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



THE BEST TIME
TO **TRUST GOD** IS AT
THE CRISIS MOMENT
OF YOUR LIFE

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

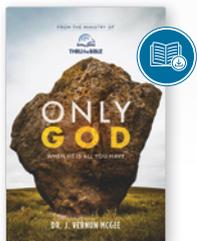




WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

ONLY GOD: WHEN HE IS ALL YOU HAVE

Dr. J. Vernon McGee



This article is an excerpt from
"Only God: When He is All You Have."
Download the full digital booklet here.



Called the man after God's own heart, shepherd boy, and king, David experienced many storms in life. His story can be a great encouragement to you when you face trials and when problems seem to block your progress. You can read his story and know that he had similar problems. Yet born out of this life often touched by trouble, David was used by God to give us the hymnbook of the Bible, the book of Psalms—a beautiful, nuanced, and rich collection of how to praise God.

Psalms 62 is a striking example of David's heart during the *greatest* crisis of his life. In it, his soul is laid bare, and we can look into its depths. It tells of the greatest crisis that came to him—when David's son led a rebellion against him, and David was forced to run. In his flight from Jerusalem, we witness the greatest crisis, his faith's supreme test of the old king's life.

Absalom's march into Jerusalem forced a time of decision. Some chose David; others chose Absalom. David found out who were the loyal and the disloyal in his ranks. The betrayers and followers were well-marked. David knew the sting of the voice of the mob, and Psalm 62 is the song of David in that moment of anxiety.

David had committed his way to God; he traveled in the spiritual stratosphere, living above the storms, shocks, and stresses of this life. As we read this psalm that burst forth from his heart in that hour of betrayal, defeat, and testing, we're amazed to find not one note of discouragement, no suggestion of fear, no word of distress. There is neither rancor nor bitterness welling up in the heart of the psalmist. He sings a song of salvation, a paean of praise, an opus of optimism. It's a song of sanguinity, a thesis of trust, and a work of wonder. How could David write such a "Hallelujah Chorus" out of an experience so dark?

My soul waits IN SILENCE FOR *God only;*
FROM HIM IS *my salvation*.... MY SOUL,
WAIT IN SILENCE FOR *God only,*
for my hope is from Him....
MEN OF LOW DEGREE ARE ONLY VANITY
AND MEN OF RANK ARE A LIE.

PSALM 62:1, 5, 9 NASB

Here we see the deep conviction that motivated the life of David—the currents that swept over his spirit, guiding and directing him through life. Here, for the first time, we see David's soul laid bare. While you don't see the heart of the man in the historical account, you do see him in clear view in this song of his soul. His favorite son is in rebellion, actually seeking his life, and now his enemies have

come to the front. They have moved to lay hold of him so they might destroy him. Some of his friends have turned traitor. David was forced to flee, for he would not offend Jerusalem, his beloved city, by doing battle within her walls. Therefore, he left and returned to the caves of the earth. He had been dealt a cruel blow.

Weaker men have crumpled under circumstances less trying than this, but from David we hear no complaint, no condemnation, no criticism. He was committed to God and cast himself upon Him. There was nothing to say; he had no defense to offer. He said God had permitted this thing to come to him and that the outcome of it all held no concern for him. His one concern was that he remain in the hands of God. He was undisturbed, unmoved by the things taking place around him.

Beloved,

WHILE SMALL MEN CRIED FOR A MIRACLE,
DAVID AVOWED TO WALK IN THE
DARK, TRUSTING GOD.

*Oh, for a faith like that—
a God-given faith!*

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

Is the time of faith only on a sunny day when there's not a cloud in your sky? Is it when everything is going exactly right, with nothing to mar your outlook? David's answer is that the best time to trust God is at the crisis moment of your life—"My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him" (Psalm 62:5 NASB). David wasn't making a wild prayer. He wasn't demanding God do anything. Instead, David said, "My hope is from Him." He expected God to put into his heart the thing *He* wanted done; therefore, he would be praying for the thing that was best.

Friend, you can trust God because He has all power, and He can do anything He wants to do! We catch the thinking of the psalmist that power belongs to God. It did not reside in David. He was simply a great king because God made him a great king. Now He had permitted that David be made to leave Jerusalem, and if it was not God's will that he return, then he would not go back. But David was resigning all to God, for He is the One alone who has all power.

