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Messianic Perspectives

God has not forgotten the Jewish people, and neither have we.

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The Truth About Allah, the Quran, and Terrorism

By Dr. Gary Hedrick and Michael Hedrick

IT IS REMARKABLE that only one date in the history of the world is instantly recognizable by referring simply to the day and month. When we say “9/11,” everyone knows that we are talking about the horrific events of September 11, 2001: The day four commercial airliners were hijacked by Islamic terrorists and used as weapons of mass destruction to murder thousands of people—innocent civilians, men, women, and children—in New York City, Washington, DC, and a Pennsylvania field.

Was it merely a coincidence that all the 9/11 terrorists were Muslims? Does the Quran teach the use of violence to spread Islam? If Allah teaches forgiveness and mercy, why are jihadists so brutal and merciless? And how can I talk to Muslims about Yeshua?

It is equally remarkable that since the fateful day on 9/11, it has become politically correct to portray Islam as a religion of peace and tolerance. Muslim clerics and the sympathetic media mounted an effort at damage control in the weeks following 9/11 to convince the American public—and

the world—that the Quran does not advocate violence against non-Muslims.

They largely succeeded. Three Muslim *imams* (spiritual leaders) were even invited to participate in an ecumenical prayer service at Yankee Stadium on September 23, 2001, barely two weeks after the tragic 9/11 attacks. Immediately following the terror attacks, President Bush, in an address to a joint session of Congress and the American people, said:

Americans have many questions tonight. Americans are asking: Who attacked our country? The evidence we have gathered all points to a collection of loosely affiliated terrorist organizations known as al Qaeda. They are the same murderers indicted for bombing American embassies in Tanzania and Kenya, and responsible for bombing the USS Cole.

The terrorists practice a fringe form of Islamic extremism that has been rejected by Muslim scholars and the vast majority of Muslim clerics—a fringe movement that perverts the peaceful teachings of Islam. The terrorists’ directive commands them to kill Christians and Jews, to kill all Americans, and make no distinction among military and civilians, including women and children.

I also want to speak tonight directly to Muslims throughout the world. We respect your faith. It's practiced freely by millions more in countries that America counts as friends. Its teachings are good and peaceful, and those who commit evil in the name of Allah blaspheme the name of Allah. The terrorists are traitors to their own faith, trying, in effect, to hijack Islam itself.

The enemy of America is not our many Muslim friends; it is not our many Arab friends. Our enemy is a radical network of terrorists, and every government that supports them.¹

This information has left many people wondering if it was merely a coincidence that the 9/11 terrorists were all Muslims. After all, terrorism is not exclusive to Islam. There are terrorists around the world who claim to be Hindus (India), Catholics and Protestants (Northern Ireland), and even evangelical Christians (some white supremacist hate groups in the United States). So terrorism is not, strictly speaking, an Islamic phenomenon. Most major religious groups have a lunatic fringe consisting of people who twist and distort their teachings to promote their own (mostly political) agendas.

or Europeans revere NBA players or soccer players. These terrorists murder the elderly, the handicapped, and even defenseless babies, without even the slightest twinge of conscience.

Clearly, Islamic terrorism is unlike any other form of terrorism. It was once thought to be unique to the Middle East, but in recent years it has spread to Asia, Europe, and even North America. It has put the aviation industry worldwide on its ear as authorities scramble to find ways to protect passengers from terrorist threats. The worldwide economic impact of Islamic terrorism is impossible to calculate, but it's undoubtedly in the trillions of dollars annually. Yes, there have always been terrorists. It's a phenomenon as old as history itself. The US, in fact, was born as a result of the sacrifices of brave freedom fighters—American patriots—who were no doubt considered terrorists by the British.

More recently, Israeli freedom fighters were considered terrorists during the British Mandate in 1940s "Palestine." Menachem Begin, who later became Prime Minister of Israel, was on a British list of wanted terrorists during World War II because he led campaigns against

on their own? Was it derived from an edict issued by some deranged *Ayatollah*? Or does it find its basis in the Quran itself? This is the issue at hand.

It's Not Personal

Before we look into the Quran to see what it actually says, we want to make it clear that we are not suggesting that all Arabs—or even all Muslims—are violent people. We have conducted a tour ministry in the Middle East for many years and have dealt with Arab guides, bus drivers, merchants, restaurant owners, and others, some of whom are Muslim. One of our best charter airplane companies is an Egyptian company headquartered in Cairo. One of our most popular tour guides is a Jordanian man, a devout Muslim. Our people love the Arab drivers and guides, witness to them, and give them tracts and Bibles, all of which are graciously received.

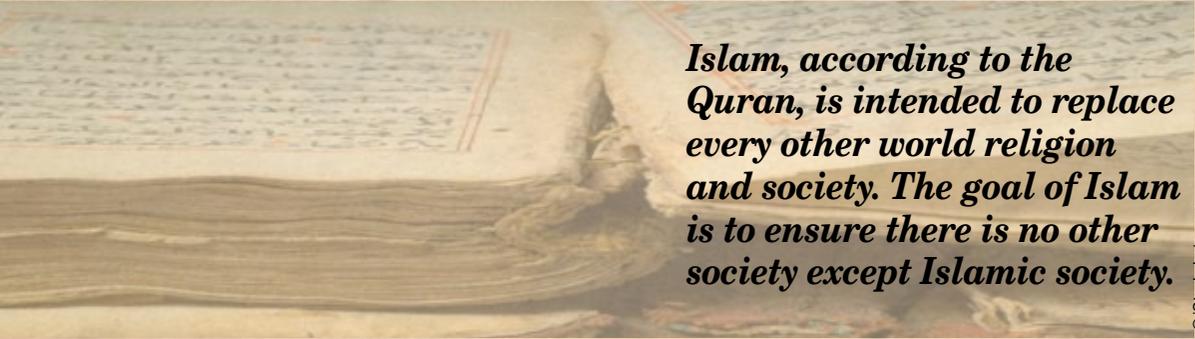
These Muslim friends understand that we witness to them because we love them, and we are concerned about them—so it is a good relationship. They would never knowingly hurt anyone. In fact, they are ashamed of the Islamic militants, and what they have done. They agree with us that the slaughter of innocent Israeli civilians is a cowardly and despicable act. But they have to keep a low profile.

