

“The Death of Joshua” Joshua 24:1-33 3/17/24

Today, we'd like to see the title of “The Death of Joshua” in Joshua 24:1-33.

To Online Word's souls, *through MP3 or YouTube Channel*, on the earth, we'd like to suggest the 3 expositional Questions. (*Maranatha Worship Songs*. Videos are watchable upon the click on the website). **YouTube Channel is not Available in China, Iran, Germany, etc. where only MP3 is available**

Q1. In verse 14, “Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!” what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

Q2. In verses 15-16, “And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. ¹⁶ So the people answered and said: Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods,” what do these mean in the context? And how can we apply these to our lives?

Q3. In verse 19, “But Joshua said to the people, You cannot serve the LORD, for He *is* a holy God. He *is* a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins,” what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

(Background for context of this text on Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)

In the last time, in Joshua 23:16, “When you have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed down to them, then the anger of the LORD will burn against you, and you shall perish quickly from the good land which He has given you,” our Lord is faithful to His word, that He will punish those who serve other gods – those who love other gods more than or equal to God – accordingly. Sadly, the following history -- such as Assyria's conquering Israel in 722BC and Babylon's conquering Judah in 586 BC -- proves His faithful word in the Scripture.

In this chapter 23, Joshua told all the people, reminding the past works of God and exhorting people to continually obey the Lord faithfully. God will be faithful to His word whether it would be for good or evil in our lives.

Verses 1-13: The reviewed covenant at Shechem;

Verses 14-25: Israel's choice to serve the Lord;

Verses 26-28: The stone of witness;

Verses 29-33: Joshua's death.

See the Shechem-map. Shechem was located in west Manasseh parcel near to Ephraim parcel. See Shechem, Mt Ephraim in south, Mt Gerizim in west, and Mt Ebal in north just as references for this last chapter 24 of Joshua.



<https://bible-history.com/old-testament/shechem-map>

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Your fathers, *including* Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods. ³Then I took your father Abraham from the other side of the River, led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his descendants and gave him Isaac. ⁴To Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. To Esau I gave the mountains of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt. ⁵Also I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to what I did among them. Afterward I brought you out.

⁶'Then I brought your fathers out of Egypt, and you came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued your fathers with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. ⁷So they cried out to the LORD; and He put darkness between you and the Egyptians, brought the sea upon them, and covered them. And your eyes saw what I did in Egypt. Then you dwelt in the wilderness a long time. ⁸And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, who dwelt on the other side of the Jordan, and they fought with you. But I gave them into your hand, that you might possess their land, and I destroyed them from before you. ⁹Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose to make war against Israel,

1-13 =(The covenant had been reviewed at Shechem for the reaffirmed covenant in verse 25. Here Joshua gave the brief history about God's past works for Israel to exhort them to keep on obeying God.)

1= (Shechem was between mount Gerizim and mount Ebel. From the mount Gerizim, half tribes of Israel called the blessings if they would obey God, while from mount Eble, the other tribes of Israel called curses if they would disobey God. In NT time, Jesus talked with a Samaritan woman who said her ancestors worshipped in the mount Gerizim. *Joshua 8:33; Deuteronomy 11:29; Deuteronomy 27:12-13; John 4:20¹*)

¹ *Joshua 8:33* Then all Israel, with their elders and officers and judges, stood on either side of the ark before the priests, the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, the stranger as well as he who was born among them. Half of them *were* in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel; *Deuteronomy 11:29* Now it shall be, when the LORD your God has brought you into the land which you go to possess, that you shall put the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal; *Deuteronomy 27:12-13* These shall stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people, when you have crossed over the Jordan: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin; ¹³ and these shall stand on Mount Ebal to curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali; *John 4:20* Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.

and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you. ¹⁰ But I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he continued to bless you. So I delivered you out of his hand. ¹¹ Then you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho. And the men of Jericho fought against you—*also* the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. But I delivered them into your hand. ¹² I sent the hornet before you which drove them out from before you, *also* the two kings of the Amorites, *but* not with your sword or with your bow. ¹³ I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.’

¹⁴ “Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!

