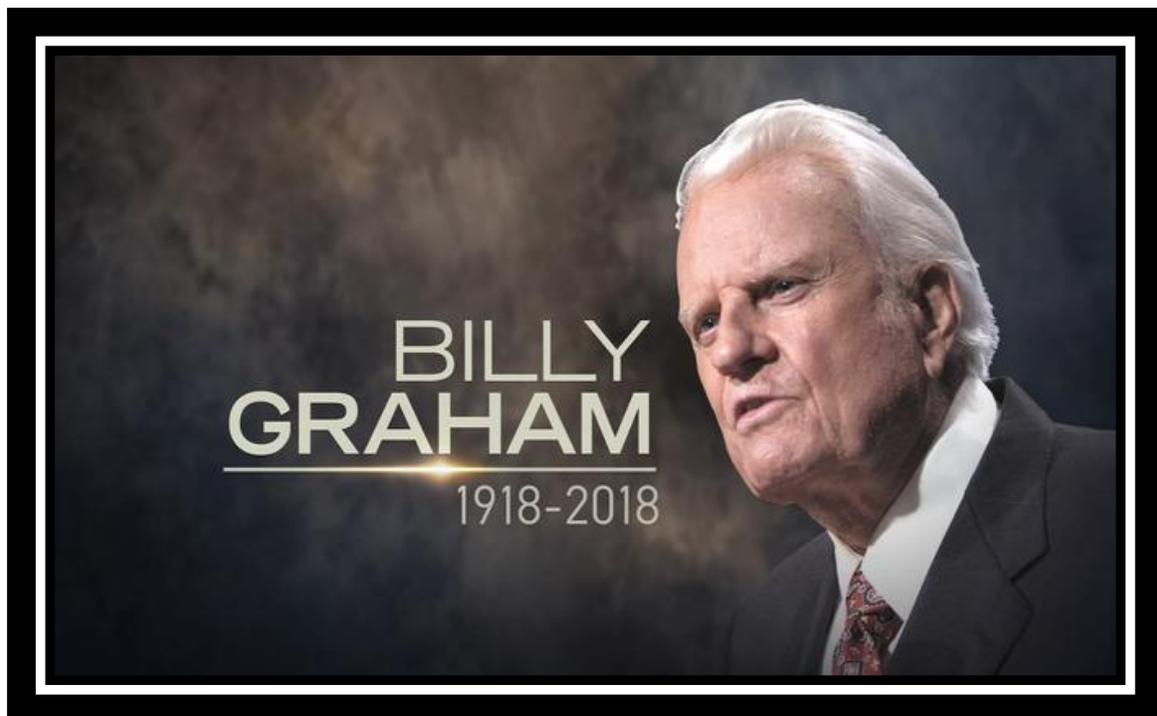


The Lamp Newsletter

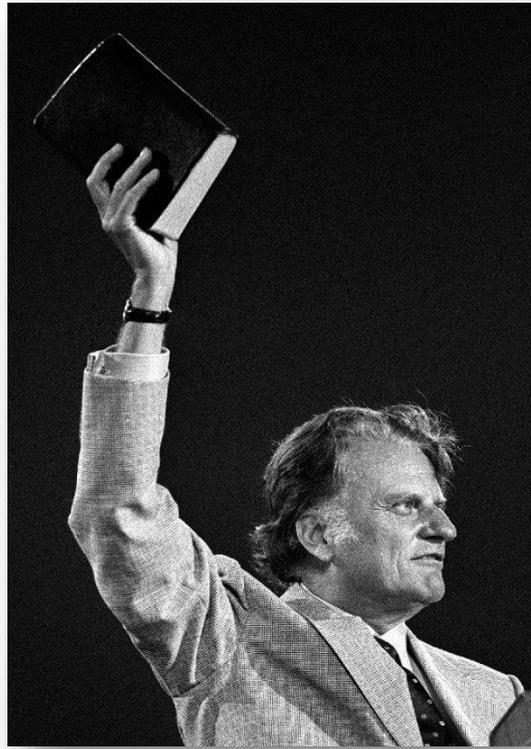
Salutes Worldwide Evangelist

REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM



Featuring Heartfelt Tributes from the Staff of The Lamp Newsletter

- Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside, Founder and President
- USA Contributing Writers: Ramelle T. Lee and Mrs. Michele Barnes
 - Australia Ministry Leader and Writer: Minister Sandra Hickman
- The UK-London Ministry Leader and Writer: Mrs. Christine V. Mitchell
 - Dr. Mary Edwards, Editor
 - Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr., Manager



Billy Graham married the love of his life, Ruth Bell, in 1943.



To this holy union, God blessed them with 5 beautiful children.



