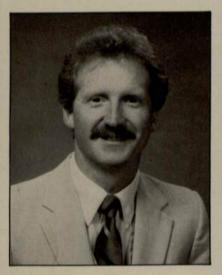


EDITORIAL

Adventures in following the move of God's Spirit

The Journey BY DICK LEGGATT



ifteen years ago, at precisely the time that preparation of the first issue of New Wine was taking place, God was doing some preparatory work in my life as well. As a student at the University of Pittsburgh at that time, I had been a Christian for four years, was involved in an evangelical ministry, and was rather settled in my perceptions of the Christian life. However, one topic regularly disturbed my rather calm theological watersand that was "the charismatic experience," especially "speaking in tongues."

In the few encounters I had with those who spoke of this experience, I always ended up reacting with unreasoning anger and resistance. Then God, in His wisdom, opened up an opportunity for me to hear Don Basham speak and ask him some questions about "this charismatic

thing." I blush now as I recall the brashness of those questions, but I'll never forget Don's gracious response: "Dick, don't get hung up on the externals. Just continue to seek the Lord and stay open to whatever He wants to do in your life." Somehow, Don's unflappable assurance and gracious manner defused my normal angry reaction, and I came away from our conversation encouraged and hopeful—and open to whatever God brought my way.

Two days later, just as God had sovereignly opened up my talk with Don, He allowed a series of cataclysmic events to converge upon me so that I found myself crying out to Him for help. I remember praying these words as I agonized before God: "Lord, in my own power I can't handle all this. I need Your power. And if that means being baptized in the Holy Spirit, or speaking in tongues, I'm open to it." And there, upstairs in a dingy house on the east side of Pittsburgh, my prayer changed from a language I had learned to "groanings too deep for words," opening my life to an entirely new dimension. That was the beginning step for me in a journey with the Holy Spirit that has continued to this day.

My story, though unique in some aspects, is very representative of the way God has moved in the lives of others in these past fifteen years, many of whom along the way have come into contact with *New Wine Magazine* as I did. We are grateful for

the vital role the magazine has fulfilled, and we trust that you will rejoice with us as we celebrate fifteen years of publication.

An exciting season is upon us. It is a time for new beginnings, and also a time for Christians to stand together in unity, two directions reflected in recent issues of *New Wine* by the Christian leaders we have interviewed. We sense a mandate from the Lord to remain open to all that He is saying and doing in every part of His body.

Featuring these leaders and groups does not mean they totally agree with us on every issue, nor we with them. It does mean we recognize them as Christians who are saying something in God that we all need to hear. The primary issue is the lordship of Jesus Christ and our common commitment to Him. We realize that there are controversial aspects to every ministry, but in featuring other ministries we will consistently choose not to highlight those areas of controversy in the interest of unity. One of our goals has always been that God would use New Wine as a catalyst for unity in His body, and God helping us, we will see the fulfillment of that goal.

We are grateful to be serving you through *New Wine* in your walk with the Lord. Thank you for every expression of your love and support. We pray that God will richly bless you, especially as you turn the pages of this special celebration issue. □



To commemorate New Wine Magazine's 15th Anniversary, this special tape was created.

For the first time ever on one cassette, all 5 teachers give us their own personal perspective of:

- Where we, as Christians, have been in the past 15 years.
- Where we are today.
- Where we are going.
- And how we're going to get there.

This is the kind of tape you'll want to hear again

and again! Use it to start discussions. Share it with your friends.

You can get this very special tape

ABSOLUTELY FREE with a one-year subscription to New Wine Tape of the Month.

For just \$3.50 per month you'll hear one of the 5 teachers talk to you and your family on issues crucial to Christians today.

Simply fill in the enclosed tear-out card and return it to us in the postpaid envelope. Send no money now. You pay for each tape as you receive it.

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Cover Photograph: Image Bank

Illustration: I.A.M.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear New Wine

Can't Shift the Blame

The April issue was super. As so often happens, it was right in line with what we're now experiencing in our lives. Charles Simpson's article, "The Law of Accountability," was especially good. The desire to shift the blame creeps in so easily. "Home Economics" was also a practical and helpful article.