¹⁵ And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

9 = (Balaam was a prophet who delivered God’s word and practiced sorcery, i.e., a false prophet)

14-25= (Israel’s choice to serve the Lord)

14=Q1 (First, reverence the Lord. Do a holy fear to God, not a fear in the sense of sin. Second, serve Him in sincerity, without pretense or in purity – The church today suffers much because a lot of services are not with sincerity. But in reality it was just for the money and just for the prestige. Ministers are not true shepherds who fleece the flock of God, not feed the flock of God. So, they are not in truth the 3rd recommendation portion, peddling the word of God for the fleshly things. If we love others more than or equal to God, if we have master passion of our life to others, those would be idols, such as money, pleasure, fleshly ambition, or human knowledges. E.g., Their ancestors’ idols -- it’s observed Laban’s family practiced idolatry, through Jacob’s 2nd wife Rachel’s stealing the household idols. We should keep ourselves from tangible or intangible idols, cleaving to undivided loyal hearts to the Lord for His glory, His kingdom, or His righteousness. *Gen 31:19; 2 Cor 2:17; 1 John 5:21²*)

15=Q2 (God would not violate human free will during grace time because God has created humans in His image. You may exercise your free will to choose God rather than another god. If you choose God, you are destined by God before your choice as well as you are known by God before your choice. So, you are chosen by the Lord because of His sovereignty. *Gen 2: 16-17; Luke 16:13; Rom 8:29; John 15:16³*)

² *Gen 31:19* Now Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel had stolen the household idols that were her father’s; *2 Cor 2:17* For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ.; *John 5:21* Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

³ *Gen 2: 16-17* And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die; *Luke 16:13* No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.; *Rom 8:29* For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren; *John 15:16* You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

¹⁶ So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷ for the LORD our God *is* He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed.

¹⁸ And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He *is* our God.”

¹⁹ But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for He *is* a holy God. He *is* a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. ²⁰ If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good.” ²¹ And the people said to Joshua, “No, but we will serve the LORD!” ²² So Joshua said to the people, “You *are* witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD for yourselves, to serve Him.” And they said, “*We are* witnesses!” ²³ “Now therefore,” *he said*, “put away the foreign gods which *are* among you, and incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel.” ²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!” ²⁵ So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

16= Q2 (The heathens desire to receive a lot of blessings, making a lot of gods with silver and gold the precious stones. All the people promised that they would not forsake the Lord to serve such other idols. But very soon God would charge them with breaking their covenant with God in the time of Judges. The covenant between God and people is mutual promises followed by performances. While God has performed His promise part faithfully, they failed to perform their promise part as we should not do so in the Spirit. Then, their promise was cheap, not fear of God, not sincere, or not true. *Psalm 135:15; Judges 2:2-3⁴*)

18= (They reaffirmed to serve the Lord, for He is our God. God’s name is Jehovah or Yahweh. God the title is called as Elohim in the Hebrew Word, who is trinity God.)

19=Q3 (God, due to His justice character, created calamity or evil for judgment against those who disobey the Lord or His way, not in the sense of sin. In brief, the covenant is if you seek Him, He will be found by you. If you forsake Him, He will forsake you. See verse 25. *Isaiah 45:7; 2 Chron 15:2⁵*)

25= (Joshua made a covenant with the people, reviewing the Mosaic law –in fact, this book of Joshua added to the Mosaic law or the first five books --- and putting a stone the reminder of the covenant to them in Shechem).

⁴ *Psalm 135:15* The idols of the nations *are* silver and gold, The work of men’s hands; *Judges 2:2-3* And you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed My voice. Why have you done this? ³ Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you; but they shall be *thorns* in your side, and their gods shall be a snare to you.’”

⁵ *Isaiah 45:7* I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity [evil]; I, the LORD, do all these *things*; *2 Chron 15:2* And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD *is* with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.