**From left to right standing: Franklin, Gigi, Ann, and Ruth.
From left to right seated: Ned, Mrs. Ruth Graham, and Reverend Billy Graham.**

The Graham Family

Left to Right: Gigi, Ann, Ruth, Mrs. Ruth Graham,
Rev. Billy Graham, Franklin and Ned.



Below, the later years...
Mrs. Graham has gone on to be with the Lord.



Standing behind their father, Reverend Billy Graham,
From left to right: Gigi, Ann, Ruth, Franklin and Ned



Wanda J. Burnside



Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr.

Wake Up! Wake Up!

Dear Readers,

Early on Wednesday morning, February 21, 2018... I was so sound asleep. I was tired and beat out. Sleep had captured me in its grip. Simmie, my husband, was knocked out asleep in the bed beside me.

Then, I heard a strong and loud call to my sleepy spirit, ***“WAKE UP! WAKE UP!”*** The voice was like a blast of a trumpet. It was so profound and urgent that I shook myself...and a supernatural presence came...and stood at attention on the side of my bed.

I felt strange, but I had felt this presence before...several times in my life. I pulled the blanket back and flung my left leg out of bed. I looked over at Simmie he seemed to be in a daze, not fully awake like me.

Our television was on in our bedroom. I could hear the voice of Pat Robertson, the founder of the 700 Club and the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN). I wiped my eyes and heard him say, ***“He was a great man...Billy truly was...He did...”***

The camera swung over to his co-host Terry Meeuwsen... she looked so sad, her eyes drifted away when Pat said, “Reverend Billy Graham was a dear friend...” And that’s when I groaned out...”Billy Graham!” “Oh...No!” I said. I shook Simmie to wake him up and said, “ Honey! Billy Graham died.” Simmie groaned, too. He sat up in bed and we sat there listening to more of the report from Pat Robertson. Pat tried to stay composed and calm...trying not to let a tear fall from his eyes.

At that moment, I knew that there would be a ripple of reports from state to state and from nation to nation around the world saying that the Reverend Billy Graham was dead at the age of 99 years old. The news would travel in a blink through every source of the media: television, radio, telephone, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and all of our modern communication systems. The newspapers would run the report and Breaking News updates would continue throughout the day and as long as needed to get the news out about the champion of evangelism, Reverend Billy Graham’s death. All of this would be non-stop and beyond.

And now, we all know that he...Reverend Billy Graham, is with the Lord. Yet, I believe that he would want us who know the Lord, and have salvation, to use his death to speak boldly and firmly about the Living Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior...the soon coming King of kings. Therefore, I must say...

WAKE UP! WAKE UP!

SINNERS!

BACKSLIDERS!

LUKEWARM BELIEVERS!

ATHEISTS!

AGNOSTICS!

OMNISTS!

HUMANISTS!

and ALL OTHERS!

There you are...you didn’t give your heart and life to the Lord Jesus Christ while Reverend Billy Graham lived, walked, breathed, taught, and **PREACHED** the Gospel of the Lord! You missed him in the flesh.

However, you can still see and hear his Holy Spirit messages and surrender your life to Jesus Christ! Rev. Graham's books, magazines, tracts, brochures, and other forms of printed gospel messages are still here! Seek the Lord and ask Him to open your heart and mind. The Lord is waiting on you to turn to Him!

WAKE UP! WAKE UP!

There is time for you to come to the Lord! You are alive... right now...reading this newsletter! God wants you to come to Him now! Do this now...just as you are! There is a day coming...when it will be TOO LATE for you!

"As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion""
(Hebrews 3:15 NIV).

Surrender to the Lord. Give up your ways! Come to Him!

CHRIST WILL RETURN!