What we are saying here, then, should not be interpreted as a personal attack on all Muslims. We must, however, deal with the facts, and we cannot allow emotions and friendships to impair our powers of discernment. The Quran, as the Muslims' ultimate authority on how to live, must be judged upon the basis of (1) its own statements and teachings, and (2) how it is interpreted and propounded by Islamic spiritual leaders. So now we return to the issues at hand: Does the Quran make statements that promote intolerance and violence, and if so, do these statements form the basis for Islamic terrorism worldwide?

Allah: Forgiving & Merciful?

Does the Quran describe Allah as "forgiving and merciful"? Yes, it does say this. The real question, however, is *to whom is Allah merciful and forgiving?*

The Quran answers this question for us. Let's take a look at one passage that describes Allah as "forgiving and merciful." Surah 9:27 declares:



Islam, according to the Quran, is intended to replace every other world religion and society. The goal of Islam is to ensure there is no other society except Islamic society.

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Terrorism on Steroids

Islamic terrorism, however, is unique in numerous ways. The *shaheed* (Arabic for "martyr") mind-set is ingrained into many Muslims from childhood. They are taught that it is a great honor to give one's life for *jihad* ("holy war") against "the infidels," meaning principally Christians and Jews, especially the US (the "Great Satan") and Israel (the "Little Satan"). Homicide bombers are cheered and applauded in Palestinian towns as heroes. Young Palestinians revere these killers in a similar way young Americans

occupation forces during the British Mandate. So there is sometimes a fine line between what defines someone as either a patriot or a terrorist.

Islamic terrorism, however, is terrorism on steroids. The last time the world faced anything like this was during the Muslim crusades, with the wholesale slaughter of "nonbelievers"—sometimes even entire towns or villages, including men, women, and children.

So one cannot help wondering where this philosophy of conquest comes from. Is it something the *imams* just dreamed up

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Then will Allah after this turn (mercifully) to whom He pleases, and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

This verse is innocuous enough—at least, on the surface. But when we examine the entire passage to determine its correct context, a different picture emerges. Here’s the passage from Surah 9 in the Quran:

9:27 Then will Allah after this turn (mercifully) to whom He pleases, and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

9:29 Fight those who do not believe in Allah, nor in the latter day, nor do they prohibit what Allah and His Apostle have prohibited, nor follow the religion of truth, out of those who have been given the Book, until they pay the tax in acknowledgment of superiority and they are in a state of subjection.

9:30 And the Jews say: Uzair is the son of Allah; and the Christians say: The Messiah is the son of Allah; these are the words of their mouths; they imitate the saying of those who disbelieved before; may Allah destroy them; how they are turned away!

9:31 They have taken their doctors of law and their monks for lords besides Allah, and (also) the Messiah son of Marium and they were enjoined that they should serve one God only, there is no god but He; far from His glory be what they set up (with Him).

9:32 They desire to put out the light of Allah with their mouths, and Allah will not consent save to perfect His light, though the unbelievers are averse.

9:33 He it is Who sent His Apostle with guidance and the religion of truth, that He might cause it to prevail over all

religions, though the polytheists may be averse.

9:34 O you who believe! most surely many of the doctors of law and the monks eat away the property of men falsely, and turn (them) from Allah’s way; and (as for) those who hoard up gold and silver and do not spend it in Allah’s way, announce to them a painful chastisement,

9:35 On the day when it shall be heated in the fire of hell, then their foreheads and their sides and their backs shall be branded with it; this is what you hoarded up for yourselves, therefore taste what you hoarded.

The passage in question makes it clear that there is little in the way of forgiveness or mercy for those who do not pay tribute and submit to Islamic rule. It says that Muslims should continue fighting until all non-Muslims are “in a state of subjection” and pay taxes to acknowledge the “superiority” of Islam.

Islam, according to the Quran, is intended to replace every other world religion and society. The goal of Islam is to ensure there is no other society except Islamic society. It is claimed by many that the goal of Islamic world domination is one of the primary motivations of “those Islamic fanatics,” such as Osama bin Laden. The truth is, the goal of Islamic world domination is not some fabricated teaching that these terrorists pulled out of thin air. It is actually in the Quran, as one of the basic commands of Islam. In Surah 8:39 and Surah 2:191, the Quran says:

8.39 And fight with them until there is no more persecution and religion should be only for Allah; but if they desist, then surely Allah sees what they do.

2.191 And kill them wherever you find them, and drive them out from whence they drove you out, and persecution is severer than slaughter, and do not fight with them at the Sacred Mosque until they fight with you in it, but if they do fight you, then slay them; such is the recompense of the unbelievers.

Many apologists of Islam try to explain *jihad* as a religious or ideological struggle, but here we can clearly see that killing, not ideological opposition, is prescribed. These are verses straight out of the Quran. For Muslims, this means that these verses are to be believed as Allah’s word revealed to Muhammad. Remember; in Islam, the Quran is the inerrant and infallible “Word of Allah.” There can be no picking and choosing. Anyone calling himself a Muslim must believe in these verses and follow their directives. He cannot attempt to explain them away as merely false teachings.

Peaceful Coexistence?

Have Jews, Muslims, and Christians coexisted “peacefully” in some lands for centuries? This is only partially true. They have coexisted, yes, but the arrangement has been peaceful only to the extent that non-Muslims have submitted to Muslim domination.

Historically, non-Muslims living in Muslim countries have been known as *dhimmi*, a term literally meaning “protected,” but denoting a de facto second-class citizen status. It’s a concept that came to prominence during the eighth century, when, through a treaty (*dhimma*), conquered non-Muslim populations became subjugated to Muslim rule. It’s interesting to

note that one of the requirements, dating back to the eighth century, is that Jews and Christians wear distinguishing badges, shoes, or clothing (most people think that this policy originated with the Nazis during World War II).

We are not suggesting that these restrictions have always been enforced in all Muslim countries, or that all non-Muslims in Muslim countries have to wear distinguishing badges today. This is not the case. We are merely pointing out that it is, at best, disingenuous to say that Jews and Christians have always lived “peacefully” in Muslim countries. In reality they have lived, and continue to live, as second-class citizens in many Muslim countries.