<p>26 Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD. 27 And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God." 28 So Joshua let the people depart, each to his own inheritance.</p> <p>29 Now it came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, <i>being</i> one hundred and ten years old. 30 And they buried him within the border of his inheritance at Timnath Serah, which <i>is</i> in the mountains of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash.</p> <p>31 Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had known all the works of the LORD which He had done for Israel.</p> <p>32 The bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried at Shechem, in the plot of ground which Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver, and which had become an inheritance of the children of Joseph.</p> <p>33 And Eleazar the son of Aaron died. They buried him in a hill <i>belonging to</i> Phinehas his son, which was given to him in the mountains of Ephraim.</p>	<p>26-28= (The large stone of witness)</p> <p>26= (A large stone under the oak by the sanctuary of the Lord was the witness or reminder to the written words in the Book of the law of God or the Mosaic law)</p> <p>29-33= (Joshua's death)</p> <p>29-30= (Joshua or Hoshea died at 110 age and buried on Mount Gaash in mountains of Ephraim. Joshua was of the tribe of Ephraim <i>Num 13:8⁶</i>)</p> <p>31= (Israel's service to the Lord during all the days of Joshua and during all the days of elders who outlived Joshua shows the good example of Joshua the man of faith to please God.)</p> <p>32= (The bones of Joseph, in about 400 years after his death at 110 age, was buried at Shechem the parcel of his 1st son Menasseh, as God kept His word in Joseph's faith <i>Gen 50:25-26; Heb11:22⁷</i>).</p> <p>33= (Eleazar the son of Aaron also died and buried on a hill belonging to Phinehas in the mountains of Ephraim.)</p>
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Note: Most Christians say the Bible is important, but rarely study every word in the Bible and

⁶ *Num 13:8* from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun

⁷ *Gen 50:25-26* Then Joseph took an oath from the children of Israel, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." ²⁶ So Joseph died, *being* one hundred and ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt; *Heb11:22* By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

commit it to the Lord. So, it's better to study it and live accordingly after the Spirit for the Lord (2 Tim 2:15). This online word for global crusade in effect develops from the expositional sermon (KJV), into spiritual transformation in daily love fellowship with the Lord throughout the Bible Study (NKJV) -- *All Scripture Expository Study from verse by verse Inductive Studies* -- of which application is the Discipleship and Spiritual Formation, closer to the image of Christ. We think that "Any human opinion is not really important rather than what God says. So, the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible per se. But the opinion to make us understand God's Word is acceptable (2 Corinthians 10:5)." Further, for the application, a life or spiritual experience might be helpful to understand how to apply an understood word in the text column, but it is temperately used like Paul, because nobody should think above that literal experience (2 Cor 12:6, Jer 23:28; Ne 8:8).

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Truth matters, regardless of online, offline, indoor, outdoor, at sea, or in sky services.



<https://www.calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/OnlineSermon2024.htm>