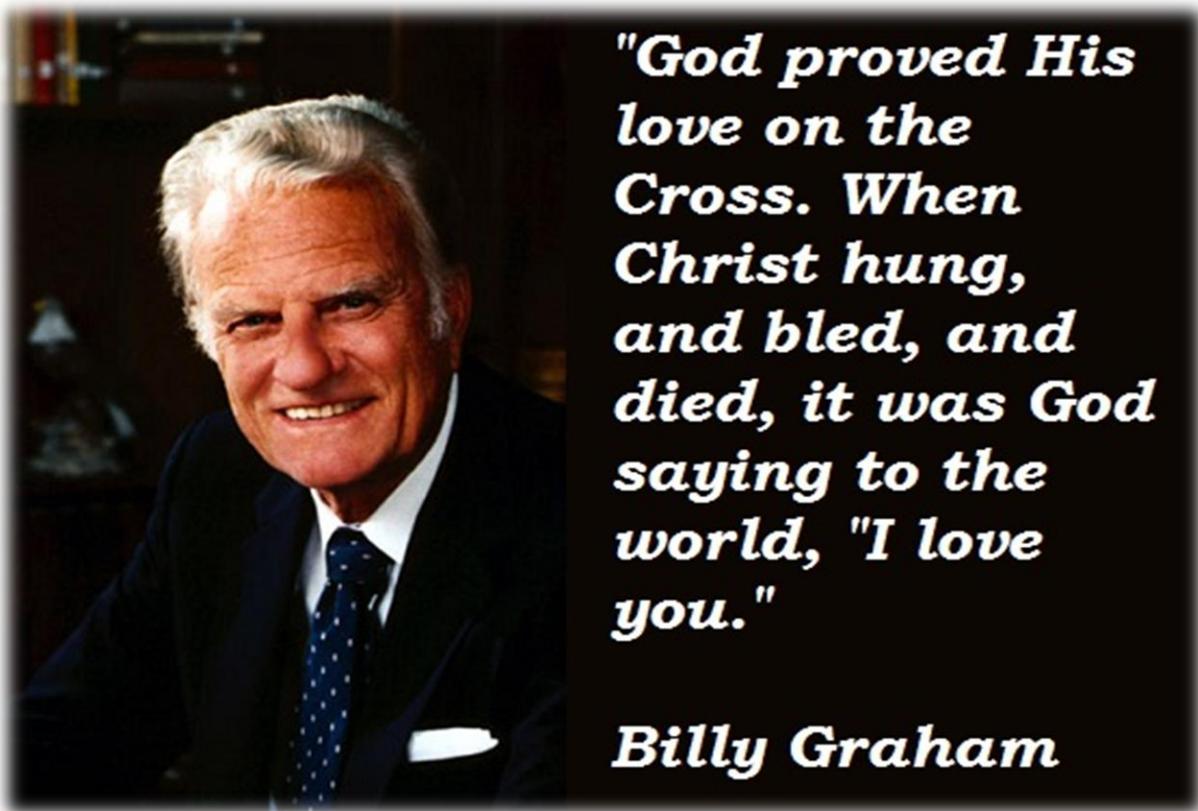
The day is coming when Jesus Christ will return to earth. Be ready BEFORE His coming so you can live with Him eternally! For years and years, Reverend Graham gave his life to preaching this message until he could not preach it any more! The preaching of the gospel continues...COME to JESUS!



Special Tributes From The Staff

The staff of The Lamp Newsletter have written heartwarming and powerful tributes about Reverend Billy Graham. Their messages are profound for they have shared their wonderful thoughts and memories about him. You will be blessed by reading their work on the following pages. They speak on Reverend Graham's life from various perspectives. You will feel their great love and respect expressed for him so tenderly and earnestly in this special edition.

I praise the Lord for having an international staff of writers! We must go into all the world like Jesus said...and Reverend Graham so faithfully did...until death.



A Tribute from Australia

by Ministry Leader and Writer...
Sandra Hickman



Dictionary

mettle - *noun*:

“a person’s ability to cope well with difficulties; spirit and resilience
“the team showed their true mettle in the second half”

spirit, fortitude, tenacity, strength of character, moral fibre, steel, determination, resolve, resolution, steadfastness, indomitability, backbone, hardihood, pluck, nerve, gameness, courage, courageousness, bravery, gallantry, valour, intrepidity, fearlessness, boldness, daring, audacity

“The Mettle of a Man’ Reverend Dr. Billy Graham



The true mettle of Reverend Dr. Billy Graham, is something to be honoured. He served his number of days for God on the earth, and faithfully finished his race to hear the words... “Well done good and faithful servant”. This man of God is to be celebrated. The dictionary’s description of the word ‘METTLE’ suits Dr. Billy Graham to a tee!

Men who carry true mettle cannot be measured as ordinary. Billy Graham was born on November 7, 1918. An ordinary helpless baby, just a little boy, never imagining the greatness of mettle God had placed upon him. Young Billy could never have known his life would one day prove that the ordinary can become extraordinary.

On a fateful day in May 1934, during a prayer meeting held at the Graham family farm, a prayer would be prayed, stating that the Lord would rise up somebody from Charlotte, North Carolina to preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth. God was speaking! That somebody was Billy Graham.

As stated in Dr. Graham's autobiography, Albert McMakin, a worker on the Graham family farm, took 16-year-old Billy to a series of revival meetings in Charlotte led by Evangelist Ham, where he would give his life to Jesus in that same year of 1934. Was it a once-in-a-lifetime chance meeting or the providence of God? Time has proven the answer! Billy heard and answered the call and never looked back. He lived his life for his Savior. He loved God and all people with his whole heart.

