

PRAISE News

Foundation of Praise • P.O. Box 2518 • Escondido, CA 92033-2518 • 760.741.2755 • www.foundationofpraise.org



The Joy of Learning



By Merlin Carothers

It may seem difficult to believe that God is working for our good when we do not see evidence that He is

doing so. We may be like doubting Thomas who wouldn't believe that Jesus was alive until he could see and touch Him: Jesus said, *Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed* (John 20:29 NIV).

When we see others suffering it's easy to wonder how God could *possibly* use that for their good. It may help us to believe that He *will*, if we consider the many things that we *do* believe – even when we cannot see them for ourselves.

For example, the universe. We can see less than one percent of what we believe exists out there. Think of it. There are trillions of stars that we cannot see, yet we believe they are there.

Do you believe that if you were out in space the earth's gravity would no longer pull you downward? There are many things that we believe without having actually experienced them.

We believe the incredibly complex things that scientists have discovered about our body.

I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well (Ps. 139:14).

We may never see with our eyes that this world is round, but we believe that it is. As we practice praising God, we will experience new reasons to believe that He is working for our good!

God asks us to believe that He is always working for our good. He may or may not let us see *what* He is doing, but He will help us learn to believe. Ever since God created mankind, He has been telling us that He wants us to *believe* Him.

As we are learning how to believe God, we can listen to or read what others have experienced. Just as some have seen the earth from space, others have seen God working in the most difficult situations for their good. I've recorded many of these experiences in my books and will continue to do so for as long as God gives me the strength.

God wants us to learn how to believe Him whether we learn from our own lives or by learning from what others have experienced. Jesus taught His disciples, and they recorded what they learned. **Now you and I have the joy of learning that God is always working for our good.**

In case I haven't told you, I believe He is!

(Reprint from May 2007)





God is Holy

By Mary Carothers

God sure went to a lot of trouble to convince the Israelites to revere Him as *holy*. For example, when they were in the desert, He

instructed Moses in great detail about how to build the tabernacle. He wanted the people to understand the difference between what was holy and what was common.

At the very onset, the entire courtyard around the Holy place was fenced off from the common people (that's us). When an Israelite needed to sacrifice an animal to atone for his sins, he could come only to the entrance, no further. There, at the entrance, he placed his hands on the animal's head, sort of transferring his sins onto the animal. When the animal was then killed, it's blood made atonement for the person's sin. Do you see how this was foretelling the Savior who was to come?

Inside the courtyard only the priests and the Levites were allowed. They had been set aside – or sanctified – by God to minister to Him. He made a difference between His holiness (and those He had cleansed and made holy) and the common people. Even among the priests and Levites God made a separation. The Levites were there to assist the priests. But they could not enter the Holy place to perform duties such as burning incense to the Lord. Only the priests could do that.

How about the *most* holy place, the Holy of Holies? Here was still another separation between God and His people. Only the high priest could enter there, and only once a year on the Day of Atonement. He had better be sure that he had properly bathed and put on the special clothes used for that particular occasion. He had to burn incense while in the Holy of Holies. At the same time, he sprinkled blood on the mercy seat to atone for the sins of the people. The incense, which produced a cloud, kept the high priest from clearly seeing the presence of God who dwelled above the

mercy seat. It also protected him from being seen by the awesome and holy God. The Bible tells us that God cannot look on sin, and the high priest was just as human and sinful as the rest of us. That's why we all so desperately need the Savior, Jesus, who provided *eternal* atonement for our sins.

Between the holy place in the tabernacle and the Holy of Holies was a curtain. A very thick and heavy curtain, which was the last separation between a holy God and His unholy people.

To show that God the Father accepted Jesus' sacrifice on the cross He tore that curtain in two – from top to bottom (see Luke 23:45).

When Jesus died on the cross, He was the last and final sacrifice, *for all time*. Jesus took the sins of the world – the sins of all mankind – and suffered separation from the Father *in our place*. Because of all that Jesus has done for us, we can come fearlessly, right into God's presence (see Eph. 3:12). No longer is there a great separation between God and us. Now we are priests to the Lord. In fact, we are a royal priesthood (see I Peter 2:9). Way back in Exodus 19, God had told Moses that He wanted the Israelites to be a kingdom of priests. But they didn't want to be close to God. They were too afraid of Him. They said "No, you talk to God and tell us what He says." It's exciting to read in Revelation 5 where God tells us that we will one day be an *everlasting* kingdom of priests - to worship and serve Him. I can hardly wait!