Bill and Kirsten Freitag St. James, MN

Basham Is Encouraging

I thank you for the sensitivity and love I feel in Don Basham's articles. "Supernatural Provision" (April) encouraged me in my present financial situation. The story of Ed Seymour's trial also was truly inspiring and gave us all courage.

Jean Gauld Mentone, AL Grateful for Deliverance

I really enjoy reading New Wine Magazine and I was very pleased with the article on deliverance (March). I am so grateful that my Christian friends told me about deliverance and continued to pray for me until I was set free. It truly has been a very beautiful experience, getting cleansed and released from all the bondage that had kept me from having a closer walk with Jesus.

I truly hope and pray that you will continue publishing articles on deliverance. Thank you, Don Basham, for your boldness.

Caroline Reding Bellevue, WA

Delivered From Embarrassment

Your magazine is a real blessing to us, always having a timely and much-needed message. Your January issue featuring Ken Copeland was especially enlightening to me because I was one of those suspicious of the true intent of his ministry. I now have a new respect for ministers of the gospel, especially those under perhaps unjust criticism.

The article on James Robison was good too. I have seen him give his testimony of deliverance on television and I really could see the love and genuine desire he has to see us walk like we love each other.

Shortly after being saved, I was delivered of demonic spirits, but it had become an embarrassment to me because our pastor said a Christian couldn't have a demon. Don Basham's article put things in place for me. It also encouraged me not to be embarrassed to keep asking the Lord to fill me with His Holy Spirit—if D.L. Moody leaked, I more so!

Lisa Pizana Honolulu, HI

New Wine

A ministry of Integrity Communications

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Board of Directors of Integrity Communications

Charles V. Simpson, Chairman; Don Basham, Bob Mumford, Ern Baxter, John Duke, Joseph Garlington, Billy Duke, Bruce Longstreth.

Other Publications and Ministries Associated With New Wine Magazine:

New Wine Tape of the Month, Fathergram, Integrity House, Plumbline, Bob Mumford's Recommended Tapes, Intercessors for America, Business-Gram, Vino Nuevo (Spanish edition of New Wine), Restore Magazine (primarily circulated in the South Pacific and Southeast Asia).

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New Wine Magazine, published monthly by Integrity Communications, seeks to promote the maturity of the Church and the individual Christian by publishing scripturally sound content which is personal, action-oriented, and timely. We implement this purpose by including a wide diversity of Christian authors to communicate the message of the kingdom of God to all men.

All Scripture quotations are from the King James or New King James versions of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

TIPS FOR FATHERS

Society's ills should cause us to ask

Where's the Dad?

BY BRUCE LONGSTRETH



arly one morning as I had coffee at a local restaurant, I watched a young mother who had just driven up to go to work kiss her children good-by and send them off with a sitter. I wondered, Where's the father?

On another occasion, I was having lunch at a Chinese restaurant with a writer friend of mine and a little girl came over to our table. I said, "Hi! What's your name?" She didn't answer, but instead took the soy sauce from our table and began pouring it into a saucer. Before we knew exactly what she had in mind she began to splash soy sauce all around. "No, don't do that!" I said.

The little girl then screamed as if she had been shot. And suddenly, from nowhere, an irate mother dashed to her rescue. As she picked up her daughter, the woman gave me an icy stare and stalked off to soothe her wounded cherub. And again I wondered, Where's the daddy?

A father is more than "he who begets a child." He is the one who bears the responsibility of leading, correcting, instructing, and bringing into society a mature human being. Because I believe in the need for effective fatherhood so strongly, when I see society running amuck in any dimension, I instinctively ask, "Where's the father?"

With these things in mind, let's look at five aspects of the father's role in his child's life.

1. Correction. The father, because of his emotional and physical makeup, occupies the unique position of being the one who "spares not the rod." The rod is not necessarily a stick with which we beat our children, rather it is a symbol of authority. A child may be spanked and strongly reprimanded and still not experience a father's author-

2. Direction. "Train up a child in the way he should go" is the father's challenge (Pr. 22:6 NAS). A father should carefully initiate a plan for each of his children, because no two children are the same, and neither are the paths they must take.

ity. If we spare the authority in

our child's life, we "spoil the

child.