Like David in the Bible, Billy Graham had a heart after God's own heart. Both David and Billy were simple farm boys who were singled out and selected by God to be history makers. Both in their own lifetimes, individually, made maximum impact for the glory of their Lord! Billy Graham lived out the prophetic words of preaching the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

The godly impact of Dr. Billy Graham on the earth is unmatched by anyone living today! When we leave this world, the only thing we can take with us, and offer to Jesus, is souls for our inheritance. If souls of the nations are the treasure of our riches, then the remarkable Billy Graham took riches to heaven above and beyond the counting of numbers, exceeding all expectation!

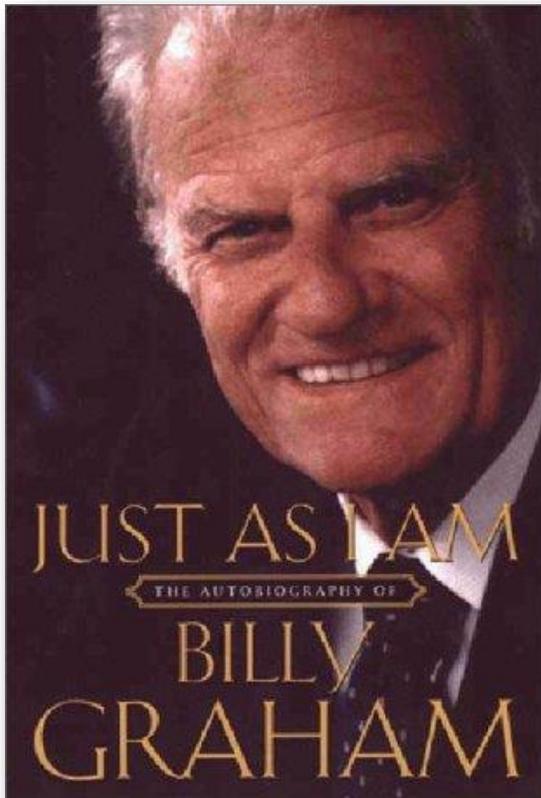
“Ask of me and I shall give you the nations for your inheritance”
(Psalm 2:8a - K.J. 2000 Bible)

The extraordinary Rev. Dr. Billy Graham valiantly wore the God-given mantle of true mettle. **VALE BILLY GRAHAM.**

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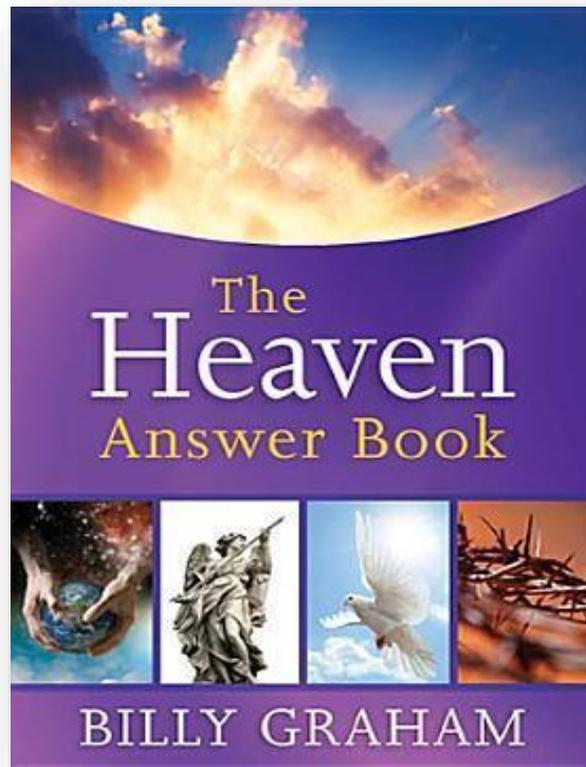


Reverend Billy Graham's Autobiography...



In *Just As I Am*, Graham reveals his life story in what the Chicago Tribune calls "a disarmingly honest autobiography." Now, in this revised and updated edition, we hear from this "lion in winter" (Time) on his role over the past ten years as America's pastor during our national crises of the Oklahoma bombing and 9/11; his knighthood; his passing of the torch to his son, Franklin, to head the organization that bears his name; and his commitment to do the Lord's work in the years of his and his wife Ruth's physical decline.





Billy Graham answers questions about heaven and eternity with understanding and reassurance.

God's Word says heaven awaits all the saints of His kingdom, but how many of us really know what heaven will be like? The Heaven Answer Book is a biblically-based book written in Q&A format with answers to commonly asked questions about our future and final home. Topics include: what we'll do, what we'll be, what we'll see, our rewards in heaven, and more. Billy Graham's trustworthy Bible knowledge offers interesting insight and enduring truth about how believers can prepare their hearts for spending eternity with their Maker and Lord.