MY TURN

- 1 **Read Psalm 62.** Now that you know the background, what does David's example teach you?
- 2 Dr. McGee said, "The little word 'only' occurs at least three times in Psalm 62. I think it was Spurgeon who was the first to call this 'the *only* Psalm' because of the emphasis it places on the word 'only.'" **Circle or highlight the word "only" in your Bible.**
- 3 **Notice and circle the word "selah."** Dr. McGee said, "You'll find it twice. You don't have to verbalize *selah* when you're reading the psalm aloud. It's like punctuation, meaning you've gotten to the end of the thought. It's meant to make you pause and think about it."
- 4 **Choose a verse in Psalm 62 that's meaningful to you and underline it.** Ask God to help you commit it to memory and to bring to mind the hope you have in Him the next time you feel overwhelmed by difficult circumstances.



FIELD NOTES

TAKING THE WORD
TO THE WORLD

THE GLORIOUS UNFOLDING OF A MISSION



Roger Kemp
RK Media President

Roger Kemp is a behind-the-scenes visionary and force behind so much good that you enjoy on Christian radio. Roger and his team at RKMedia are our close ministry partners and steward the relationships THRU the BIBLE has with radio stations and networks throughout North America. Roger has also personally been associated with global ministry his whole career and is here to give you a unique perspective of what we're doing together with our commitment to take the "whole Word to the whole world."

More than 40 years ago, I stumbled into a part-time job that would ultimately become my life's calling. In 1979 and fresh out of Bible college, I was employed by an organization that produced and distributed Christian radio programs. My primary role was duplicating reel-to-reel tapes and shipping them to stations across the United States. It was a humble start, and I wore an industrial apron to prove it.

As part of my training, my employer insisted that I visit the headquarters of THRU the BIBLE where J. Vernon McGee had set a standard of excellence for Christian radio programmers.

Well, the on-site training I received at the THRU the BIBLE office in Pasadena, California, ignited my passion for the potential of Christian media. Plus, it became obvious that God was doing something special through an unconventional radio program. More than a simple domestic ministry, today Dr. McGee's teaching is heard in more than 200 languages domestically and globally. How unusual! **This is a ministry that deeply understands the global world and is God-driven to "take God's whole Word to the whole world."**

Over the last 40-plus years, God has granted me a front row seat to the dramatic unfolding of His masterpiece called THRU the BIBLE. Maybe you have been watching the trajectory of growth, too. Isn't it amazing to witness Him working in such unexpected ways? I love sharing these inside details about THRU the BIBLE with my colleagues in broadcasting who often listen respectfully while scratching their heads! They often say, "I had no idea!"

Times have changed, haven't they? In the 70's, we wore industrial aprons and duplicated reel-to-reel tapes. **Today, THRU the BIBLE is using every technological means available to invite men and women around the world to take a seat on the Bible Bus. Radio stations, thumb drives, CDs, cell phones, iPads, podcasts, in-home smart speakers, whatever ... we can use these tools to achieve our mission ... to take "the whole Word to the whole Word."**

Together, let's remain faithful to this privileged calling of God.

In so doing, we will surely see the glorious unfolding of His majestic work around the world "... according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace" (Ephesians 1:5-6).





FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING GOD IN AFGHANISTAN

In Afghanistan, if a Christian's new faith is discovered, their family, clan, or tribe has to save its honor by disowning—or even killing—the believer. So, it's no surprise the majority of phone calls and emails THRU the BIBLE's team receives from Afghanistan are aggressive and sometimes even threatening.

Yet, in the midst of the anger and fear of many, a few people are quietly coming to faith. Here's the story of one of those. We can't share his name for security reasons, but we'll greet him as a brother someday in heaven.

"Through your programs I heard the gospel and found Jesus Christ, my Savior. In the event that you had not shared about Him, I would be blind and hard of hearing like the Bible says. Thank you for taking the risk. I have discreetly talked with two trusted companions about Jesus, and they too

have acknowledged Him. I will continue to listen and serve God as best as I can."

Since there are no churches or Christian bookstores in Afghanistan, access to God's Word is extremely limited, and meeting with other Christians is dangerous. As THRU the BIBLE goes out in the language of Pashto, ask God to use it to encourage and instruct the few who are already faithfully following Him despite the risks. And may many more hear in it God's truths and come to know Jesus as their Savior, too.