The Quran issues numerous directives governing the ways in which Muslims should treat non-Muslims:

Muslims should segregate themselves from non-Muslims.

3.28 Let not the believers take the unbelievers for friends rather than believers; and whoever does this, he shall have nothing of (the guardianship of) Allah, but you should guard yourselves against them, guarding carefully; and Allah makes you cautious of (retribution from) Himself; and to Allah is the eventual coming.

4.144 O you who believe! do not take the unbelievers for friends rather than the believers; do you desire that you should give to Allah a manifest proof against yourselves?

Muslims should not show compassion to unbelievers.

9.123 O you who believe! fight those of the unbelievers who are near to you and let them find in you hardness; and know that Allah is with those who guard (against evil).

Muslims should persecute non-Muslims and view them as enemies.

9.73 O Prophet! strive hard against the unbelievers and the hypocrites and be unyielding to them; and their abode is hell, and evil is the destination.

4.101 And when you journey in the earth, there is no blame on you if you shorten the prayer, if you fear that those who disbelieve will cause you distress; surely the unbelievers are your open enemy.

Clearly, according to the Quran, Allah has made the choice between Islam and other religions clear; and a Muslim cannot further try to coerce or force a non-Muslim to believe in Islam. In addition,

the claim made by many Muslims that the command to “strive hard against the unbelievers” merely means to “try aggressively to convert unbelievers to Islam” falls apart when compared with the Quran’s actual text.

2.256 There is no compulsion in religion; truly the right way has become clearly distinct from error; therefore,

followed scrupulously to the letter. Islamic websites offer a wealth of information on the Quran’s teachings about *jihad*. These Islamic sources are particularly helpful because they are objective (that is, not tainted with anti-Islam bias) and help us understand what Muslim people are actually being taught by their spiritual leaders about fighting and dying in *jihad* against the “infidels” (i.e., principally Christians and Jews).

The Islam World website, for instance, has an informative document entitled “Jihad in the Quran and Sunnah” (www.islamworld.net/jihad.html) by Sheikh Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Humaid (Maktaba Dar-us-Salam Publishers and Distributors, P.O. Box 21441, Riyadh 11475, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). Here is how he summarizes the rewards that will be heaped upon Muslims who die while fighting against non-Muslims:

- The souls of the martyrs are in the green birds dwelling in Paradise wherever they like.
- That all their sins and faults are forgiven.
- That he [the martyr] can intercede with Allah (swt)² for seventy (70) of his family members.
- That he will come secure on the Day of Resurrection from the great terror.
- That he will not feel the agonies and distress of death.
- That he will not be horrified by the (great) Gathering (on the Day of Resurrection).
- That he does not feel the pain of “the killing” [i.e., when he dies as a martyr] except like that of a pinch.

Then the Sheikh goes on to warn about dire consequences if Muslims do not carry out *jihad* against “disbelievers.” He writes,

“If you march not forth, He will punish you with a painful torment and will replace you by another people and you cannot harm Him at all, and Allah is Able to do all things (v. 9:39). And there are many verses of the Quran after this verse (that threaten the Muslim nation if they give up *jihad*).”

It is clearly not true, as some defenders of the Quran claim, that the concept of *jihad* is spiritual rather than physical. These claims (i.e., that *jihad* is an inner, spiritual struggle rather than an outward, physical warfare) fly in the face of what we read in the Islamic sources themselves.

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whoever disbelieves in the Shaitan and believes in Allah, he indeed has laid hold on the firmest handle, which shall not break off, and Allah is Hearing, Knowing.

Going Right to the Source

Muslims believe that Allah gave the Quran to Muhammad through multiple revelations, brought to him by angels. To Muslims, the Quran is the inerrant “Word of Allah,” and everything it says is true and must be believed, all of its commands

Islamic fundamentalists know very well that Muhammad was a warrior who slaughtered multitudes of non-Muslims in his crusades and conquests.

To them, *jihad* is not merely an inner struggle with spiritual forces, but rather a mandate to spread Islam through force and conquest. The Quran supports this viewpoint when it says that (1) Muslims will suffer dire consequences if they do not carry out *jihad*, and (2) *jihad* does not end until all non-Muslims are brought into subjection.

Today, Islam has more than 1.6 billion followers around the world, and is increasing at a rate of 2 percent a year. Islam today represents a huge segment of the world's population that needs to hear the Gospel of Jesus the Messiah. Effectively sharing one's faith with a Muslim, however, requires a basic understanding and knowledge of Muslim beliefs, traditions, and customs.

It isn't wrong for believers in Messiah Jesus to become familiar with other religions and their teachings. In Acts, Chapter 17, we see that Paul was able to share the Gospel successfully with the men of Athens because of his familiarity with their religious beliefs and their concept of "the unknown god." Likewise, if we as believers in Messiah Jesus put forth the time and effort to acquaint ourselves with the basic beliefs of other people, we equip ourselves with the tools needed to present the Good News of Yeshua more effectively with them.

¹ www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/09/20010920-8.html

² The abbreviation "swt" stands for "subhana wa tala," Arabic words that mean "the sacred and the mighty."

Surah translations from The Holy Quran, translated by M.H. Shakir, published by Tahrike Tarsile Qur'an, Inc., 1983

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Allah's Quran VS. God's Bible

By Michael Hedrick

Muslims believe that Allah sent forth his word previously to both the Jews and the Christians, in the form of the Old and New Testaments—but that in both instances his word was corrupted. As such, Allah sent his word one last time in the form of the Quran, through the final prophet, Muhammad. In this way, the Quran is intended to correct the “mistakes” in both the Old and New Testaments.

This belief is a convenient way to dismiss biblical doctrine, almost all of which clearly contradicts the Quran. If the Bible was seen as the true Word of God in Islam, it would disprove the Quran. Unfortunately for Muslim apologists, this concept of corruption of the Bible—when examined closely—doesn't hold water.