What is the most hopeful word in history?

For Billy Graham,
that word is
SALVATION

Salvation from what?

- From our selfish and self-destructive selves.
- From the messes we get ourselves into.
- From the sin that has haunted humanity from the beginning of time and the evil that pulls us down every day.
- From the cultural deceits that blind us to God's saving message.
- From the Hell so many don't believe in

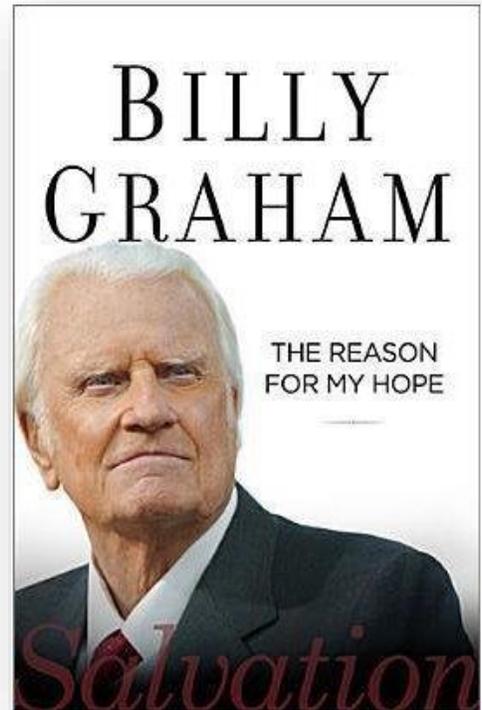
If we don't think we need salvation, we're fooling ourselves.

If we think we are beyond salvation, we're underestimating God.

If we just don't want to think about salvation, we're putting ourselves in eternal peril.

At the age of ninety-five Billy Graham proclaims God's Gospel with resolve and deep compassion. It is a message he has been preaching for more than seventy years. And in this book you will sense its urgency, filled with hope for the future.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

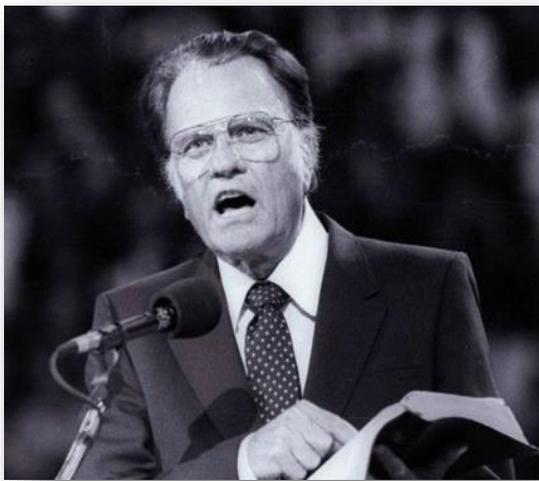


A Tribute from The UK - London

by Ministry Leader and Writer
Christine V. Mitchell



Reverend Billy Graham 'Mighty Voice in History'



—
A special event in Christian history has taken place. A great, humble and anointed man of God is now at rest from all his labours. At home, in the early afternoon of 21 February 2018, I had just gone upstairs to get something from the bedroom, when

I decided to check for messages on my mobile phone. The first thing I saw instantly stopped me in my tracks. It was a brief BBC news message.

When I read the first few words, I paused and thought, 'No, no, oh my gosh, no!' I opened to see the full announcement, and there it was ~ news of the passing of a legend, God's great General, Reverend Billy Graham.

With mouth wide open, I ran downstairs with my phone to show my husband. I held back tears. We switched the TV to the BBC channel and straight away saw the news report.

Around the time I accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour, as a teenager in 1973, I remember hearing on the radio and TV broadcasts of "The Hour of Decision" the unique, unmistakable and powerful voice

of Reverend Graham, preaching the word of God to millions in packed stadiums and auditoriums. The sound of his preaching was unlike any other I've ever heard, though there are many powerful preachers in the world today.

Reverend Graham's voice caught your attention. He spoke with an authority and anointing that made you want to stop and listen. He preached with a verve and didn't need an "Amen". His voice bellowed a 'no-frills', pure, simple and anointed message of the gospel of Christ, unashamedly and clearly, to millions in countries around the world. His captivating messages had a huge impact as God anointed him with the ability to deliver the gospel in a distinctive and compelling way, with the result that thousands would pour forth, in response to the invitation to accept Christ, as the choir would sing a song such as "*Just As I am*".

Accompanying Reverend Graham on his numerous worldwide missions was the late George Beverley Shea, whose rich and beautiful singing was a great blessing, as he sang songs such as Amazing Grace or How Great Thou Art.

