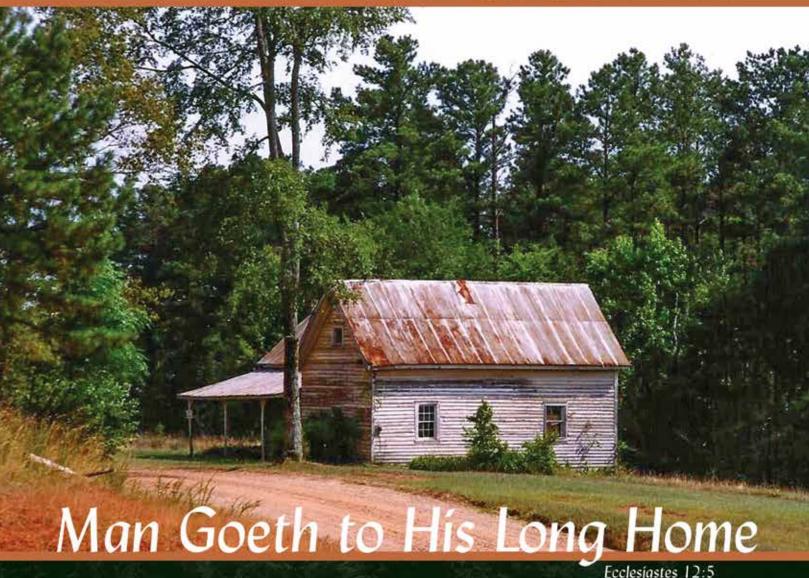
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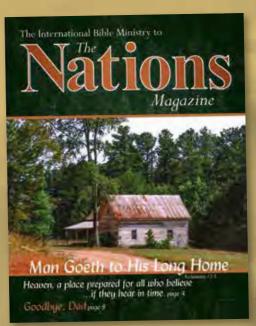
# The COMS Magazine



Heaven, a place prepared for all who believe ...if they hear in time. page 4

Goodbye, Dadpage 9

## Nations Magazine



**Cover Photo:** Home of the Maternal Grandparents of the Editor, Jones County, Georgia

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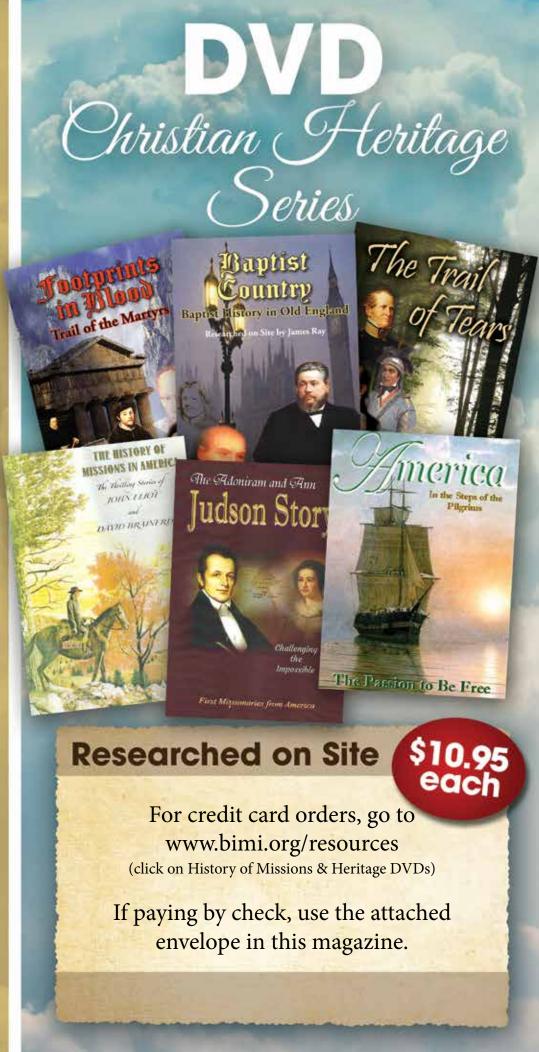
Baptist International Missions, Inc.