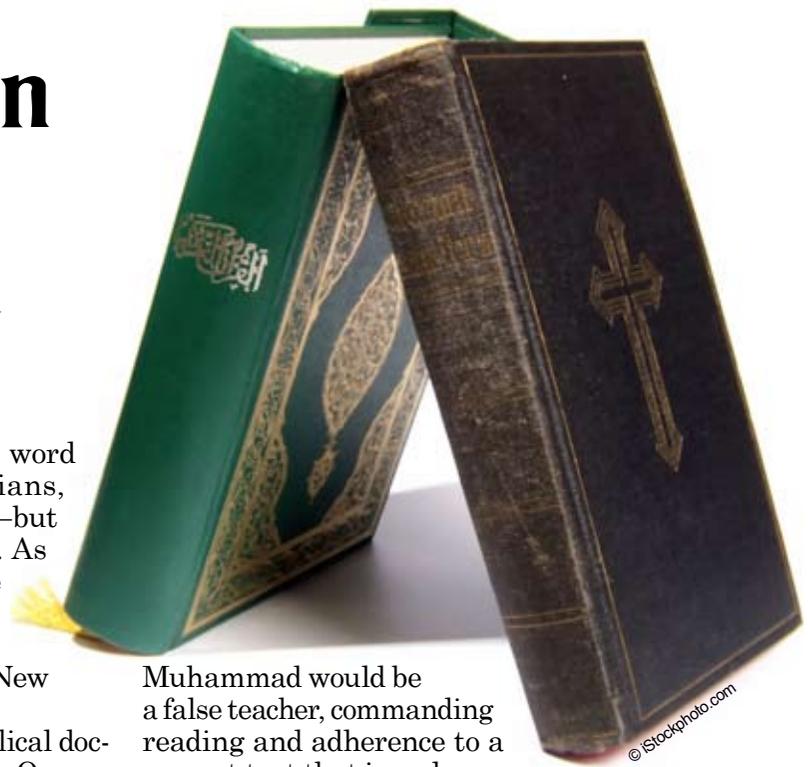
In Surah 10:94, Muhammad places the authenticity of his word on the same level as the Bible.

But if you are in doubt as to what We have revealed to you, ask those who read the Book before you; certainly the truth has come to you from the Lord, therefore you should not be of the disputers.

Additionally, in Surah 5:68, Muhammad confirms the veracity of the *Taurat* and *Injeel* (Torah and Gospel, respectively), as they existed during his lifetime (in the seventh century), by commanding the Jews and Christians to follow what they teach:

Say: O followers of the Book! you follow no good till you keep up the *Taurat* and the *Injeel* and that which is revealed to you from your Lord; and surely that which has been revealed to you from your Lord shall make many of them increase in inordinacy and unbelief; grieve not therefore for the unbelieving people.

If Muhammad had considered the Bible to be corrupted at that time, he would not have commanded that it be followed. According to Islam, then, the Bible has to have been corrupted after Muhammad's lifetime. Otherwise,



Muhammad would be a false teacher, commanding reading and adherence to a corrupt text that is no longer the “Word of Allah”! Comparisons between the Bible as it exists today and manuscripts from before Muhammad's lifetime, however, confirm that the Bible of today is the same as it existed in Muhammad's time.

Take a look at three stark contrasts between the Quran and the Bible:

1. *Allah's prescriptions for Muslim treatment of non-Muslims directly opposes Yeshua's conduct toward non-believers in the New Testament.* Rather than segregating ourselves from unbelievers and sinners, Jesus says, we should spend time with them because they need our help and witness.

“Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, ‘Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?’”

“When Jesus heard that, He said to them, Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance” (Matt. 9:10-13).

2. *Many verses of the Quran state that Allah loves only Muslims, not non-Muslims.* An individual must convert to Islam before Allah can love him or care about him.



Here are two of many examples from the Quran that support this tenet:

30.45 That He may reward those who believe and do good out of His grace; surely He does not love the unbelievers.

3.31-32 Say: If you love Allah, then follow me, Allah will love you and forgive you your faults, and Allah is Forgiving and Merciful. Say: Obey Allah and the Apostle; but if they turn back, then surely Allah does not love the unbelievers.

This concept is the exact opposite of God's love, according to the Bible. As believers, we know that God loves all of us in spite of our sin and carnal nature.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17).

Additionally, Paul writes in Romans, Chapter 5:

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, [Messiah] died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life" (vv. 8-10).

In contrast to the Quran, which tells us that a person must first love Allah and obey him for Allah to show mercy, the Bible tells us that God loved us sinners first (see Romans 5:8). Jesus specifically tells us in John 3:16 that God the Father sent His Son into this world to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins so that we could be reconciled to God. This concept of God loving all people in spite of their sins and desiring to enter into a personal, intimate relationship with them is irreconcilable with the remote, impersonal Allah of the Quran.

3. The Quran clearly teaches that salvation is based on good works. Surah 23.101-103 states:

So when the trumpet is blown, there shall be no ties of relationship between them on that day, nor shall they ask of each other.

Then as for him whose good deeds are preponderant, these are the successful.

And as for him whose good deeds are light, these are they who shall have lost their souls, abiding in hell.

For the Muslim, amassing more good deeds than bad is the means for salvation. What an impossible burden this is! When sharing the Gospel with a Muslim friend, explain that, as inheritors of Adam's sinful nature, we sin every day. Ask the Muslim to imagine all the sins, from tiny to big, that an individual commits over the course of a lifetime. Then ask him to quantify all the good works that must be necessary to outweigh those sins! There simply isn't enough time in our lives to perform the impossible number of good deeds that we would need to perform to counteract all the sins we commit.

Romans 3:23 tells us, *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* Additionally, good works do nothing to cancel out this state of sin. In Ephesians 2:8-9, Paul states: *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."*

Because our works cannot save us, God provided His Son, Yeshua, as an atonement, a perfect sacrifice, for our sins (see John 3:16). As believers in Yeshua, we can be totally assured of our salvation (see 1 John 5:11-13).