Guest singers also included the late Pastor Andre Crouch and Sir Cliff Richard. On reading about his life, I discovered that Reverend Graham held 18 UK crusades

between the years of 1954 and 1989. His first, held in London in 1954, was attended by over 2 million and there were more than 38,000 decisions for Christ. In the following year (1955) his Glasgow, Scotland crusade was attended by more than 2.6m with over 52,000 decisions for Christ.

I'll never forget the intriguing advertising of his London crusades back in 1989. Each week, for about four weeks (I believe), we would see an advert on the sides of many big red London buses displaying four huge letters of the alphabet, with a small message underneath. It was black text on a white background or vice versa with a different and mysterious arrangement of the same four letters each time, with a full stop. The first three were: "**E.I.LF Can anyone make sense of it?**" "**IE.LF Can anyone make sense of it?**" "**FLE.I Made sense of it yet?**"

These adverts baffled the public daily. Whether Christian or non-Christian, you were transfixed, trying to work it out.

FINALLY, the mystery was revealed. The message (which included a photo) read: "**LIFE. Come and hear one man who can make sense of it. Billy Graham**". This advertising campaign preceded three London crusades to be held from June to

July that year, at which there were more than 34,000 decisions for Christ!

Billy Graham was a true Ambassador for Christ who had walked tall and yet remained humble. In the UK, he had “*dined with the Queen, been interviewed by the BBC and appeared in the pages of the national press*”. He had “*been invited to tea by the late former Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill*” (cf. *premier-christianity.com*).

The dedication and fervency of Reverend Billy Graham’s life and ministry is something that impacted the whole of Christianity in our time. He was a model of devotion to the Lord, and of obedience to the calling of God on his life to “*go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature*” (Matt 28:19). He is an inspiration to us all and is quoted by PremierChristianity.com as “*the most influential evangelist of our time*”.

Seeing the amazing photos of residents lining streets and highways in honour to Reverend Billy Graham, as the motorcade passed by, was like watching a royal event, such was the high esteem and honour given to God’s servant. His life and voice will never be forgotten, and his legacy will live on.

In his last message to America, Reverend Billy Graham said,

“When I look back over my life, it’s full of surprises. I never thought I would become friends with people in different countries all around the world. I see how God has guided me. When I preached many years ago, it was not with any thoughts that I would be preaching to large audiences. God has done this.”

Though I didn’t meet him in person, I’m thankful for the inspiration of his life and ministry, which I have come to realise more at his passing.



“Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever”
(Daniel 12:3, NIV)

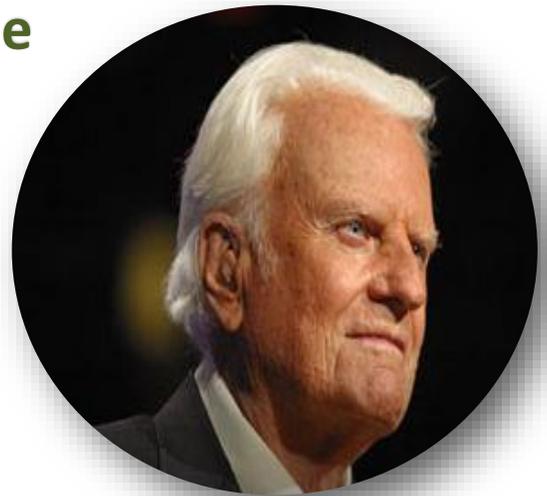


My Tribute to Reverend Billy Graham

By Ramelle T. Lee
Contributing Writer

Reverend Billy Graham gave the world a reason to hope!

As I began to reflect on the life and legacy of Reverend Billy Graham, it brought tears to my eyes. Where do you begin to talk about this giant in the faith? Looking at this picture, I see a “Servant of God” who spent his entire life sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people from all walks of life. His accomplishments are too numerous to acknowledge or list.



One of the remarkable things that I have discovered first-hand is that people know Billy Graham’s name. They don’t get him mixed up with the neighbor whose name is “Billy.” Why do you think this is? It is simple. Billy Graham’s name has always been a household name to people all throughout the United States and across the globe. I remembered watching his huge crusades in the 60’s and 70’s. The announcer at the end of the televised broadcast would say, “Please send your correspondence to Billy Graham in Minneapolis, Minnesota.” This was astounding to me because the United States Postal Service accepted this address as being legitimate with Billy Graham’s name, city and state. It is reported that thousands and thousands of people would send mail to this given address until Billy Graham’s ministry reached overwhelming proportions.

All throughout my life, the message of Jesus Christ was proclaimed by Billy Graham. The commentators on radio and television would call him an evangelist or preacher. What I witnessed was a man of God who had a strong conviction to tell people everywhere he went that “Jesus loves You!” “Jesus gave His life for you and me!”