The 100+ Nations Ministry

The International Bible Ministry

Volume 15, Number 1





### EDITORIAL

JAMES RAY, Editor

## I Love Home.

I love Home! As a preacher of the Gospel, I have had to become reconciled to the fact that Home in my life would be in many places. I have pastored churches in Tennessee, Illinois, and Alabama, and lived in two foreign lands thousands of miles . . . from home.



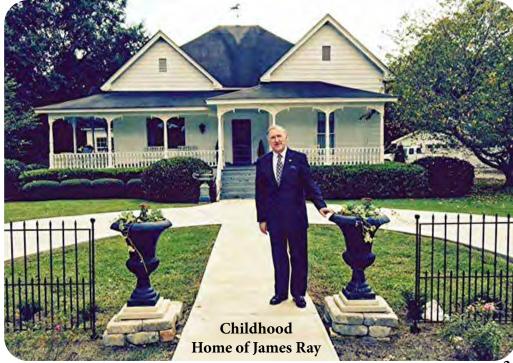
Home to me must be the will of God and that is where I feel at home. But my heart wanders back . . . to the old farm house and the woods around it where I use to play and where I heard Mother's voice calling me a hundred thousand times; to the big fireplaces; to daddy on the tractor, going and coming from work; and to the big oak trees—those gigantic oak trees which initially stood in the front yard, dead in winter, green in spring, and golden brown in the autumn. There were seven children who played around those trees, grew up, and went out to different walks of life to face the burdens that life brings.

**Home**—where I was born. **Home**—where Mother taught me to pray. One of the hardest tests for me has been to live hundreds of miles away from HOME. The house is now lovingly kept by other members of the family whose roots can be traced back to Robert Ray who built the great house about 1907. I remember when Mary and I came in from Australia. Approaching the farm, we would see the lights of home. Our hearts were stirred. Now, for us it is a place of memories. My family and siblings have gone to their other eternal Home.

I think of what the word HOME must mean to others—to missionaries in foreign lands like Russia, Africa, and Asia; to soldiers who stand guard at military installations in lonely locations around the world; and to those in the hospital confined to a bed. God is the One who planted this love for home in the human heart. Home in its purest sense is a picture of Heaven—the home of the soul. We must be diligent in

sharing Christ and thereby sharing Heaven with people everywhere. Death comes... and with it comes the final destination of the human race to Hell and separation from God or...

#### Home!



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Jason and Jessica McAllister— Jessica is the great, great granddaughter of Robert Ray.

# PONON The Eternal Home of the Saved

Missions exist for one reason—getting as many people to Heaven as possible. BIMI has been the mission agency for thousands of missionaries who have been sent by their local churches and who have gone out over the past 60 years to various countries of the world. Their goal... telling the Story of Christ and Heaven at the end of the way!

#### The Fact of that Eternal Home!

Heaven is not a dream or theory but a place. It is being prepared by Jesus Christ Himself. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God. . . . In my Father's house are many mansions. . . . I go to prepare a place for you (John 14:1-3). There are three heavens mentioned in Scripture: (1) atmospheric heaven when the Bible mentions rain and snow from heaven, (2) the celestial heaven, the area above the atmosphere where the sun and the moon are located, (3) the third heaven where God dwells. In 1 Kings 8:27 we read: Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee. Paul mentions in his writings the "third heaven." Today men scoff at the idea of a life beyond the grave but we can see the First Heaven. Astronauts in their space machines visit the Second Heaven. I know there is the Third Heaven and I am going there!

#### Where is heaven located?

It is possibly in the north. For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south (Psalm 75:6). Every direction is mentioned leaving only the "north." For some reason the sacrificial offering was offered NORTHWARD. Ezekiel had a vision of God coming from the "north" (Ezekiel 1:4).

Scientists have discovered one area in the region of the North Star which appears empty. No stars have ever been seen there—only a faint luminous glow. Is it possible that is where GOD dwells or the third heaven? Some scientists describe this black hole as a collection of gas and provide various explanations. However, in the end they admit to speculation. Whether or not this vast area with no visible stars and faint distant light is the place of God's habitation,

we can be sure that He abides in the north. He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing (Job 26:7). The size is mentioned and the location is mentioned. Heaven is a fact.