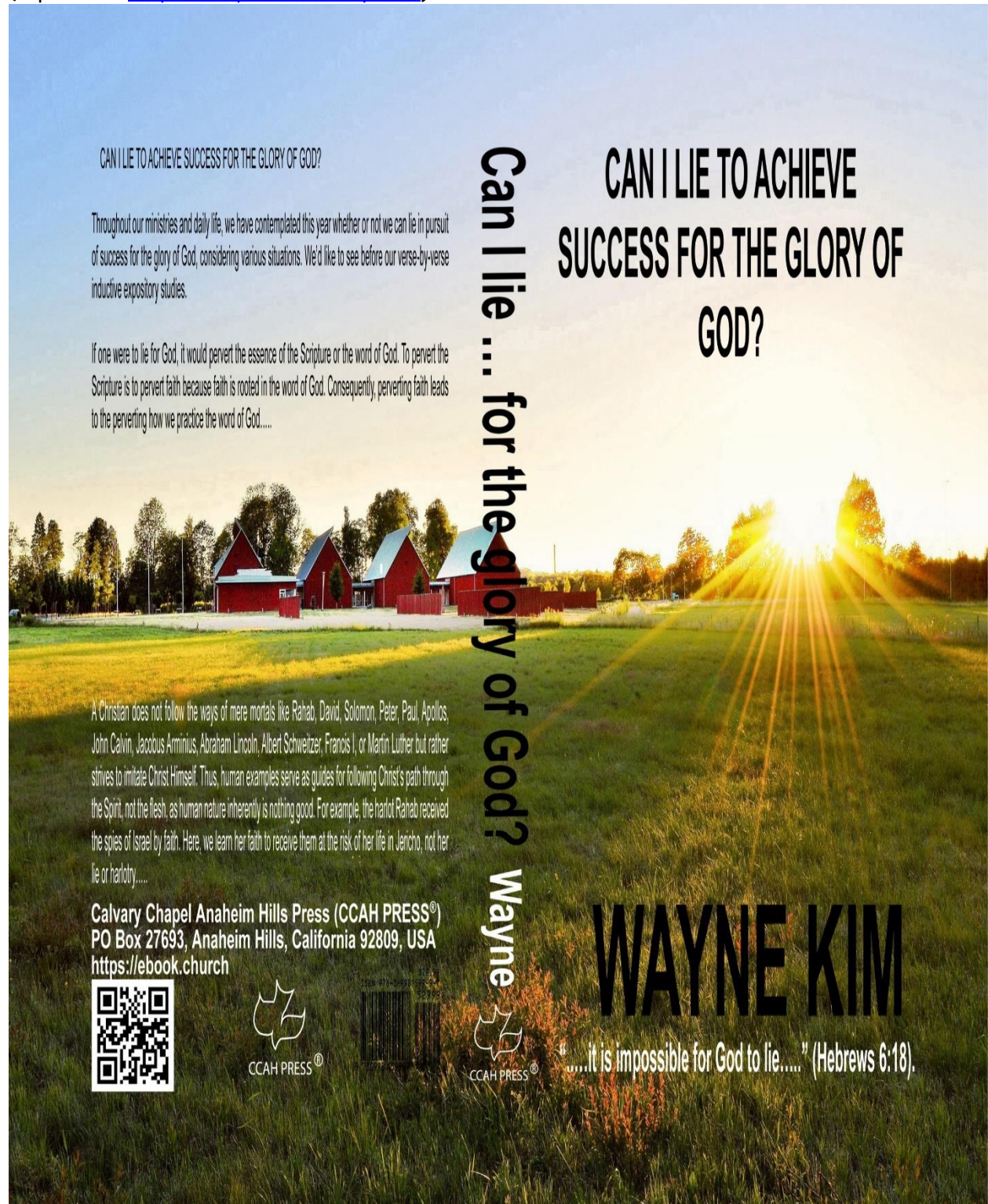
Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!

Please pray for weather change in Southern California, "Flooding and landslides." Also pray for other states, "Heavy Storm & Rain"



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CAN I LIE TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD?

Throughout our ministries and daily life, we have contemplated this year whether or not we can lie in pursuit of success for the glory of God, considering various situations. We'd like to see before our verse-by-verse inductive expository studies.

If one were to lie for God, it would pervert the essence of the Scripture or the word of God. To pervert the Scripture is to pervert faith because faith is rooted in the word of God. Consequently, perverting faith leads to the perverting how we practice the word of God....

A Christian does not follow the ways of mere mortals like Rahab, David, Solomon, Peter, Paul, Apollos, John Calvin, Jacobus Arminius, Abraham Lincoln, Albert Schweitzer, Francis I, or Martin Luther but rather strives to imitate Christ Himself. Thus, human examples serve as guides for following Christ's path through the Spirit, not the flesh, as human nature inherently is nothing good. For example, the harlot Rahab received the spies of Israel by faith. Here, we learn her faith to receive them at the risk of her life in Jericho, not her lie or harlotry....

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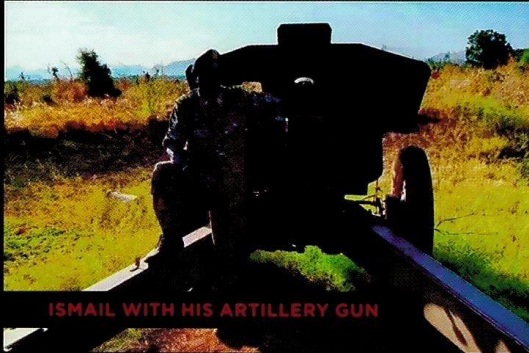
Can I lie ... for the glory of God? Wayne

CAN I LIE TO ACHIEVE
SUCCESS FOR THE GLORY OF
GOD?

WAYNE KIM

"...it is impossible for God to lie...." (Hebrews 6:18).