Reverend Billy Graham preached without compromising the true message of “The Lord Jesus Christ,” which encompasses the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Reverend Graham was not ashamed of the Gospel and he preached with conviction! He boldly shared what the Holy Spirit had given him with grace, courage and simplicity.

I remembered the song that would always be presented at the Crusades that led to the “Invitation.” The hundreds of voices in the choir, who would be singing great hymns or Gospel choruses, would energize the atmosphere as they lifted praises in song as the audience listened. My favorite song was, “*Just as I Am.*” When the “Invitation” was announced, people would get up out of their seats wherever they were around the world in that auditorium. They came pouring down to the open field to give their hearts and life to Jesus Christ.

Billy Graham would always assure the people that their loved ones and friends would not leave them. The music would be playing and the massive choir would sing sweet melodies as the Holy Spirit welcomed the people to “Come to Jesus.” What a beautiful sight to see as people came by the tens of thousands to the front platform, the altar, to accept Christ.

As I watched in amazement the different programs being televised year after year, I didn’t fully understand at that time what a great move of God was taking place right before my eyes. However, my heart was touched by the powerful message given by Reverend Billy Graham each time I listened to the preaching of the Gospel. It affected me tremendously because I knew that God was changing the hearts of people instantly as they surrendered their life to Him through His godly” Invitation.” It was exciting to witness people standing in crowds waiting to give their life to Jesus Christ. Hundreds of ministry staff individuals were available to pray with the people and walk them through this new experience of encountering Jesus for themselves.

God used Reverend Billy Graham mightily to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the world. This act of faith, by one young preacher from the age of 16, impacted the world! It brought millions and millions of souls into the Kingdom of God. What an astounding life and legacy of a great Christian man of faith! Some of us may have addressed Billy Graham as: “*America’s Preacher,*” “*an evangelist*”, “*a teacher*” or “*one of the most influential preachers of the twentieth century.*” However, Billy Graham was a country boy at heart who spent his entire life living in obedience to God.

Through my preparation of writing this tribute, I learned in the Bible who an evangelist is. It is a person sent by God to announce the Gospel, the Good News. Yes, I'm a witness that Reverend Billy Graham served the Lord with gladness. He was a Champion for Jesus Christ who fulfilled the "Great Commission" in Matthew 28:19-20 KJV which says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

My life has forever been changed through the ministry, preaching and teaching of Reverend Billy Graham. God gave this "Servant of God" a mandate or calling to share the profound message that Jesus Christ came to forgive our sins and give us new life and hope as we turn to Him.

In the Bible, John 3:16-17 KJV states: *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."*

Reverend Billy Graham accepted the challenge to walk by faith and believe God for the miraculous throughout his life. Ninety-nine years he lived trusting God and standing on His Word. How wonderful! For close to seventy years, I personally discovered that Reverend Billy Graham fully led a life of total commitment and embraced his destiny to live his life according to God's plan. He walked by faith and boldly proclaimed the Gospel to the nations. What a tremendous privilege to witness "faith in action." He truly lived his life with purpose, integrity, purity, humility, strength and devotion to Jesus. He was a true "Servant of the Master, Jesus Christ" who spent a lifetime sharing God's message of hope to the generations.

God has given Reverend Billy Graham a crown of glory. We will never know the full scope of his astounding life with Jesus Christ as his hope for this world. Thank you, God for the life and legacy of such a great and remarkable man. My life has been enriched, blessed and enlightened because of the "Honorable Reverend Billy Graham."





“Farewell, Great Teacher of the Gospel”

By Michele Gardner-Barnes
Contributing Writer

As a child raised in the home of my grandfather, Elder Minor Palm Sr., religion wasn't a choice but, the very cradle that embraced my entire family. My mother, sister Darlene, brother Daniel and I were grounded in our daily lives by the religious foundation my grandfather lovingly helped to provide. Therefore, the televisions and radios continuously played Oral Roberts Ministries and Billy Graham Ministries whenever possible. Grandfather financially supported these ministries and others who taught the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people around the world. Many nights we sat in front of the television and listened as the Billy Graham Crusade would begin with George Beverly Shea singing a song right before Billy Graham preached. Mr. Shea sang great gospel songs: *“Just As I Am,” “How Great Thou Art,” “I’d Rather Have Jesus”* and *“The Wonder of It All.”* These are only a few of the many hymns that Mr. Shea sang from 1947, the beginning of the Billy Graham Crusades. They were together with the anointed hymns and Billy Graham’s teachings. This tremendously touched over 200 million lives until Mr. Shea’s passing at the age of 104 years old.

