



GGWO | June | 2009

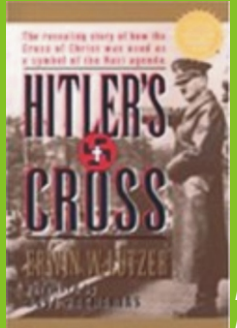
# Affiliation

## Newsletter

### Quotes of the month

“The field is almost boundless; in every part of which, there ought to be missionaries... O that we could enter at a thousand gates, that every limb were a tongue, and every tongue a trumpet to spread the Gospel sound! The men of Macedonia cry, ‘Come over and help us.’ This voice is heard from the north and from the south, and from the east, and from the west. O that we might glow with desire to preach the Gospel to the heathen that is altogether irresistible!” (Samuel J. Mills, one of the five students in the famous Haystack Prayer Meeting, and a founding member of the first American missions agency)

### BOOK OF THE MONTH



Hitler's Cross by Erwin W. Lutzer

### Didn't We Receive a Word From God?



By Pastor Steve Scibelli

*The following article contains excerpts from the opening message of the Marlborough Missions Conference on June 5, 2009*

1 Sam.17:21-31 describes a scene of much murmuring in the camp of Israel because of Goliath's threats. Then David came and said, "Is there not a cause?" The word translated "cause" is *dabar* meaning, "word." He was actually saying, "Didn't we receive a Word from God?" He didn't say it once. He kept rehearsing it over and over again. That was so important because Goliath came out every day with his words. The valley of Elah had become a valley of unbelief. There was Saul, a head taller than anyone else, in total unbelief. Abner and Jonathan, champions of Israel, were trembling. Unbelief pervaded the atmosphere because Satan and his demons were there. It was like the world we live in today.

Then comes this boy. He came to deliver bread and cheese. When we do the small thing, God will do the big thing. The small thing actually is a big thing. David said, "I came to bring some bread and cheese to my brothers, but while I'm here I think I'll kill Goliath. This is no problem at all because I have a Word from God." One 17-year-old boy changed the whole atmosphere in the valley of Elah! He just said, "I have a Word from God." *Dabar* means God's Word - said, done, and received. God's Word is said. It's an eternal Word. God's Word is done. It's a finished-work Word. We receive it when we live by faith in it. This is what world missions is all about. Didn't we receive a Word from God in

Mt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Lu.24:47, John 20:21, Acts 1:7-8, Rom.15:20-21, and 1 Ths.1:5-8? What's the problem? We have a personal Word from God.

Dr. Stevens received a Word from God. He said, "It's been said by God. It's an eternal Word. It's a finished-work Word. It's been said to me, and I'm going to personally receive it, and mix faith with it."

Luther Wishard, inspired by the story of the Haystack Prayer Movement 80 years after it had occurred, began the greatest missionary movement the world has ever seen. 100,000 college students became missionaries! That student revival said, "Don't let the world steal away your passion for Jesus Christ. Search out your life purpose, before it's too late, before the world has a chance to steal away your passion, before the roots of careers and comfort grow too deep."

When I have received a Word from God, I won't enter into human reasoning, or run to everyone around me to find out if it's a good idea. I can't fellowship with the Logos (Jesus Christ) unless I receive His personal Word (rhema) through the Holy Spirit. In order to receive His personal Word, I must be under Biblical teaching and preaching, and personally studying the Bible. I don't just come out with my own ideas and say, "This is what God said."

If I have a Word from God, it doesn't matter what's taking place around me. In the midst of an unbelieving crowd Caleb said, "Let us go up at once and possess the land! We are well able!" He had a Word from God. It just takes one Word from God. I just receive it, letting it work in my life to create a capacity for a specific response to a specific calling for a specific task that God has for me. Caleb kept that Word in his heart for 45 years. Time cannot take away the Word from our hearts because it's eternal. David, Joshua, Caleb, and Daniel – each one of them simply received a



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Word from God. We make things so difficult, but God says, "Simply get a Word from Me." Once I have a Word from God, capacity is created in me to go forward. I can minister to people who don't respond. I can pray without seeing an answer. I can give without seeing any results.

God gave David a Word through Abigail: "Stop worrying about your enemies. Your life is bound up in a bundle with the Lord, and He'll sling your enemies out!" If someone doesn't like you, you have a Word from God. If someone criticizes you, you have a Word from God. If people attack you, you have a Word from God. If they put you in jail, you have a Word from God. Our ministry has a Word from God. That's why we have 477 churches, and have added 190 churches since 2005. Get a Word from God.

There may be confusion in my life because I'm in the valley of Elah, with unbelief all around. Unbelief is also IN me, in my old sin nature. But I receive a Word from God, a personal Word, and it's in my heart. It's cultivated. I'm motivated by it. I'm fellowshiping with it. I can have all kinds of opposition, but I say, "Didn't I get a Word from God?" That Word will not "return void." It will "accomplish what God pleases" (Isa.55:11). People said that those 100,000 students were wasting their lives by going to the mission field. Don't

live by the dictates of natural understanding. Someone might say, "You can't go to the mission field when you're fifty." Jonathan Goforth was seventy when he went to Manchuria. We're going into Satan's world with the Gospel!

Paul received a Word from God on the road to Damascus. God said, "I'm going to use you. You don't need to know anything. I'll show you what you will do. All you need to know is that you have a Word from Me." We think we need to know all the steps, but the Lord may not tell us even the next step.

What brought David victory in the valley of unbelief? A Word from God. In your marriage, in your family – God has given you a Word. Simply say, "I have a Word from God." It may take me in a direction that is unconventional. It may even seem irresponsible. But when God speaks, He shall perform that which He pleases. His Word is personal and it produces faith. In 2 Cor.12:4 Paul heard "unspeakable Words," Words that could only be spoken by God. He heard Words that kept him through all those years of persecution, trials, tasks, and difficulties. He had a Word from God.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH Hitler's Cross by Erwin W. Lutzer

Although the power by which Hitler hypnotized an entire nation is legendary, one question in particular begs an answer:

Where was the church of Christ? ...Nationalistic pride replaced the call of God to purity, and with few exceptions the German church looked away while Adolph Hitler implemented his 'Final Solution' to his Jewish problem. How did this happen?... In Hitler's Cross, Erwin W. Lutzer examines the lessons that may be learned from studying the deception of the church. Hitler's Cross is the story of a nation whose church forgot its primary call and discovered its failure too late. (Synopsis from [www.booksxyz.com](http://www.booksxyz.com).)

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR PASTORS

June 22-27...GGWO International Convention in Baltimore, MD

June 26 .....Pastors Meeting at The Best Inn (2:00 pm)

## CONTRIBUTIONS

If you'd like to contribute with suggestions, quotes, news, recommended books or articles for pastors, etc., please email them to [pastor@ggcf.org](mailto:pastor@ggcf.org).



GGWO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2009 | JUNE 22-28