Pray for the Feeding People From Starvation and Sickness.



ISMAIL WITH HIS ARTILLERY GUN

God could deliver him. Ismail said that if God can heal me from this, He is real, and I will follow him and he did.

In one particular battle Ismail was in, his unit was being attacked by 700 Islamic enemy soldiers and his unit had only 100 men. His unit was told to attack even though they were greatly outnumbered, but he said, "Today is Sunday. Let us pray this whole day and seek our God that He will be with us." So, all the soldiers spent the day in prayer. The next day, Ismail took his artillery gun and fired seven shots; all seven hit critical enemy positions, and within a few minutes, the enemy was in full retreat leaving the area and did not return. The men spent the day giving thanks to the Lord for His deliverance. Ismail was known for many great feats of heroism, once capturing 16 enemy soldiers and three trucks full of military supplies. On another occasion, his position was hit by a surface-to-air missile (SAM) that killed over 100 soldiers and 30 civilians. Once again, Ismail escaped uninjured, and the people said it was because of his relationship with Christ that he was delivered.



WE STARTED THE FEEDING PROGRAM TO KEEP PEOPLE FROM STARVATION AND SICKNESS

I am at the chaplain base as this letter is being written. We sent for Ismail's wife to be brought from the Nuba

Mountains to the base. We will do our best to comfort her in her grief and give her the stipend that we give for each fallen chaplain, which can take care of her for years.

Ismail was around 55 years of age and served in the war for 37 years. In his life, he had brought many men and



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women to Christ. He had planted a church in a radical Muslim area where the people were some of the most violent, but to this day, his church is still alive with over 200 converted Muslims.

He never knew the comforts of this world but will know great peace throughout eternity, having given his all to protect his people and serve Christ.

Wes Bentley

Wes Bentley

Far Reaching Ministries

Calvary Anaheim Hills Missions:

"Greater Works" in John 14:12 -Our prayer support group are praying, offering, or going. You may do so. Psalm 83:18 "That they many know that You, whose name alone is the Lord, are the Most High over all the earth."

Bosnia and Herzegovina -- street evangelists.... MAP genocide

China -- Hannah, Jeremy, Merry, Mi Young... MAP

France -- Joy Diacou MAP

Haiti -- Brian McDaniel MAP

India -- Abraham Motakatia, Varughese Saji, Kris Davis, Y Suri, K P Yohannan MAP

Iran -- Christina, David, Ray Sleiman, Shahin, Reza, Brian.... MAP

Indonesia -- Choon Choi, Jong Kim, Robinson Pea MAP

Iraq, Afghanistan -- Heather Mercer, Sami T (in other Muslim countries)..... MAP MAP

Israel -- street evangelists.... MAP genocide

Italy -- Brent Harrell... MAP

Japan -- Chester Hudspeth, Janet McTaggart, Kyomasa & Taeko.... MAP

Kenya -- Ed Compean, Helen Ju, Rob Gordon... MAP

Lebanon -- Raymond Sleighman... MAP

Nepal -- Joseph & Esther Choi..... MAP

Nicaragua -- Michael & Jackelin Gaude..... MAP

Mexico -- Alex & Cruz Sanchez, Garry & Keri Goo, James & Monica Arista, Octavio, Martin, Victor & Sonia Mayoral..... MAP

North Korea -- Ed, Inquired Anonymous Missionaries..... MAP

Peru -- Timothy Kim, J Y Oh..... MAP

Philippines -- Dodong, Jim Davis..... MAP

Russia -- Robert Ovcharenko..... MAP

Scotland -- Chris & Jenn Lawsons, Steve Kostlan MAP

South Korea -- Mike, Peter, Seoung, Victor, Loudermilk... MAP

Sudan -- Gary Kusunoki, Robert, In Hwa Shin(Leprosy in other African countries), Wes Bentley... MAP

Uganda -- Brian Kelly... MAP

United Arab Emirates -- Simon Baek MAP

Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan -- Jed & Renee Gourley, George & Pam Markey.. MAP MAP

*Please pray for Missionaries and for Christians over all the earth.
James 5:16b ".....The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

See <https://calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/missioncountries.htm>