Billy Graham’s last sermon, *“The Last Message to America & the World”* is available online. You can listen to it by searching for it on Google. I listened to it myself. I was so blessed and touched to see an old-time Gospel teacher, Billy Graham, still not afraid to teach truth about the meaning of the Cross and of the new creature that anyone becomes when a person gives his or her life to Christ. Billy wasn't a gospel teacher who was afraid to teach the Gospel! It was his desire to see each and every one of us again one day ...in heaven.

In John 14:6 KJV, it says, *“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”* In his last message, Billy Graham offers you another opportunity to give your life to Christ. Praise the Lord!

Thank you, Billy Graham for being a great teacher of the Gospel, and man of God. We thank God for your 99 years of blessing us with your ministry!





Rev. Billy Graham *From the Tent to The Temple*

By Dr. Mary Edwards
Editor

“FATHER, Rev. Billy Graham was many things to many people: son, brother, husband, father, grand-father, pastor, friend, advisor, etc., and etc. Indeed, he was a minister of reconciliation and an ambassador for Christ. Above all, he was Your child.

Your word says that many are called but few are chosen. Without a doubt, this great man of God was chosen like a magnet to draw people to Your Cross.

Not only did he touch the lives of many in both high and low places, but he loved and left a tremendous legacy for his family. It is one that will be carried on from generation to generation.



On his tombstone will be the words, “Preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” Truer words were never spoken. Heaven is rejoicing!

By design, he started his ministry in a tent, but it ended in Your temple.

To God be the Glory! In Jesus’ Precious Name. Amen.”

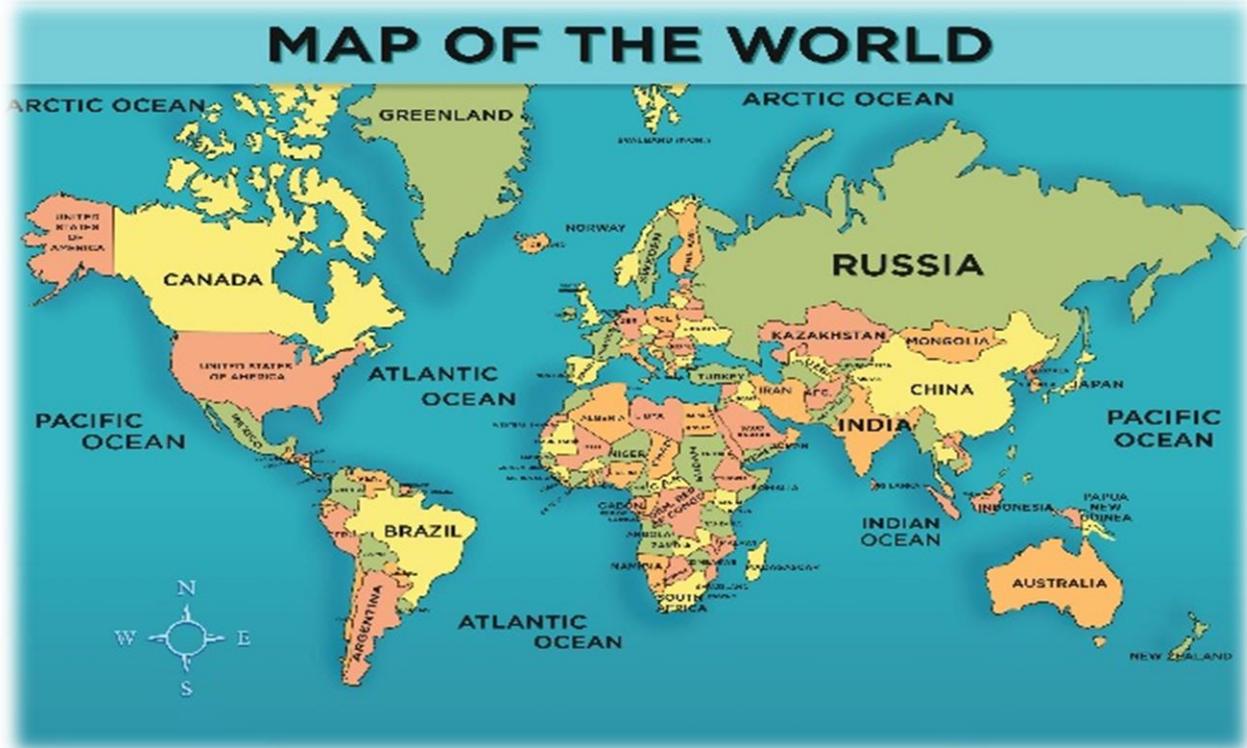


Jesus said...

*“Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
(Mark 16:15 KJV)*

*“Go you therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”
(Matthew 28:19 KJV)*

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but to save the world through him”
(John 3: 16-17 NIV)*



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MAY GOD BLESS YOU!