

Praise the Lord SPECIAL MOMENTS

David Barton, host of the American Heritage series aired on TBN, showed Matt and Laurie one of the earliest copies of the Bible for the blind—an 1846 edition of the King James Bible published by the American Bible Society.



For 50 years evangelist and author Nicky Cruz has reached millions worldwide with his testimony as told in the book and the movie, "The Cross and the Switchblade."



Carman was host to Emmy nominated actress, author, speaker, and singer/songwriter Janine Turner. Janine shared her testimony of being delivered from alcoholism through the power of God.



Marriage was the theme of a special *Praise* program hosted by Matt and Laurie with their guests (left to right): authors and ministers Tracey and Darryl Strawberry; author of the "God Winks" book series, Squire Rushnell and his wife, comedienne Louise DuArt Rushnell; CBS and Showtime NFL host James "J.B." Brown and his wife, Dorothy.



Glorious sounds of praise filled the studio as Karen Wheaton and Chosen, along with the Holy Land Experience cast, led in a time of music and ministry.



Eric Braverman, M.D., author and medical director of Path Medical P.C. in New York City, spoke with Matt and Laurie about understanding brain health.



Born without arms and legs, Nick Vujicic is an evangelist, motivational speaker and author. Since the age of 19, Nick has traveled around the world bringing hope and the love of Jesus to millions.



Former pro-wrestler, actor, minister, and servant of God, Mr. T joined host Arthur Blessitt for a powerful and inspiring *Praise* program.

Praise the Lord

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I WILL BLESS YOU!

"THE FUTURE SPLENDOR OF THIS TEMPLE WILL BE GREATER THAN THE SPLENDOR OF THE FIRST ONE! FOR I HAVE PLENTY OF SILVER AND GOLD... AND HERE I WILL GIVE PEACE, SAYS THE LORD." HAGGAI 2:8-9 TLB

The story is a little bit fearful, but ends in glory! The prophet Haggai has a strong word from the Lord to His people. They have returned to their homeland of Israel after 70 years of exile in Babylon. Most everything had been destroyed — worst of all, the great holy Temple that King Solomon had built.

But, here was God's problem:

"Why is everyone saying it is not the right time for rebuilding my Temple?" Asks the Lord. Haggai 1:2 TLB

For over two years the people had been building their "fine homes," planting their fields and trees, while God's Temple lay in ruins! Now, here is a word and a KEY for you and me — yes, for us, God's people today! You see, the neglect of the people of Haggai's day had literally brought a curse upon the people — *yes, upon God's own people!* You say, "A curse?" Read on and learn:

"[God's] reply to them is this: 'Is it then the right time for you to live in your luxurious homes, when [my] Temple lies in ruins?'" Haggai 1:3-4 TLB

Now read on and learn, because God has a strong word for you and me, as I said, for today. Buckle-up, here it comes; but first God defines the "curse."

"Look at the result: You plant much but harvest little. You have scarcely enough to eat or drink...." Haggai 1:5-6

It gets worse —

"Not enough clothes to keep you warm. Your income disappears, as though you were putting it into pockets filled with holes!" Haggai 1:6b TLB

Wow! Does this touch a nerve on any one of us? I plead guilty, looking back on my younger days before I got hold of "seed faith giving." In a moment we will find that KEY to meet our need!

But here let it sink in deeply just how seriously God views the vital importance He places on His Temple. You see, it was at the Temple God met with His people. It was here that sin was dealt with as blood sacrifices and offerings were given for forgiveness of sin. Here the sick came for divine healing. Here rested the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat within the Holy of Holies containing the Tablets of the Law.

The Temple was also the visible statement of the true and living God for all the known world to see. It was also where people of foreign nations could come and become proselytes, embrace the Hebrew covenant and be saved! I have often likened the Holy Temple as God's TV station of that day where all were invited to join because —

"My Temple will be called a house of prayer for all nations." Isaiah 56:7 NLT

The good news is that God's people finally got the message after nearly starving to death in their

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Iranian pastor Afshin Javid shared with Matt and Paul how he became a Christian after Jesus appeared to him. We're hearing about all kinds of amazing conversions to faith as Jesus is personally visiting people living in countries closed to the Gospel!

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disobedience!

We'll come back to Haggai and his message to the people of God, but **FAST FORWARD WITH ME TO THE 21st CENTURY — TO YOU AND ME!** What is God's message and yes, His controversy with His people today?

