it was the first lamb from each mother sheep — first cow, mule, etc. To me it is NEW MONEY or NEW GOODS of any kind that God supplies to us in many ways.

So, how much? Only God should reveal it to you. Ask Him — He will quicken an amount to you — He has to Jan and me many times!

So how do I know this special offering will be multiplied back to me as Jesus said — “IN GOOD MEASURE, PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER AND RUNNING OVER” (Luke 6:38)?

Here are two Scriptures, but there are many others:



There are now 46 great “angel” satellites carrying TBN’s signal to over 6,000 TV and cable affiliates — and to countless millions of home satellite receivers around the world!



Through the prayers and faithful support of our precious Partners, TBN is now covering roughly HALF of the great nation of India with the Gospel! Yes, “thank you for giving to the Lord”!

“HONOR THE LORD WITH THY SUBSTANCE, AND WITH THE FIRST FRUITS OF ALL THINE INCREASE: SO SHALL THY BARNES BE FILLED WITH PLENTY, AND THY PRESSES SHALL BURST OUT WITH NEW WINE”! Prov. 3:9, 10

The second proof is a story from the prophet Elisha who needed to feed 100 sons of the prophets —

“AND THERE CAME A MAN FROM BAALSHALISHA AND BROUGHT THE MAN OF GOD BREAD OF THE FIRST FRUITS, TWENTY LOAVES OF BARLEY...AND HE SAID, ‘GIVE UNTO THE PEOPLE THAT THEY MAY EAT.’” II Kings 4:42

Now here may be **YOUR KEY** to that need, that abundance, that more than enough, that you have been asking the Lord for — read on carefully!

“AND HIS SERVANT SAID, WHAT? SHOULD I SET THIS BEFORE AN HUNDRED MEN?”

The prophet Elisha says —

“HE SAID AGAIN, GIVE THE PEOPLE THAT THEY MAY EAT...” II Kings 4:43

And I love the way the Living Bible translates it:

“BUT ELISHA SAID, ‘GO AHEAD FOR THE LORD SAYS THERE WILL BE PLENTY FOR ALL, AND SOME WILL EVEN BE LEFT OVER! AND SURE ENOUGH, THERE WAS JUST AS THE LORD HAD SAID.’” II Kings 4:43, 44

Ah, dear Partners, God really wants to give you everything you need with “plenty left over;” but we have to do it HIS WAY! As I have said so often, He even wants to give you those “secret desires of your heart”! God Himself says to, “PROVE ME...SEE IF I WILL NOT OPEN THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN, AND POUR YOU OUT A BLESSING, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT HAVE ROOM ENOUGH TO RECEIVE IT! Mal. 3:10

And as we all bring our FIRST FRUITS and even other offerings we will move the very heart of God by sending this GOOD NEWS to the world via 6,000 plus TV stations, fed by 46 great angel satellites! Praise the Lord!

Jan and I will be agreeing with you that ALL YOUR NEEDS BE MET with plenty left over for you and yours to enjoy!

We love you — we need you — now more than ever, 31 years strong!



RENEW YOUR PLEDGE BY MAIL OR BY THE TBN WEB SITE — WWW.TBN.ORG



So here is another **KEY** for your spiritual key ring: **GIVE A GIFT THAT SCRIPTURE PROVES ALWAYS COMES BACK WITH INCREASE!**

God says that the “first born” and the “first fruits” belong to him (Ex. 13:1). But as we give, God gives us this promise:

“HONOR THE LORD BY GIVING HIM THE ‘FIRST PART’ [KJV SAYS FIRST FRUITS] OF ALL YOUR INCOME, AND HE WILL FILL YOUR BARN WITH WHEAT AND BARLEY AND OVERFLOW YOUR WINE VATS WITH THE FINEST WINES.” Prov. 3:9, 10

Actually, the “FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS” was gloriously fulfilled by Jesus when He rose from the dead. He became God’s first fruits offering to the world! So, did the Father’s FIRST FRUITS offering produce an increase?! WOW! Do you see it? I truly believe this is why FIRST FRUITS offerings all through the Bible promises — INCREASE — MORE THAN ENOUGH! Praise the Lord!