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we travel the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. 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

1 & 2 Kings

WITH DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

JESUS CARES FOR ELIJAH (1 KINGS 19:5-7)

Elijah lived in a day of extreme chaos. A madman and his wife were on the throne. Idol-worshipping people and priests filled the land. **Elijah felt as if he was alone, standing for God.**

He was a blood-and-thunder man. Rough and rugged on the outside, Elijah concealed a sensitive soul. And in this moment we meet him, he was letting his emotions rule him. In spite of a huge victory on Mount Carmel, a murderous threat from Jezebel unraveled Elijah. He cried out to God to take his life. **He was in a bad way when an "angel of the Lord" showed up to help him. This was no ordinary angel—this was a manifestation of the second person of the Trinity. This was no less than the Savior Himself, coming to personally minister to the prophet.**

First, the Lord put him to sleep. He needed rest, and God knew that.

Then Elijah needed some good food; he hadn't been eating regularly. And now there was bread being cooked over a fire. And the same one who prepared breakfast on the shore of Galilee the morning after the resurrection, He's the One caring for His prophet now. Our Lord comforted Elijah, fed him, and then put him to sleep again.

Then He fed him again and told him something that Elijah was beginning to learn. **The Lord said to him, "The journey is too great for you."**

My friend, you may think you're sufficient for the battle of life, but the journey's too great for you, too! **You're going to need a Savior. You're going to need a Helper.** Even this man Elijah, as rugged as he was, knew that. **And there never is an end to the degree of our Savior's love and care for us, nor to the capacity and power at God's disposal to supply any need at any time.**



“How could a book be alive? It was written centuries ago”

That’s how the recent letter we received from Alyson started out. Then her story changed—

“That’s what I thought when I first picked up the Bible on the dare of a friend. She dared me to read the Gospel of John—any portion—for 30 days in a row. She said, ‘the Bible is alive—just give it a chance.’ A couple weeks into the dare I discovered your program. Then, not only did I read the Gospel of John, I listened to Dr. McGee explain it. Well, I won the dare. I read John for 30 days, and yesterday I asked Jesus to be my Savior—to forgive my sins, to give me everlasting life with Him. I look forward to learning more about the Bible in time to come.”

Wow. Did you know that the Gospel of John was written for this exact purpose? John 20:31 says, “But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” Alyson’s friend was so wise to dare her to read John.

God’s Word is alive and powerful. That’s why we’re working together to get it to everyone on the planet who will listen. Across cultures, across languages, the Bible speaks to our hearts regarding our own issues. It’s happening today.

Your partner in taking the whole Word to the whole world,



Gregg Harris
THRU the BIBLE, President



WHY STUDY 1 & 2 KINGS?

Join in the studies on
THRU the BIBLE **OCTOBER 6—
NOVEMBER 14** or anytime online,
by podcast, or by mobile app.

The nation of Israel rises and shines during King Solomon’s Golden Age and then plummets through 400 years of mostly evil kings who eventually manage to get the Jewish nation wiped off the map. What remains? A faithful God, true to His promise to redeem His people.

“Man’s throne on earth must be in tune with God’s throne in heaven God’s purposes cannot be stopped.” –Dr. J. Vernon McGee

KEYVERSE

*An apt description of all but four Jewish kings in 350 years after Solomon:
“He did what was evil in the Lord’s sight.”* –1 Kings 15:26

IN 1 KINGS, ISRAEL DIVIDES. IN 2 KINGS, ISRAEL COLLAPSES.

ONE HAIRY; ONE BALD | Elijah and Elisha play starring roles in God’s story of the kings. They confront evil among prophets and kings and win—testifying to an amazing God who will judge evil and protect His own.

- **Elijah**, the champion of the Most High, stood alone for God in some hair-raising confrontations. (1 Kings 17-22, 2 Kings 1)
- **Elisha**—with double Elijah’s spirit—is a warning beacon to the kings of the northern tribes, but none submit to God. (2 Kings 1-9)

WHAT WE LEARN ABOUT GOD FROM THE TIMES OF THE KINGS:

- ① It’s all about your heart. David had a whole heart for God. Solomon, a half-heart. And with only a few exceptions, the kings that followed had no heart for God.
- ② What God begins, He finishes. He never abandons His plan or His own.
- ③ God may let us fall, but never out of His reach.





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