First of all, we know that God does not desire awesome Temples like King Solomon built. The apostle Paul makes it abundantly clear:

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?” 1 Cor. 3:16

Wow! Can you make the 3,000 year jump from the book of Haggai to see what our Heavenly Father desires from us today? I think you know. Quote it from memory. Jesus' last words were His command to us — to all who belong to Him:

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

In John 15, only “fruit bearers” (soul winners) can claim the promise: **“Ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you” (John 15:7)**. Finally, to every generation Jesus calls for the harvest:

“Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.” John 4:35

Now, the BIG QUESTION to God's people today: *How are your crops? Are your clothes keeping you warm? Does your income disappear as though you too have holes in your pocket?* Perhaps today we should ask: *How is your job — do you have one? Are you out of debt?* Talk about “holes” in the pocket!

Okay, here it is: Are you helping to build the Temples God desires? If not, could the problem be the same as in Haggai's day? Praise God, TBN is building human temples — *but are YOU helping?*

Here is the good news: The people of Haggai's day GOT THE MESSAGE! The prophet reminds them again that they were living with selfish and evil hearts, so that



(Pictured: Paul with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu). “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem” and for TBN-Russia’s new TV studio located in the heart of the Holy City!

everything they did went wrong. But, read and rejoice:

“But all is different now, because you have begun to build [my] Temple.” Haggai 2:15 TLB

The word of the Lord gets even better. He tells His people that as soon as the foundation was laid His blessings would begin:

“But from today...as the foundation of the Lord’s Temple is laid, from this day onward, I will bless you.” Haggai 2:18 TLB

The promise goes on to say that this blessing begins even before the Temple structure is built (Haggai 2:19).

As I have often said, once the decision is made to build His Temples, God will accept your I.O.U.! Yes, your blessing begins as you pick up your phone or write and tell Jan and me you are ready to build! *No money?* Send in that pledge and watch God put that seed of faith in your hand!

Precious partners, multitudes of you have been blessed as together we have built millions of human temples. Glory to God, let's keep building! We don't know for sure, but over 40 million have called, written, emailed, faxed, or come forward to let us know. We really believe this is only the tip of the iceberg — only God knows!

God bless you. Jan and I love you now 38 years long and strong!

Praise God, let your blessings begin NOW in Jesus name!

Paul

A Sunday School class in Madurai, India watching the Smiles of a Child network via a satellite receiving dish provided by YOU, our TBN family.

SCENES FROM **BEHOLD THE LAMB** AT THE HOLY LAND EXPERIENCE



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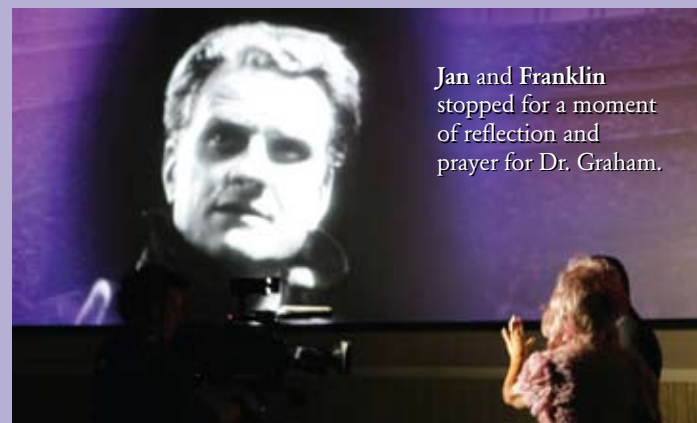
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Jan recently visited the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, NC, where she was greeted by Franklin Graham and longtime Billy Graham ministry associate, Cliff Barrows.



Jan and Franklin in front of an original oil painting by renowned Christian artist Thomas Kinkade titled, “The Cross.”



Jan and Franklin stopped for a moment of reflection and prayer for Dr. Graham.

OUR LOVE GIFT TO YOU FOR JULY:

THE EMISSARY on DVD

The early first-century followers of Jesus were a small struggling group within Judaism that seemingly posed no threat to anyone, certainly not the mighty Roman empire. There was one man determined to see this fledgling faith exterminated. His name was Saul, and he became the greatest persecutor of the early church. But within a matter of a few years, the Christians' fiercest opponent became its most effective advocate. Struck down by a powerful conversion experience on the road to Damascus, Saul — his name changed to Paul — went on to become the greatest missionary in the history of Christianity. He wrote more of the New Testament books than any other. In this impressive drama starring Garry Cooper we follow Saul the angry zealot, to Paul the emissary of Christ who will pay any price to bring his message to the world.

Our love gift to you this month of July only will bring our motion picture, **The Emissary**, which will take you on a thrilling journey with Paul to the then known world. Jan and I thank you for your love gifts that keep “God's Voice” — TBN — on the air to the whole wide world!

Paul + Jan

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To make or renew your Praise-a-Thon pledge, or for more information about TBN, please go to www.tbn.org, or write TBN, P.O. Box A, Santa Ana, California 92711.

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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