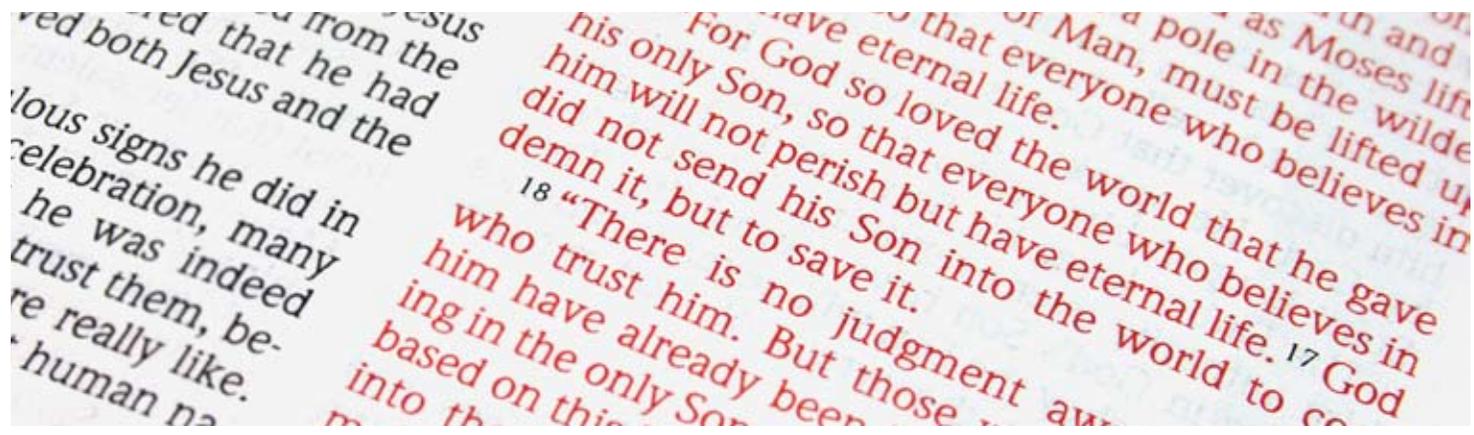
Finally, regardless of manuscripts, translations, or versions, there is one clear point that needs to be made. In Surah 2.75, the Bible is called the "Word of Allah." Then in Surah 6.115, the Quran states:

And the word of your Lord has been accomplished truly and justly; there is none who can change His words, and He is the Hearing, the Knowing.

So, if the Bible is the "Word of Allah" (according to Surah 2.75), and the "Word of Allah" cannot be changed, then there is no way that the Bible could have been corrupted.

The Quran, as the core of the beliefs and teachings of Islam, holds the key to sharing the Gospel with Muslims. The process of witnessing to Muslims—approaching them with an attitude of love and sincerity, developing a relationship, and gaining trust to share the Gospel of Yeshua—is strengthened enormously by having a basic knowledge of the Quran and its contradictions with the Bible, which the Quran also claims is the Word of God.

There is one clear point that needs to be made. In (the Quran) Surah 2.75, the Bible is called the "Word of Allah." . . . So, if the Bible is the "Word of Allah" (according to Surah 2.75), and the "Word of Allah" cannot be changed, then there is no way that the Bible could have been corrupted.





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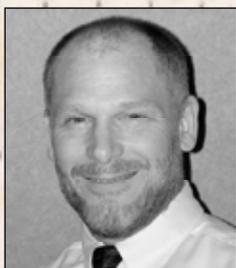
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Honesdale, PA
March 20
(570) 253-5451



Rob Styler

Passover Seder
First Baptist Church
Fountain Hills, AZ
April 24
(480) 837-3374

Rob will present his drama
Passover Perfect at:

Baybrook Baptist Church
Friendswood, TX
March 9
(281) 996-1316

Parkway Fellowship Church
Houston, TX
March 9
(281) 870-9950

Cornerstone Baptist Church
Mesquite, TX
March 16
(972) 222-9090

First Baptist Church
Ferris, TX
March 16
(972) 842-3374

Baruch HaShem Messianic Congregation
Phoenix, AZ
March 29
(623) 521-3845

Oak Lawn Bible Church
Oak Lawn, IL
April 6
(708) 857-9800

Village Baptist Church
Aurora, IL
April 6
(630) 851-4120

Crossroads Community Church
San Antonio, TX
April 13
(210) 623-4500

Communion Chapel
San Antonio, TX
April 13
(210) 523-5800

Arizona Community Church
"In Joy Seniors"
Tempe, AZ
April 15
(480) 491-2210



Richard Toviah

Faith for Life Church
Ehrenberg, AZ
February 17
(928) 923-7729

Desert Grace Community Church of the Nazarene
Yuma, AZ
February 17
(928) 305-1132