**No Crying** — In Heaven there will be no crying or an absence of tears. Every adult carries in his or her heart memories that can bring tears to their eyes. All earthly griefs will not be carried into that place. The only tears will be for unbelieving friends



and loved ones who must be banished from God's presence. Beyond that all tears will be wiped away.

**No** Cemeteries — Where are the grave diggers in this city? We will not need them. There will be no cemeteries, no funeral homes, and no hearses.

*No Cares* — All worry is left behind. Our burdens, worries, and cares will be gone. What peace!

**No Curse** — The curse of sin-sickness and death will be removed. There will be no cancer, no heart attacks, and no diseases. This is the Christian's LONG HOME.

#### The Father in that Eternal Home

Jesus referred to His "Father's house." This does not mean that God is "absent" from the earth. Jeremiah warned the people of his day that they could not neglect God (Jeremiah 23:23, 24).

#### Man goeth to his long home (Ecclesiastes 12:5).





David said, Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence (Psalm 139:7)? God dwells in the heavens but His presence is everywhere. Like a teacher before a class—every pupil is within his sight and range and voice. Each pupil is within his immediate presence although he is standing in one spot.

#### The Family & Friends in that Eternal Home

A Christian man said, "When I was a boy, I thought of heaven as a great shinning city with vast walls and spires with only angels in it who were strangers to me. My little brother died; and I thought of a great city with walls, and spires, unknown angels, and one little fellow I knew. Then another brother died, and there were two there that I knew. Then my friends and acquaintances began to die and the flock continually grew. But it was not until I had sent one of my little children to Heaven that I began to think that I had someone there myself. A second went, a third and by that time I had so many acquaintances in Heaven that I did not see any more walls and spires. I began to think of the people of Heaven. Now, so many of my acquaintances have gone there that it sometimes seems to me that I know more people in Heaven than I do on earth. Paul touched on this when he wrote in Ephesians 3:15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.

How do they look? I believe they will retain earthly identity. Read 1 Corinthians 13:12—For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. The Scripture hints that the prime of life will be restored. Jesus was 33 when he died. Old age and infancy are imperfect stages. John states in 1 John 3:2 that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Will we know one another? Again, look at 1 Corinthians 13:12. I shall know even as also I am known. We will not know less there than we do here but more than we do now. Abraham gave up the ghost, and died . . . and was gathered to his people (Genesis 25:8). There are

many instances in the Bible where we read that death was a gathering again to our people.

What kind of bodies do our loved ones in Heaven have now? After death, Christians are clothed with a spirit body that is recognizable. We know that from the experience on the mountain when Peter, James, and John met Moses and Elijah. Moses was recognizable, although he had been in Heaven many years (see Luke 9:30).

What kind of bodies will they have after the resurrection? John states that when He shall appear we shall be like Him. Paul tell us in Philippians 3:21: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body. His body after the resurrection was a body without limitations.

What are our loved ones DOING in Heaven? I read of a man who died and on his grave was the inscription:

"Don't weep for me now, don't weep for me ever For I'm going to do nothing forever and ever."

Heaven is a place of activity. *Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night* (Revelation 7:15).

When does a Christian go to Heaven? Let Paul answer: We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:8). There is no such thing as "soul sleep." Many times in the Bible sleep refers to the death of the body—not the person who inhabits the body. A Christian never dies. A Christian is deathless. The body dies but not the Christian who occupies the body. Some of our readers have said goodbye to husbands, wives, mothers, and fathers or children. Remember the words Absent — Present. If the Rapture occurs in our lifetime, Believers will not have to die, but death is the Golden Gate Bridge to Heaven for the Christian. That is why we must witness and pray for unsaved loved ones.





#### The Finality of that Eternal Home

Man goeth to his long home (Ecclesiastes 12:5). Nothing seems steady or firm in these last days. There are thousands of desperate people without an anchor. We hear of their suicides, plunging themselves into endless hell. We hear of wars and rumors of war, of fear, of dread, and of evil abounding. The story of the missionary is "Come go with us to Heaven." Jesus Christ and ONLY Jesus Christ is the door to peace and Eternity.