Take the enclosed pledge envelope and put God’s word to the test — as the prophet Malachi says, **“PROVE ME SAYS THE LORD”!** Watch God honor your faith by providing you with that pledge, and as Paul the apostle says: **“WITH PLENTY LEFT OVER TO GIVE JOYFULLY TO OTHERS” (II Cor. 9:8 TLB).** Yes, pledge the amount you would love to have and expect a miracle!

By pledging by mail or through TBN’s web site: www.tbn.org, you relieve the busy phone system for more salvation, healing and praise reports!

God bless you — Jan and I will join you by giving our best to keep this great Voice ON THE AIR! Yes, **HELLO WORLD** from all the great TBN family! 

P.S. JOIN US FOR REVIVAL PRAISE-A-THON NOVEMBER 1-5!

LOVE LETTERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

From the U.S.A.:

“I have been living my life up until now in sin without consideration of others...I am here to tell you today, that I am ready and I know with the help of TBN I have been saved and I am on the road to living a better life for Christ.” — R.M.

From Saudi Arabia:

“Praise the Lord for TBN. Your ministry has been a blessing for many of us here...many of us watch it regularly on TV. We have no churches so we get together privately in our own rooms. I have received much blessings financially, socio-economically, spiritually, in my health and family life, through the prayers your ministry has been doing for me.” — E.V.

From Fiji:

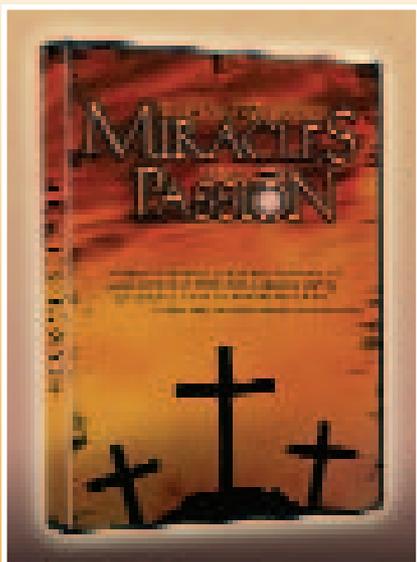
“As I [was] watching TBN at my home I was touched by the Lord Jesus Christ...I prayed a sinner’s prayer with you.” — J.K.

From Hong Kong (from an 8 year old child):

“We’re watching & we are blessed.” — R.J.

OCTOBER LOVE GIFT

“MIRACLES OF THE PASSION” – HOME DVD



Millions flocked to the theaters at home and abroad to see Mel Gibson’s “THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST”! How we rejoiced to see people of many different faiths come to know most dramatically the suffering and price paid by Jesus for our salvation! The lives changed and people brought to faith in Christ will only be fully known when we get to heaven! God bless dear Mel for his courage and determination in seeing this great film become a reality.

But now, WE KNOW some of the miraculous testimonies of the — **“MIRACLES OF THE PASSION.”**

An infant — drowned in the home bathtub — brought back to life as a desperate father held it up to God after seeing “THE PASSION”! Tearful parents and grandparents thanking Jesus the Healer for sparing this little life! A murderer who turned himself in to police after seeing this amazing film! Men who had vowed to kill each other changed! Wow!

Get this powerful home DVD and use it to change even more lives as we see the awesome results of “THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST”! TBN has worked with others to document several life changing stories of miracles — the result of this anointed film.

Your love gift for this **October** will bring it all to you with all our love!