Beaver Creek Baptist Church
Rimrock, AZ
February 24
(928) 567-4557

Arizona Hills Community Church
Anthem, AZ
March 2
(623) 465-0202

First Baptist Church
Apache Junction, AZ
March 2
(480) 982-2155

Kingman Christian Church
Kingman, AZ
March 8
(928) 757-8783

Kingman First Assembly of God
Kingman, AZ
March 9
(928) 753-3529

Tucson Mountain Baptist Church
Tucson, AZ
March 12
(520) 883-1234

Mountain Vista Bible Church
Mesa, AZ
March 14
(480) 358-9851

First Baptist Church
Ogallala, NE
March 15
(308) 284-4441

Pleasant Point Community Church
Ellsworth, NE
March 16
(308) 282-1748

Christ Community Church
Crawford, NE
March 16
(308) 665-1232

Evangelical Free Church
Gothenburg, NE
March 19
(308) 537-2261

Callaway Community Church
Callaway, NE
March 20
(308) 836-2795

Berean Bible Church
Lexington, NE
March 21
(308) 324-3095

First Christian Church
Alliance, NE
March 22
(308) 762-3423

The Church of the Sandhills
Hyannis, NE
March 23
(308) 458-2708

White Mountain Church
Show Low, AZ
March 30
(928) 537-7926

Central Heights Church
Globe, AZ
March 30
(928) 425-5303

HeavenGate Praise Fellowship
Phoenix, AZ
April 13
(623) 374-9038

Estrella Mountain Church
Goodyear, AZ
April 18
(623) 386-0300

Spirit Life Foursquare Church
Bullhead City, AZ
April 19
(928) 763-5505

First Southern Church
Thatcher, AZ
April 27
(928) 428-3671



Brian Zuckerman

New Hope Church
Lomita, CA
February 24
(310) 325-0253

First Baptist Church
Needles, CA
March 2
(760) 326-2941

Kings Way Church
Lomita, CA
March 9
(310) 325-4074

First Assembly of God
San Bernardino, CA
March 16
(909) 829-1911

Church of All Nations
San Bernardino, CA
March 19
(909) 887-9616

Upland Christian Church
Upland, CA
March 20
(909) 982-7765

Yermo Bible Church
Yermo, CA
March 30
(760) 254-2716

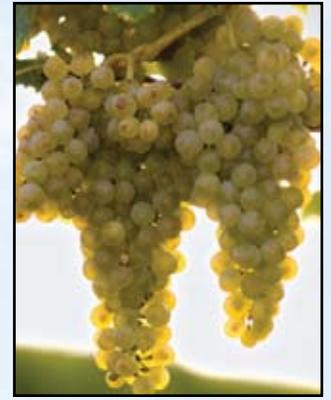
Calvary Baptist Church
Elko, NV
April 6
(775) 738-6840

Crenshaw Baptist Church
Torrance, CA
April 13
(310) 323-2115



By Violette Berger

Fruit from the Harvest



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Thank you to all of our CJFM supporters who, with your prayers and finances, make witnessing opportunities possible for our missionaries. You have helped to keep them in the fields that are “already white for harvest.” We thank God for “. . . the fruit that abounds to your account” (Phil. 4:17) in the year 2007 and look forward, with anticipation, for His continued blessings in 2008.

US Missionary Efforts in 2007

WITNESSING (meaningful conversations)

Unsaved Jewish Persons	566
Unsaved Gentile Persons	1,622
Total Witnessed to.....	2,188

OUTREACHES

Door-to-Door Visits.....	6
Campus Visits.....	160
Tracts Distributed.....	143
Literature Distributed	35,063
Prison Visits	61
Shut-in, Homeless Shelter, and Hospital Visits	111
Phone/Letter/Email Contacts	478

DISCIPLESHIP

Sessions.....	276
Persons.....	113

MEETINGS

Churches	364
Bible Studies.....	180
Congregational	107

DECISIONS

Jewish Persons	25
Gentile Persons.....	288

TOTAL DECISIONS.....	313
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Open Hearts

CJFM Missionary Richard Toviaah (Phoenix) praises God for open hearts. Being a Jewish believer, it especially excites him to teach how each of the seven feasts of Israel point to Yeshua HaMashiach, Jesus the Messiah. Looking back to an outdoor

Feast of Tabernacles service this past fall, he recalls how blessed he was by the pastor’s enthusiastic love for the Jewish people. Richard says that he was blessed again when, at the end of the teaching, a teenage boy and girl took that step of faith to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Ministry in the Mall

Richard Hill, CJFM missionary and pastor of Beth Yeshua Messianic Congregation (Las Vegas), frequently leads his trained volunteers on evangelistic sorties in shopping malls. While stopping at a mall kiosk recently, they had the privilege of sharing the Good News with a young saleswoman. Upon hearing the Gospel message and an explanation of God’s grace for the first time, she prayed to receive Jesus right there in the middle of the mall.

A Messianic Jewish Perspective

CJFM Missionary Michelle Beadle (New Orleans) reports why it is important “to provide Jewish people exposure to the Scriptures from a Messianic Jewish perspective.”

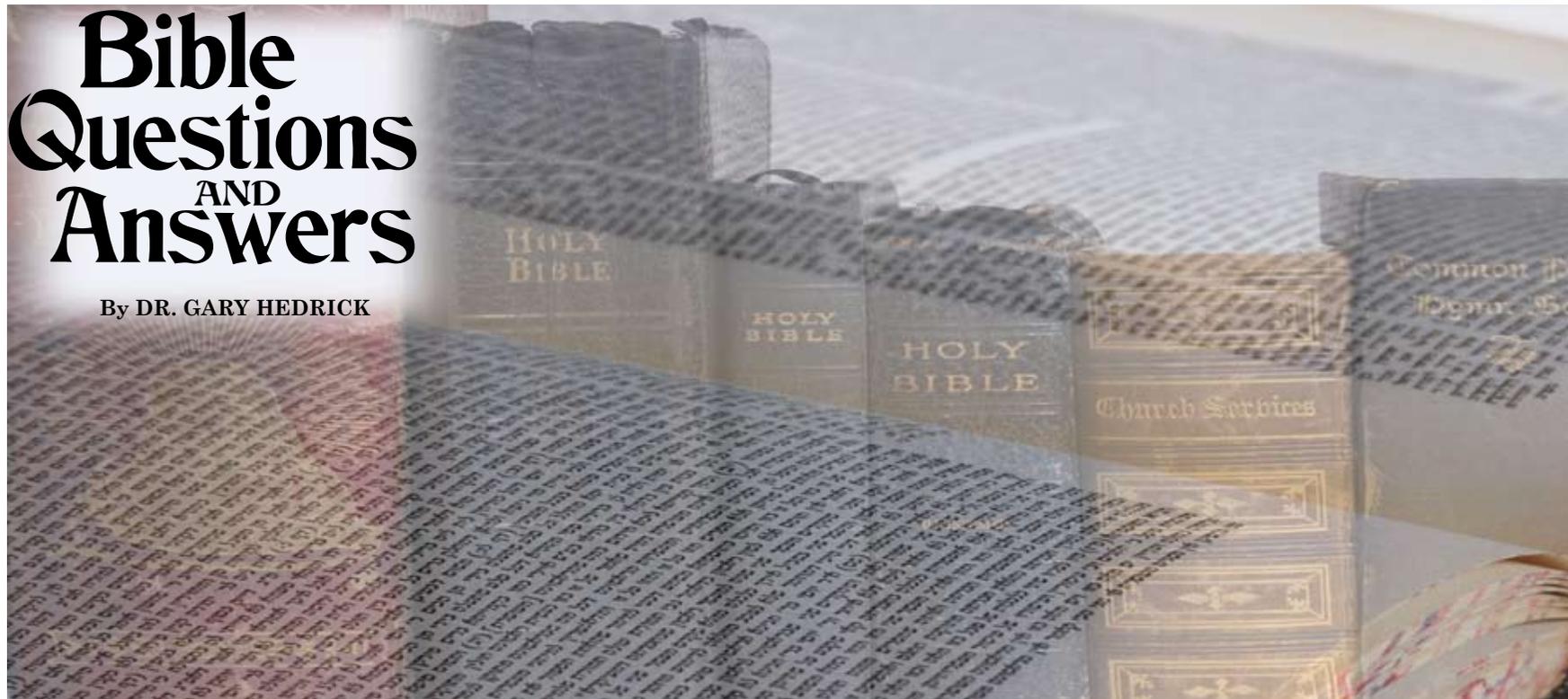
Michelle first met “Rebecca” when she attended their local Messianic Jewish Fellowship through the invitation of a long-lost childhood friend, who had since become a Jewish believer. Michelle writes, “Eventually, Rebecca felt comfortable enough to begin a one-on-one Scripture study with me.” Michelle had developed a 10-week Bible study series on messianic prophecy, which she shared with Rebecca.