A fierce storm was sweeping the Great Lakes. A steam tugboat towing a barge began to founder. The captain and his mates abandoned the tugboat and took to a small boat. All night long they tossed to and fro, fighting the darkness and the waves, every instant in jeopardy of their lives. In the morning they were rescued by a passing ship. The captain afterward testified that all the long night as they were beaten and tossed by the tempest that there was one thing which kept their hearts from sinking in despair. It was this. Shinning through the darkness and the storm across the water, though far away—they could see the—LIGHTS OF HOME.

Friends, get a glimpse of the lights of Heaven. Put Jesus first in your life because one of these days . . . the call will come

— Man goeth to his long home.

Finally Home

by Don Wyrtzen

When engulfed by the terror of tempestuous sea,

Unknown waves before you roll; At the end of doubt and peril is eternity, Though fear and conflict seize your soul.

But just think of stepping on shore
And finding it Heaven!
Of touching a hand

And finding it God's!

Of breathing new air

And finding it celestial!

Of waking up in glory And finding it home!

When surrounded by
The blackness of the darkest night,
O how lonely death can be;
At the end of this long tunnel is a shining light,
For death is swallowed up in victory!

But just think of stepping on shore
And finding it Heaven!
Of touching a hand
And finding it God's!
Of breathing new air
And finding it celestial!
Of waking up in glory

And finding it home!



# Reseeding The United Kingdom Bible Campaign

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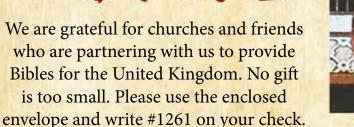






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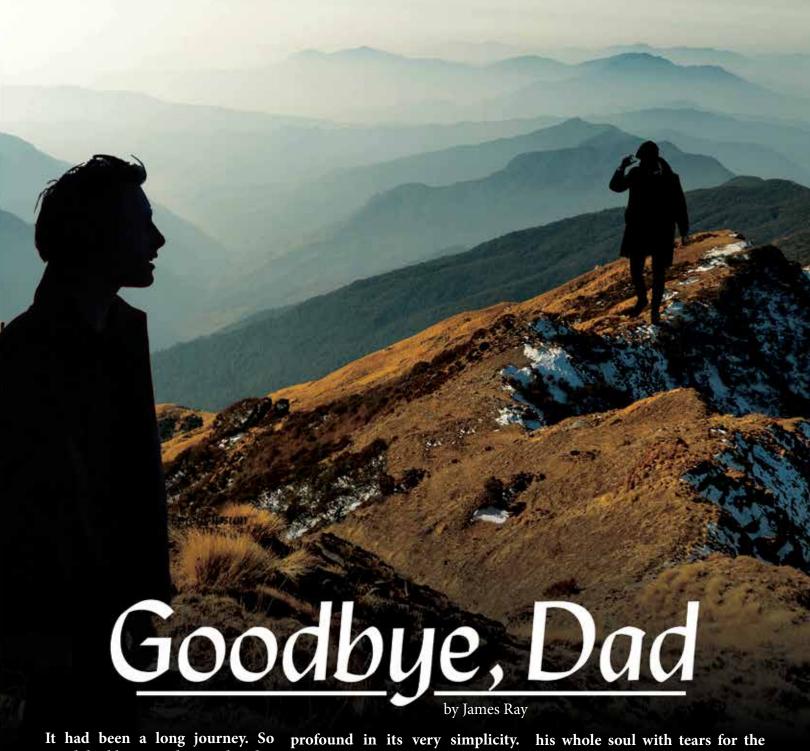
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It had been a long journey. So much had happened since that day in Scotland when John Paton said "goodbye" to his father. That goodbye lingered with Paton throughout his entire life as if it were but yesterday. The bond between the two men was life-long although they were separated by worlds. The influence of James Paton on his son's life is a legend within itself. James and Janet Paton had eleven children. Those children witnessed a faith in God

profound in its very simplicity. After each meal those children observed their father as he led the family in worship.

The echo of those prayers lingered long in their minds and hearts. John Paton once wrote, "He walked with God, why may not I? . . . How much my father's prayers impressed me I can never explain, nor could any stranger understand. When on his knees and all of us kneeling around him in Family Worship, He poured out

his whole soul with tears for the conversion of the heathen world to the service of Jesus, and for every personal and domestic need. We all felt as if we were in the presence of the Living Saviour." 1

Forty years after the event, John wrote of his departure from home to train for missionary service. John was leaving home for Glasgow to attend divinity school in preparation for missionary service. John Paton was in his early twenties. The distance from his

village, Torthorwald, to the train station at Kilmarnock was 40 miles. John Paton, remembering that day, wrote:

My dear father walked with me the first six miles of the way. His counsels and tears and heavenly conversation on that parting journey are fresh in my heart as if it had been but yesterday; and tears are on my cheeks as freely now as then, whenever

memory steals me away to the scene.

or the last half-mile or so we walked Ton together in almost unbroken silence, my father, as was often his custom carrying hat in hand. . . . His lips kept moving in silent prayers for me; and his tears fell fast when our eyes met each other in looks for which all speech was vain! We halted on reaching the appointed parting place; he grasped my hand firmly for a minute in silence, and then, solemnly and affectionately said, 'God bless you, my son! Your father's God prosper you, and keep you from all evil!'

Unable to say more, his lips kept moving in silent prayer; in tears we embraced, and parted. I ran off as fast as I could; and, when about to turn a comer in the road where he would lose sight of me, I looked back and saw him still standing with head uncovered where I had left him-gazing after me. Waving my hat in adieu, I rounded the comer and out of sight for an instant. But my heart was too full and sore to carry me further, so I darted into the side of the road and wept for a time. Then, rising up cautiously, I climbed the dike to see if he yet stood where I had left him, and just at that moment I caught a glimpse of him climbing the dike and looking out for me.

> He did not see me, and after he gazed eagerly in my direction for a while he got down, set his face toward home, and began to return, his head still uncovered, and his heart, I felt sure, still rising in prayers for me. I watched through blinding tears, till his form faded from my gaze, and then, hastening on my way,

vowed deeply and oft, by the help of God, to live and act so as never to grieve or

dishonor such a father and mother as he had given me."2

I watched through blinding tears, till his form faded from my gaze.

That scene would be embedded in John Paton's heart for the rest of his life. His father's prayers on that walk would remain a source of strength even in the cannibal islands of the South Pacific. Captain James Cook explored the New Hebrides in 1773, giving the chain of eighty islands that name because of the similarities with the Hebrides Islands off the coast of Scotland.

**John Paton's Home Church** 



John Paton

**T**n 1839, John William and **■** James Harris from the London Missionary Society landed in the islands. The two missionaries found a place with absolutely no Christian influence and totally heathen. Both of these missionaries eventually were killed and eaten by the cannibals on the island of Erromanga, only minutes after going ashore. John Paton, later writing of this event said, "Thus were the New Hebrides baptized with the blood of martyrs; and Christ thereby told the whole Christian world that he claimed these islands as His own."3

In 1842 the London Missionary Society sent another team to

the New Hebrides to the Island of Tanna. Within seven months the missionaries were forced to flee. In this context on April 16, 1858, John Paton, then 33 years of age, sailed for the New Hebrides (via Australia) with his wife Mary. The couple landed on the Island of Tanna on November 5. Tanna was a beautiful South Pacific island but lurking with dangers. The first night behind him on the Island of Tanna, John was ready to do a great work for Christ in reaching these pagan people with the Word of God.

John instructed his wife and baby to stay at the camp while he went to a nearby spring to catch some water for a pot of tea for breakfast. When he approached the spring, he was dismayed to find the water polluted and unusable. The water was RED . . . blood red. It was in fact filled with blood. This first event in John Paton's missionary contact with this island symbolized his whole ministry. This would be a ministry filled with blood for the sake of Christ.

When Paton landed the day before, war was in progress between an inland tribe and a tribe of the shore. That night five or six men had been killed in the fighting. The slain had been cooked and eaten at the spring and this accounted for the blood. Paton and his wife were dismayed. Without doubt, thoughts of home and Scotland filled their minds.

The second night was filled with a sound more blood curdling even than the howls of infuriated warriors. From the villages around, Paton and his wife heard the horrific wailing from the widows of the slain as they



Mary Ray with caretaker—John Paton's boyhood home was located next door to the house above but mistakenly torn down. The houses were identical.

were strangled, thus making way for them to join their departed husbands in the other world.

This was a hard and dangerous field of service. Paton's lovely wife and precious little son were a great comfort to him in these days of adjustment to such an environment. They had each other. Nothing could shake them. During this time, his father's prayers and Mary's gentle encouragement held him fast. John and Mary had arrived on Tanna in November of 1858. In March of 1859, four months later, a lonely man dug a grave and laid the bodies of his wife and son in the dust. They had both died of a fever. Each shovel of dirt which covered the hole was mingled with tears from a heart so broken it could not go on. He dug two graves with his own hands and buried his wife and baby beside the house that he had built for them.

Paton lingered near the little cemetery in the days and weeks that followed. That grave was as near to Mary as he could be, although unfulfilling. Paton wrote about this tragedy:

"Stunned by that dreadful loss, in entering upon this field of labor to which the Lord had Himself so evidently led me, my reason seemed for a time almost to give way. The ever-merciful Lord sustained me . . . and that spot became my sacred and much frequented shrine, during all the following months and years when I labored on for the salvation of the savage islanders amidst difficulties, dangers, and deaths. . . . But for Jesus, and the fellowship he gave to me there, I must have gone mad and died beside the lonely grave."

Just at the time of Mary's death, a mission ship arrived in the island from England. On board were two men, Bishop Selwyn and Mr. Coleridge Patterson (later the Martyr Bishop of Nukapu). Paton wrote:

"Standing with me beside the grave of mother and child, I weeping aloud on his one hand and Patterson sobbing

silently on the other, the Godly Bishop Selwyn poured out his heart to God amidst sobs and tears during which time he laid his hands on my head, asking God to bless me and my trying labors." (Source Unknown)

Strengthened by these angels unaware,
Paton and God again set out to do a
work among the heathen in the South
Pacific. In 1864, John Paton married
again. His second wife was Margaret
Whitecross from East Lothian,

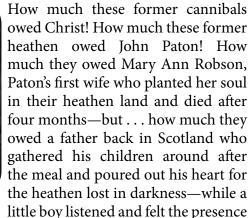
Scotland. In 1864, John and his wife arrived at the small island of Aniwa. The people were cannibals and also practiced infanticide. They followed the heathen custom of killing widows so they could join their husbands in the next world. The natives also worshiped the spirits of departed ancestors along with idols of wood and stone. It seemed an impossibility that such despicable people could ever change. At times his heart wavered. Paton learned the language and eventually reduced it to written form. The couple taught the people to read and translated and printed the Scriptures. He built an orphanage and Margaret taught a class of about fifty women.

The people under their teaching learned to be experts at sewing and using special tools. They taught the people to sing. Eventually, there were native preachers taking the Gospel throughout all the villages in Fiji and the islands.

More than 79,000 cannibals have been brought under the influence of the Gospel and 13,000 members of the churches are professing to live and work for Jesus.

Later recalling the influence of the Gospel of Christ in the South Pacific, Paton wrote:

"On our own Aneityujjm, 3,500 cannibals have been lead to renounce their heathenism. In Samoa, 34,000 cannibals have professed Christianity; and in nineteen years, its college has sent forth 206 native teachers and evangelists. On our New Hebrides, more than 12,000 cannibals have been brought to sit at the feet of Christ and 133 of the natives have been trained and sent forth as teachers and preachers of the Gospel."5



of a living God! John never forgot his father. That last walk with his father before leaving home was always fresh upon his heart.

"For the last half-mile or so we walked on together in almost unbroken silence—my father, as was often his custom carrying hat in hand. . . . His lips kept moving in silent prayers for me; and his tears fell fast when our eyes met each other in looks for which all speech was vain!"

With a heart full of tears, John Paton said, "Goodbye, Dad," but in truth James Paton would always be there with his son John. Through all the grief and struggle and death, he would be there . . .