PLEDGE TODAY FOR SOULS! Earlier this year Paul spoke to a crowd of over 1 MILLION at a Benny Hinn service in India! Yes, it's Harvest time—and YOUR TBN is using every means of communication available: TV stations, satellite, DBS, cable, radio, the internet, and movies to win the lost for Christ! **YOUR HELP IS VITAL** to this mission. **PLEASE PLEDGE TODAY FOR SOULS!**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR SATELLITE! FORTY-SIX mighty satellites now carry TBN's signal around the world! Letters and emails come to us daily from viewers in some of the "uttermost" parts of the earth—even in places where the preaching of the Gospel is forbidden! SOULS are being won for the KINGDOM! Be a missionary to the WORLD—and **PLEDGE FOR SATELLITE!**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR STATIONS IN THE U.S.A! With 420 TV stations and 6,757 cable affiliates, TBN reaches almost 96 MILLION U.S. households. YOUR PLEDGE to support TBN's stations in the U.S. will help keep these great lighthouses going—and expanding with new DIGITAL (DTV) stations coming on line! **PLEASE PLEDGE TODAY FOR STATIONS IN THE U.S.A!**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR THE PRAISE THE LORD PROGRAM! Have church every day with your TBN family on **Praise the Lord!** Featuring outstanding guests like **Pastor Jack Hayford**, the Praise the Lord program brings YOU the VERY BEST of today's Christian ministries! **PLEASE SUPPORT THIS POWERFUL MINISTRY AND SOUL WINNING TOOL—PLEDGE FOR THE PRAISE THE LORD PROGRAM!**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS! TBN brings you the Christian perspective on news, science, health and medicine with informative educational programs such as **International Intelligence Briefing** with **Hal Lindsey**. Stay "in the know" with these educational programs: **The Evidence, Reasons to Believe, Creation in the 21st Century, The Doctor and the Word, *Christian World News** (*TBN pays airtime only) and others! **PLEDGE TO SUPPORT TBN'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS!**

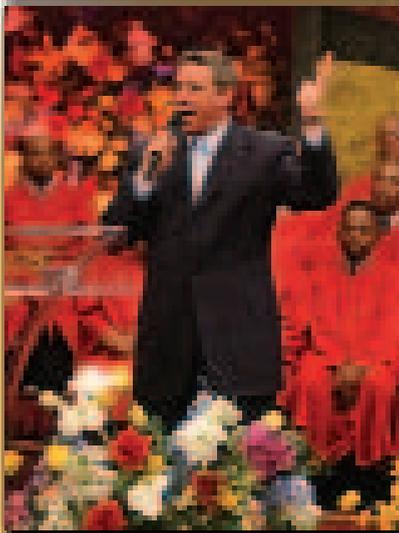


PLEDGE TODAY FOR SPECIALTY & VARIETY PROGRAMS! **Behind the Scenes** with **Paul Crouch**, fitness and health programs, marriage enrichment programs, prison ministry, Christian legal issues, insightful talk shows, Christian comedy, and so much more—you'll want to make TBN's specialty and variety programs a part of your day! **Please PLEDGE to keep these and other TBN specialty and variety programs on the air: The Way of the Master, TotaLee Fit, Swan's Place, classic Billy Graham crusades, and ACLJ This Week.**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR MUSIC & MINISTRY PROGRAMS!

You'll "enter into his courts with praise," when you worship along with TBN's Holy Spirit anointed music and ministry programs like **My Father's House** hosted by **Karen Wheaton!** Other great TBN music and ministry programs include: **Michael English, Carman, Candi Staton, Betty Jean Robinson, Walt Mills, Dino and more.** Let's keep these powerful programs ministering around the world. **PLEDGE TO SUPPORT TBN'S MUSIC & MINISTRY PROGRAMS!**



YOUR PLEDGE helps TBN GIVE! Your PLEDGE to TBN enables impacting programs like **Breakthrough** with **Rod Parsley** to reach the U.S. and the WORLD for what it would cost them to purchase airtime on just ONE major market secular station! TBN helps these and many other ministries go farther to reach SOULS: **Dr. Michael Youssef, Bishop Charles Blake, Joyce Meyer, Bishop T.D. Jakes, Joel Osteen, Creflo Dollar, Ken Copeland...and MORE!** **PLEDGE TODAY AND LET'S KEEP THESE DYNAMIC MINISTRIES REACHING MORE PEOPLE WITH THE GOSPEL!**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AND JC-TV! TBN's youth and children's programs, and JC-TV—the all youth network—are empowering the next generation to serve the Lord! Challenging programs like **Top 3** with **Brandon Crouch** address issues affecting Christian young people. Younger kids especially enjoy TBN's excellent Saturday morning children's cartoons and programs. Invest in the future—**PLEDGE TO SUPPORT TBN'S YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AND JC-TV!**



PLEDGE TODAY FOR BIBLE TEACHING PROGRAMS! What better way to study God's Word than with outstanding TBN Bible teachers such as **John Hagee!** These and many other fine Bible teaching programs are reaching souls worldwide: **Tommy Tenny, Juanita Bynum, Bishop Fulton Sheen, Ed Young, Jr., Larry Huch...and more!** **PLEASE PLEDGE TO SUPPORT TBN'S BIBLE TEACHING PROGRAMS!**



One of the ancient sites scouted for potential use in "Esther."