“Before we concluded the series, Rebecca gave her heart to our Messiah. Once Rebecca heard the truth, she said what so many Jewish people in her situation say: ‘Why didn’t I hear about these things before now? Why don’t the rabbis tell us these things?’ Her comments also speak to how vitally important it is to send out ones commissioned to share the Good News with others,” Michelle wrote.

“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!’” (Rom. 10:14-15).

Bible Questions AND Answers

By DR. GARY HEDRICK



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QUESTION: *I have your Messianic Jewish Home Calendar (it's beautiful, by the way!) and noticed that we are currently in the year 5768—according to the rabbis' reckoning. Does that mean we are still 232 years away from the messianic age, which is supposed to begin in the 6,000th year of world history? That would mean the Rapture will occur in approximately 225 years, or would it not?*

ANSWER: It's true that the Talmud says the world will last, in its current form, for 6,000 years (Sanhedrin 97a); however, it also says the last 2,000 years of that 6,000-year period would be the Days of the Messiah. So the messianic time frame actually began 2,000 years ago (according to the Talmud). Therefore, it coincides better with the Messiah's first coming than it does with His second coming. The Lord Jesus began His ministry in the 15th year of the reign of Tiberias Caesar (see Luke 3:1). Historians generally agree that Tiberias became Emperor of Rome on August 19 of AD 14; therefore, his 15th year would have begun in August of AD 28 (because the first year of his reign ended in AD 15) and extended until the following August (AD 29). AD 29 was the year 3789 on the Jewish calendar.

According to Jewish tradition, Adam and Eve were created in the Garden

... when approaching questions like this, it's always best to rely on God's Word rather than religious calendars, speculation, or human traditions.

of Eden on the first day of Tishri (the month that marks the beginning of the Jewish festival of *Rosh HaShanah*) in 3761 BCE (or Year 1 on the Jewish calendar). However, it's highly improbable that this date is even remotely accurate. Adjustments have been made to the Jewish calendar over many centuries, so no one knows for sure what it originally looked like. That's why, when approaching questions like this, it's always best to rely on God's Word rather than on religious calendars, speculation, or human traditions. And the simple fact is that the Bible doesn't tell us precisely when Adam and Eve were created.

The uncertainty surrounding the accuracy of our current calendars—both Jewish and non-Jewish—is just one more reason why it's unwise to engage in date setting of any sort. We all know about the many dates that have been suggested by well-meaning Christians over the years. One of the most recent, and famous, predictions was that 1988 would be the year of the Rapture. As that date approached, some people actu-

ally quit their jobs, sold their homes, and literally headed for the hills.

But Christians aren't the only ones who have been guilty of misguided date setting. Jewish history also demonstrates the inadvisability of setting dates for the Messiah's coming. In his book *The Messiah Texts* (Chapter 6, "Counting the Days"; Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1979), Raphael Patai documents many predictions among the rabbis that the Messiah would come at various times during the past 2,000 years. The venerated Rashi, for instance, said that the Messiah would come in 1352 or 1478. Maimonides predicted that He would arrive in 1210. These gentlemen were not crackpots. They were great and widely respected Jewish scholars. But they were wrong about (1) Who the Messiah was, and (2) When He would come.

So it's always best to leave the timing of prophetic events in the Father's hands (see Acts 1:7). Besides, why do we need to know precisely when the Lord is coming back? He might come today, tomorrow, or 200 years from now. The Bible says we are supposed to live expectantly, productively, victoriously, and obediently—irrespective of the date of His return. If we could somehow know that the Lord will return at noon tomorrow, and we would live any differently than we are now, then our priorities are out of order!

MESSIANIC PERSPECTIVES RADIO SCHEDULE

SATELLITE RADIO (EASTERN)

CSN 4:30 p.m. Sunday
Visit www.csnradio.com/stations.php for your local CSN station.

Radio Broadcasts heard Monday—Friday

ARIZONA

Apache Junction	KXEG	1280	10:15 a.m.
Buckeye	KXEG	1280	10:15 a.m.
Bullhead City	KKVV	1060	10:00 a.m.
Goodyear	KXEG	1280	10:15 a.m.
Phoenix	KXEG	1280	10:15 a.m.
Scottsdale	KXEG	1280	10:15 a.m.
Sun City West	KXEG	1280	10:15 a.m.

ARKANSAS

Bella Vista	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Bentonville	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Forrest City	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.
Helena	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.
Marianna	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.
West Memphis	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.

CALIFORNIA

Bakersfield	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Bakersfield	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Chico	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
Delano	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Fresno	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Fresno	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Hanford	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Los Angeles	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Madera	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Merced	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
Merced	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Paso Robles	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Porterville	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.
Sacramento	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
Salinas	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
San Francisco	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
San Jose	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
Santa Ana	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Santa Barbara	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Santa Clarita	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Santa Maria	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Santa Rosa	KCBC	770	8:00 p.m.
Thousand Oaks	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Visalia	KERI	1180	8:00 p.m.
Visalia	KRDU	1130	11:00 a.m.

COLORADO

Boulder	KRKS	990	10:30 a.m.
Colorado Springs	KRKS	990	10:30 a.m.
Denver	KRKS	990	10:30 a.m.
Ft. Collins	KRKS	990	10:30 a.m.