(Reprint from May 2008)



Have a
Wonderful
Day!

Sunday
May 11th

Prison to Praise Reports!

A friend gave me a copy of *Prison to Praise*, and I found it inspiring, uplifting and encouraging. This has been my testimony ever since the Lord Jesus healed me from many years of depression. He helped me to praise Him in the depths of my despair no matter what I was feeling.

LORI, CANADA

I recently found a copy of *Prison to Praise* at a local flea market and it has been the best one dollar I've spent in who knows how long. As I read each page, I could feel the Holy Spirit reaching from Merlin's words to me. I've teared up with joy several times reading this book. God bless.

BRODY, E-MAIL

Prison to Praise is an excellent book. It helped me realize how much I have been trying to do things on my own. God calls us to praise Him in everything for many of us who only praise for the good things, and then complain about the bad, often rejecting God. So many people in the book struggled to praise God but were convinced to at least give it a try. Often once they started to praise, God started to work in their lives.

JON, E-MAIL

I read *Prison to Praise*, and it has been a blessing and a great benefit to me and my family. Thank you for this book.

DEVON, NY

Thank you for *Prison to Praise*. This book was a blessing to me and I'm going to share it with many others.

PAUL, MN

I just read *Prison to Praise*, and I was moved to begin to praise God in all things. There is so much negativity here in prison that the guys could really be helped by your books.

MARSHALL, CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, CO

I enjoyed *Prison to Praise*. It touched my heart and soul. I read my Bible daily, but this book helped me understand how to praise God for my troubles as I sit in this prison. Praise God and thank you for this book.

Charlene, County Jail, MO

Kindle Readers Praise Reports

Prison to Praise is a very inspiring story. It's short but uplifting and a great read.

I give this little book a 10 out of 10. *Prison to Praise* is so simple yet so well written.

Prison to Praise helped me understand the difference between waiting on God for answers and praising Him for the answers that were to come. The power of praise and this book is awesome!

I will praise God's name in song and glorify Him with thanksgiving. (Psalm 69:30)



On Monday May 26th we remember our military men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The National Moment of Remembrance is an annual event that asks Americans, wherever they are at 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day, to pause for one minute to remember those who have died in military service to the United States.

★ ✨ *Pour Out to the God of Hope and be Fulfilled* ✨ ★

The National Day of Prayer is May 1st, dating back to the Second Continental Congress, before the Declaration of Independence, when America was steeped in a tradition of prayer! *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* (Romans 15:13)



Prison to Praise Bulk Price Special

We have been blessed by the incredible stories people have shared with us as they read *Prison to Praise* and began to apply the principles of praising God for every situation in their life. We rejoice at anything we can do to help get *Prison to Praise* into the hands of hurting and needy people. Thank you for your willingness to help us accomplish this.

He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation. (Mark 16:15)

BOOK QUANTITY	PRICE PER BOOK	TOTAL RETAIL VALUE	USPS SHIPPING	YOUR TOTAL COST
1000	.80	\$5,000	\$230.00	\$1030.00
500	.90	\$2,500	\$115.00	\$565.00
200	.95	\$1,000	\$46.00	\$236.00
100	1.00	\$500	\$23.00	\$123.00
50	1.25	\$250	\$13.00	\$75.50
25	1.50	\$125	\$9.00	\$46.50
10	1.75	\$50	\$8.00	\$25.50

These are “Not for Resale” copies and this special does not apply to the Giant Print or Spanish versions of *Prison to Praise*. This offer is available through the month of June - while supplies last! For credit card orders call 1-800-PRAISE1 (1-800-772-4731). Shipping applies to one U.S. address.

Please call (760)741-2755 for foreign rates or for additional shipping information.

PLEASE SELECT OPTION, CLIP, AND RETURN IN ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

Please send me _____ copies of *Prison to Praise* for the Total Cost of \$_____

I will distribute these books. **Send them to me at the address below:**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Do not send the books to me. Use my donation of \$_____

to have the *Foundation of Praise* distribute for me.

THIS OFFER EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2025. LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE.