

conferences. He was then approaching 70 years of age. He said, "Oh Mr. Bright, there's so many people that are more qualified than I to speak to your group."

He did agree to come and speak to us, and when this great man got up to speak he was anointed by God, although by nature he was very reserved. He didn't think he was that great. But his words were great because he exalted Jesus. That is the key.

I don't know how many thousands of times I have thought of that as a principle to follow: When I write, exalt Jesus; when I speak, exalt Jesus. No one or nothing else is as important as He.

When you get down to it, church is not going to save us. Religion is not going to save us. Christianity is not going to save us. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus -- the Christ, the Messiah, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Word made flesh. He is the one who died for us. He is the one who lives within us. He is the one who transforms us.

If we could faithfully and consistently communicate the true person of Christ and the reality of life in Him, many unbelievers would gladly turn to Him. We have a duty to know what we believe and why we believe it so we can share the gospel. Peter says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15, NIV).



In recent years, the church has often discarded many fundamental principles because it fears looking foolish in the world's eyes. But it is foolish not to present the whole gospel. As the church recommits itself to the authority of God's Word, and proclaims Christ, revival will come.

Yours for helping to fulfill the Great Commission each year until our Lord returns,

Bill Bright

## Central Mountains Baptist Church

# APRIL 17, 2016

## The Most Thrilling Adventure!

*I decided to concentrate only on Jesus Christ and his death on the cross*

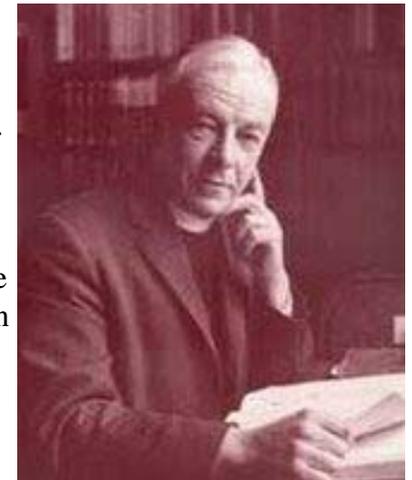
Dear friends:

As a new believer in 1945 I read a statement that had a profound influence on my life. It was by Sir James Stewart of Scotland, a famous New Testament scholar.

He said: "If we could but show the whole world that being committed to Christ is no tame, humdrum, sheltered monotony but the most thrilling, exciting adventure the human spirit can ever know, then those who have been standing outside the church and looking askance at Christ would come crowding in to pay allegiance to Him. And we might well expect the greatest revival since Pentecost."

That statement has greatly influenced everything I have ever written or spoken for more than 50 years.

James Stewart was a great scholar and a godly, humble man. I remember calling him at his home in Scotland and inviting him to speak at one of my





# I Peter: Overcoming Suffering

## Christian Apologetics I

**(Matthew 10:16-20)** *"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. {17} 'But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. {18} 'You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. {19} 'But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; {20} 'for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.'"*



1 Peter 3:15 commands us to be witness-ready. We suggest that there are two steps to being witness-ready:

**1. Be ready to \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_,**

◆ Be ready to give your \_\_\_\_\_,



**(Romans 3:23)** *"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"*

**(Romans 10:9)** *"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."*

**(Revelation 21:4)** *"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."*

◆ Learn a \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ,  
(see book mark)



**2. Be ready to \_\_\_\_\_ common \_\_\_\_\_,** v 13-15

◆ Why should I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**(2 Timothy 3:16)** *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, ..."*

**(Isaiah 45:1-6)** *"Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held; To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut: {2} 'I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron. {3} I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the LORD, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel. {4} For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me. {5} I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, {6} That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other;"*

**(Isaiah 44:28)** *"Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, 'You shall be built,' And to the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'"*

**(Ezekiel 37:1-12)** *"The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. {2} Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. {3} And He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' So I answered, 'O Lord GOD, You know.' {4} Again He said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! {5} Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: 'Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. {6} 'I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.'" {7} So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. {8} Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them. {9} Also He said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: 'Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.'" {10} So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army. {11} Then He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' {12} 'Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.'"*

**(Ephesians 2:1)** *".. were dead in trespasses and sins,"*

**(Romans 11:26)** *"And so all Israel will be saved, ...;"*

**(Matthew 24:44)** *"Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."*