PLEDGE TODAY FOR MORE TBN FILMS! TBN's newest movie, **Esther: One Night with the King**, is currently in production. The film is scheduled to be released in theaters next year. TBN has licensed other excellent Christian movies to be aired on the network such as the popular "**Left Behind**" series and other great Bible epics. Please help support this powerful tool for the Gospel — **PLEDGE FOR MORE TBN FILMS!**

FOR ANY GIFT, ANY CALL "THE SHADOW OF THE APOCALYPSE: WHEN ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE!"

Are Bible prophecies true? Is the Antichrist among us now? Is the end of the world at hand?

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Wow! Pretty serious questions, but with the help of the Lord and two awesome writers, we have found some spiritual "atom bombs" in the Bible!

Most everyone has heard of the ELS — "EQUIDISTANT LETTER SEQUENCE" — phenomenon in the Holy Scriptures. Our "OMEGA CODE" movie helped make this more understandable to the layman. By skipping different intervals in the original Hebrew text of the Old Testament, we (and the computer) have found amazing, breathtaking, hidden or encoded messages! One researcher found a message that still gives us all GOOSE-BUMPS!

In Psalm 23 was uncovered a tight cluster of hidden codes — the phrase "World Trade Center" crossing the date: September 11, 2001! Just beside the date was found the word "President," and just adjacent to that is the name, "George Bush"! To add to the chilling impact of this find, guess what Scripture President Bush quoted in his speech from the Oval Office just hours after the disaster? You guessed it — Psalm 23:4, the very verse in which these words and phrases are encoded! "YEA THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL!"

This is only one of hundreds of examples which my good friend, Yacov Rambsel has helped us to uncover. Also Dr. Larry Mitcham, friend of Dr. Carl Baugh, has helped with this exciting project.

One more quick example: In Isaiah 53 we see a prophetic picture of a suffering Messiah. To our amazement we find encoded, "Yeshua is my name"! When the critics argued that "Yeshua" simply means "salvation" in Hebrew, we looked again and found the town "Nazareth" also encoded!

This book is spiritual dynamite — use it to convince our worst enemies that the Bible is truly the Word of God!

Your pledge, large or small, will bring **THE SHADOW OF THE APOCALYPSE** to you with a prayer that it will bring many souls to Christ!



FOR \$25 PER MONTH OR \$250 ONE TIME MCGEE & ME! — THE SERIES

Our kids will absolutely love this series of 12 great videos for home viewing. Every half hour program is entertaining, but also teaches a great moral lesson!

Episodes like, "THE BIG LIE," "DO THE BRIGHT THING," "BEAUTY IN THE LEAST," and "T'WAS THE FIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS," are just a few of the exciting titles of these wild adventures of "NICHOLAS," a normal eleven-year old, and "McGEE," his cartoon buddy!

Moms and dads, and all us grandparents—LISTEN UP! We who know and love the Lord are charged by God to instill in our children a moral foundation based on the Holy Bible! **McGee & Me** will help support this foundation in a most exciting and entertaining way. And these 12 episodes are on four virtually indestructible DVD videos, and are timeless, undated adventures that can bless even future generations!

Your pledge or love gift indicated above will bring **McGee & Me** to your precious children with all our love, as always.



To receive the Praise-A-Thon gifts, it is necessary to make a pledge by mail, telephone or via the Internet at www.tbn.org. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery of pledge gifts and love gifts.

SEND YOUR LOVE GIFT TODAY TO: TBN, P.O. BOX A, SANTA ANA, CA 92711 or call TBN'S Prayer and/or Pledge Line: 1-888-731-1000 (toll free in the U.S. and Canada)

For callers outside of the United States, please phone: +1-714-731-1000

TO MAKE OR RENEW YOUR PRAISE-A-THON PLEDGE,

OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TBN PLEASE GO TO: www.tbn.org

A limited quantity of love gifts is ordered each month. If we run out of the gift, a substitute will be sent in its place. The love gifts offered are not for sale. Please do not ask for more than one love gift. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery. NO PHONE ORDERS, PLEASE. Keep the lines open for Salvation, Prayer and Pledge Calls ONLY. God bless you!

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