DELAWARE

Middletown	WVCH	740	10:45 a.m.
Wilmington	WVCH	740	10:45 a.m.

FLORIDA

St. Petersburg	WTIS	1110	1:00 p.m.
Sarasota	WTIS	1110	1:00 p.m.
Tampa	WTIS	1110	1:00 p.m.
Winter Haven	WTIS	1110	1:00 p.m.

GEORGIA

Atlanta	WGUN	1010	8:45 a.m.
Cordele	WBML	900	3:00 p.m.
Griffin	WBML	900	3:00 p.m.
Griffin	WGUN	1010	8:45 a.m.
Macon	WBML	900	3:00 p.m.
Monroe	WGUN	1010	8:45 a.m.
Sandersville	WBML	900	3:00 p.m.

INDIANA

Madison	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.
Oldenburg	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.
Versailles	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.

IOWA

Cedar Rapids	KPSZ	940	5:45 a.m.
Des Moines	KPSZ	940	5:45 a.m.
Sioux City	KPSZ	940	5:45 a.m.
Waterloo	KPSZ	940	5:45 a.m.

KANSAS

Baxter Springs	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Columbus	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Parsons	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Pittsburg	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Oswego	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.

KENTUCKY

Falmouth	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.
Frankfort	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.
Petersburg	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge	WVOG	600	8:30 a.m.
Lafayette	WVOG	600	8:30 a.m.
New Orleans	WVOG	600	8:30 a.m.

MISSISSIPPI

Batesville	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.	
Biloxi	WVOG	600	8:30 a.m.
Clarksdale	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.	
Holly Springs	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.	
Jackson	WVOG	600	8:30 a.m.

MISSOURI

Carthage	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Cassville	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Joplin	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Lamar	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Monett	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.

Mount Vernon	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Neosho	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
St. Joseph	KPSZ 940	5:45 a.m.
Seneca	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.

NEBRASKA

Lincoln	KPSZ 940	5:45 a.m.
Omaha	KPSZ 940	5:45 a.m.

NEVADA

Boulder City	KKVV 1060	10:00 a.m.
Henderson	KKVV 1060	10:00 a.m.
Las Vegas	KKVV 1060	10:00 a.m.
Pahrump	KKVV 1060	10:00 a.m.

NEW JERSEY

Browns Mills	WCHR 920	6:30 a.m.
		12:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.
Cherry Hill	WCHR 920	6:30 a.m.
		12:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.
Princeton	WCHR 920	6:30 a.m.
		12:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.
Trenton	WCHR 920	6:30 a.m.
		12:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.
Trenton	WVCH 740	10:45 a.m.
Vineland	WVCH 740	10:45 a.m.

NEW YORK

Albany	WHAZ 1330	6:15 a.m.
Buffalo	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Dansville	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Glens Falls	WBAR-FM 94.7	6:15 a.m.
Jamestown	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Niagara Falls	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Rochester	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Schenectady	WMYY-FM 97.3	6:15 a.m.
Troy	WHAZ 1330	6:15 a.m.

NORTH CAROLINA

Charlotte	WHVN 1240	9:30 a.m.
Charlotte	WCGC 1270	9:30 a.m.
Chester	WAVO 1150	9:30 a.m.
Gastonia	WCGC 1270	9:30 a.m.
Hickory	WCGC 1270	9:30 a.m.
Kannapolis	WHVN 1240	9:30 a.m.
Lancaster	WAVO 1150	9:30 a.m.
Monroe	WHVN 1240	9:30 a.m.
Rock Hill	WAVO 1150	9:30 a.m.
Rock Hill	WHVN 1240	9:30 a.m.
Shelby	WCGC 1270	9:30 a.m.
Winnsboro	WAVO 1150	9:30 a.m.

OHIO

Cincinnati	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.
Hamilton	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.
Middletown	WIOK-FM107.5	11:15 a.m.

OKLAHOMA

Grove	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Miami	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.
Vinita	KNEO-FM 91.7	10:30 a.m.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia	WCHR 920	6:30 a.m.
		12:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.
Philadelphia	WVCH 740	10:45 a.m.

Pottstown	WVCH 740	10:45 a.m.
Warminster	WCHR 920	6:30 a.m.
		12:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.

TENNESSEE

Clinton	WITA 1490	10:45 a.m.
Jefferson City	WITA 1490	10:45 a.m.
Knoxville	WITA 1490	10:45 a.m.
Maryville	WITA 1490	10:45 a.m.
Maynardville	WITA 1490	10:45 a.m.
Memphis	KJIW-FM 94.5	6:00 p.m.
Oak Ridge	WITA 1490	10:45 a.m.

TEXAS

Austin	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.
Bay City	KCTA 1030	10:30 a.m.
Beeville	KCTA 1030	10:30 a.m.
Brownsville	KCTA 1030	10:30 a.m.
Corpus Christi	KCTA 1030	10:30 a.m.
Corsicana	KKGM 1630	9:45 a.m.
Dallas	KKGM 1630	9:45 a.m.
Denton	KKGM 1630	9:45 a.m.
Fort Worth	KKGM 1630	9:45 a.m.
Gonzales	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.
Harlingen	KCTA 1030	10:30 a.m.
Kerrville	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.
Killeen	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.
Mineral Wells	KKGM 1630	9:45 a.m.
Pearsall	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.
San Antonio	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.
Sherman	KKGM 1630	9:45 a.m.
Victoria	KCTA 1030	10:30 a.m.
Victoria	KSLR 630	1:00 p.m.

VERMONT

Bennington	WMNV-FM104.1	6:15 a.m.
Manchester	WMNV-FM104.1	6:15 a.m.

WASHINGTON

Bellingham	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.
Blaine	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.
Everett	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.
Mt. Vernon	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.

CANADA

British Columbia

Kamloops	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.
Vancouver	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.
Victoria	KARI 550	9:15 a.m.

Ontario

Ancaster	CFWC-FM 93.9	10:30 a.m.
Brantford	CFWC-FM 93.9	10:30 a.m.
Cambridge	CFWC-FM 93.9	10:30 a.m.
Hamilton	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Niagara Falls	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.
Toronto	WDCX-FM 99.5	8:00 p.m.

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