# It would NEVER be GOODBYE!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> John G. Paton, *John G. Paton: Missionary to the Hebrides: an Autobiography* (Fleming H. Revell Company, 1889), p. 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Autobiography, pp. 25, 26

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Autobiography, p.75.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Autobiography, p. 80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> George Patterson, Missionary Life among the Cannibals: Being the Life of the Rev. John Geddie, D.D., First Missionary to the New Hebrides; with the History of the Nova Scotia Presbyterian Mission on that Group (Toronto: James Campbell and Son, 1882), p. 508.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Autobiography, pp. 25, 26.

jibouti is situated between Ethiopia and Eritrea to the north and Somalia to the south. Strategically located in the Horn of Africa at the mouth of the Red Sea, Djibouti is a key United States partner on security, regional stability, and humanitarian efforts across the region. Djibouti hosts the only permanent United States military presence in Africa at Camp Lemonnier, established by formal agreement in 2003. A bilateral agreement with

depends heavily on foreign help.

It is reported that Djibouti is a poor, predominantly urban country, characterized by high rates of illiteracy, unemployment, and childhood malnutrition. More than 75% of the population lives in cities and towns (predominantly in the capital, Djibouti). The rural population subsists primarily on nomadic herding. Prone to droughts and floods, the country has few natural resources and must import more than 80% of its food from neighboring countries or Europe. Health care, particularly outside the capital, is limited by poor infrastructure, shortages of equipment and supplies, and a lack of qualified personnel.1

ore than a third of health care recipients Mare migrants because the services are still better than those available in their neighboring home countries. The government holds longstanding ties to France, which maintains a military presence in the country, as does the United States, Japan, Italy, Germany, Spain, and China. The largest city is Djibouti with a population over 600,000. The entire country has less than a million people.

Come Christians reside in the Ethiopian Opopulation. Djibouti is historically an Islamic state, but other religions are given freedom to worship. French and Arabic are the official languages but there are four languages spoken in the country. The Bible is available in two of those languages. There are many Christians among the Ethiopian refugees living in Djibouti. The whole Bible is available in two languages. A third group has the New Testament but one of the people groups has no Bible at all. This is a small country but John 3:16 applies to this tiny spot.

<sup>1</sup>The World Factbook by the CIA



# 10,000 Miles Away From Home



A sound overhead drew my attention away from the task of hanging clothes on the line to dry. I shielded my eyes from the warm morning sun and peered into the beautiful blue sky. I watched as a plane circled the city, straightened, and started its long journey. I stood mesmerized as it grew smaller and smaller until I could no longer see it.

I was a young missionary wife and mother, serving "Down Under" in the country of Australia, which was as far away from home as I could get. Since it was before the days of computers,

cell phones, email, and face time, our connections to home consisted of letters from family members, which were postmarked weeks earlier, and a twice yearly cassette tape with words of love and encouragement from our family. We also received a yearly phone call, which came at 2:00 am Monday morning Australian time, from our home church on Homecoming Day. Phone calls from Brisbane to America had to be booked through an international operator and were very expensive. Consequently, they were only made

in emergencies.

It was not the first time I had seen the plane. Actually, watching it had almost become a Thursday morning ritual. While dozens of planes landed and took off from the nearby Brisbane Airport every day, I was only interested in one, the once a week flight to America. When it ascended through the clouds and disappeared, an overwhelming sense of homesickness and longing for home engulfed me. Even though I could no longer see it, my eyes stayed fixed on the sky until I gained my composure and pushed aside my thoughts of home. I finished hanging the clothes on the line, grabbed the laundry basket, and went inside.

The Lord had blessed my husband and me and our children in many ways. We had wonderful friends and a church family in Australia, and although I was happy and content with God's will for my life, the plane always stirred a deep longing for HOME.

Since the Apostle Peter said we are pilgrims and strangers in this world, should we not have the same longing for our Heavenly home as we have for our earthly home? Jesus is preparing a place for us and that place is Heaven. Phoebe Cary wrote in 1852—

One sweetly solemn thought Comes to me o'er and o'er; I am nearer home today Than I've e'er been before.





The *Nations Magazine* was very inspiring. I rejoice to again read the story of Billie and Ed Beck. What a great love story! They only had a few months together but they were great for one another. Thank you for your faithfulness.

**Don Sisk** 

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dear Friends:

I wanted to write just after we received the *Nations Magazine*. We read it straight through and were fed the rich blessings from every page. Your articles were so edifying—our favorites "Can We Know the Will of God?" and "When God Speaks." Both were very special to our hearts.

Arnold & Sue Fair Montgomery, Michigan

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior to both of you. May you continue to draw nearer and nearer to our Lord. I was so glad to receive your recent letter. That letter reminded me of how dedicated you both are in the service of our Lord. We will continue to pray for the Lord's guidance and blessings upon both of you until we meet again. In the Love of Jesus,

Sammy & Laureen Bakri Fairfax, Virginia

We wanted to thank you for the addition of 10,000 New Testaments. We officially completed those 10,000 by September 2022. Since moving locations, we managed to hit a larger circumference to get the Word of God out in Aberdeen, Scotland. We are in the process of purchasing a building in Kincorth and praying that this is finalized in the summer time. After this completion, we would love to get more New Testaments to pass out. We pray that many more missionaries will participate in sowing the Word of God in their cities. In Christ,

Rick Demastus Aberdeen Scotland

Brother and Sister Ray, Thank you for the inspiration of the *Nations Magazine*.

David Lippert Flower Mound, Texas

This is just a note to say Thank You for the *Nations Magazine* you sent to me. It is a blessing—well presented, good articles, and blessed memories. May God bless your mission work and your outreach for our Wonderful Lord.

Your friend,

Dr. Larry Clayton SEA Ministries, Celina, Ohio

# CHRISTIAN HERITAGE RESOURCES

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Incredible Journey in the Steps of Greatness — \$10.95

(available in 3 audio CD set)—\$10.95

**Journey to Eternity** — \$9.95

(sets forth the credibility of Christianity and answers questions about death, Heaven, and the hereafter)

Embracing the World – \$10.95 (the history of BIMI and missions stories)

Incredible Stories Along the Journey — \$10.95

(Please add \$2.50 for shipping. Add \$3.50 for 2 or more items.)

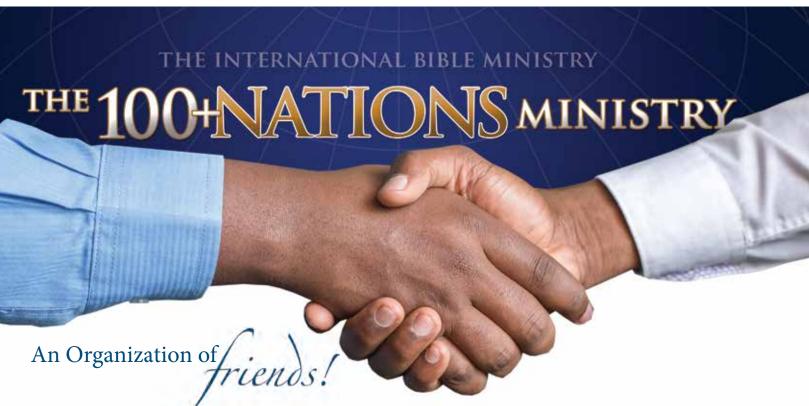
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If paying by check, use the attached envelope in this magazine.





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Your friendship for the unreached nations of the world and for the servants of God is priceless. In reality, BIMI is an organization of FRIENDS—friends working together to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. What can you do?

**ADOPT A COUNTRY**. Survey the list of names at the bottom of this article and ask God to lay a country on your heart. Pray for that country. Gather data on the need. Ask God to send men and women there to evangelize.

**SPONSOR THE 100+NATIONS MINISTRY** and the **INTERNATIONAL BIBLE MINISTRY**. Pray for James and Mary Ray as they head up these ministries.

Friends of this ministry receive the *NATIONS MAGAZINE* and other reports to keep them informed on our ministry as friends.

Target Nations and Fields — Albania, Armenia, Belgium, Portugal, Finland, Macedonia/Serbia, Suriname, French Guiana, Slovakia, Holland, Slovenia, Latvia, Myanmar (Pray that this country will soon be open for resident missionaries.)