3. Inspection. "Look well to the countenance of your flock" (Pr.

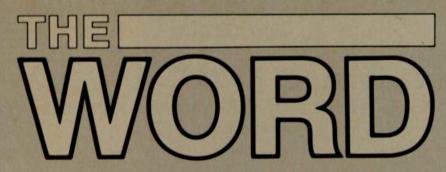
27:23, free translation). The father is the chief inspector, and as he applies correction and direction, he needs to daily examine the fruit. If he is slack in a certain area, his daily review of his child's progress will indicate it. If he is too harsh, his child's discouraged spirit will likewise show. After the inspection, the father can correct or adjust the path.

4. Election. A father's desire is for his child to make choices that reflect the careful correction, direction, and inspection of his fatherhood. The best rewards of proper fatherhood are the self-initiated choices our child makes based upon a value system that we have taught him.

5. Perfection. The word perfection in the Scriptures really means "maturity." The father's goal for his child is adulthood, wholeness, and a stability that enables him to contribute to the health of the world he inherits when his parents' contributions are beginning to fade.

As I look at society and see some of the choices our children make—promiscuity, abortion, perversion, anarchy, terrorism—I wonder, Where's the father? Where's the leader, strengthener, and character developer in these lives? If you find yourself asking these questions too, let me suggest how you can help change the world we live in. Pray in this way: "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Bruce Longstreth is editor of Fathergram, a monthly newsletter that helps fathers build strong families. To subscribe to Fathergram use the enclosed tear-out card or write to Fathergram, P.O. Box Z, Mobile, AL 36616.



June 1984

I Believe in the Holy Spirit, Whose Presence in the Lives of Faithful Men and Women Throughout History Has Unfolded God's Redemptive Plan.

	The Patriarchs A. Joseph B. Bezalel C. Moses D. Caleb	. Ex. 35:4—36:7 June 2 . Num. 11:1-35 June 3 . Num. 14:1-45 June 4
	E. Joshua The Judges A. Othniel	
	B. Ehud C. Deborah D. Gideon	Judg. 3:12-30 June 7 Judg. 4:1-24 June 8
	E. Jephthah	Judg. 0:1-7:25 June 3 Judg. 11:1-40 June 10 Judg. 13:24-16:31 June 11 1 Sam. 3:1-21; 7:2-17 June 12
III.	The Kings	.1 Sam. 10:1—11:15 June 13
	B. David	1 Sam. 16:1–11:15 1 Sam. 16:1-23 1 Ki. 3:1-28; 4:29-34 2 Ki. 18:1-8; 19:14-37 June 16
	E. Asa F. Jehoshaphat	2 Chr. 15:1-19 June 17 2 Chr. 17:1-19; 20:1-30 June 18 Is. 44:1—45:14; 2 Chr. 36:22-23 June 19
IV.	The Prophets	Ex. 6:28—7:24 June 20
	B. Balaam	Num. 24:1-25 June 21 1 Ki. 22:1-39 June 22 Ezek. 1:1-2:10 June 23
	E. Daniel	Dan. 5:1-31 June 24 Lk. 1:67-80 June 25 Lk. 7:18-35 June 26
v.	The Ministers of the New Covenant	. Acts 8:26-40 June 27
	B. Stephen the Deacon	Acts 6:1-7:60 June 28 Acts 11:27-29; 21:10-15 June 29 Acts 11:19-26 June 30

"The Word," a monthly Bible study by Bruce Longstreth, is a seasonal study of basic teachings about the creation and fall of man, the person and work of Christ, and the nature and destiny of the Church. Next month, we will study the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life. We encourage our readers to use this feature daily, both for personal Scripture study and family reading.

NATIONAL INTEGRITY FORUM presents

"WE MUST ACT NOW!"

A NATIONAL AFFAIRS BRIEFING · Washington, D.C. August 9-11, 1984

he Christian values that have shaped our nation's history have rapidly eroded. Chris-tians have vacated many areas of our national life. Into this vacuum has come the rising tide of secular humanism. We are no longer able to avoid the intense opposition to biblical values and principles. Jesus said, "Occupy until I come." Our freedom is at stake. We must act now.

It Is Time to Arise

Many Christians are awakening to God's call to impact our society, but many more must also become involved if we are to succeed. Edmund Burke once said, "All it takes for evil to prosper is for good men to do nothing." It is time for men and women of God to rise and be done with lesser things.

Power-Packed Conference

Will you be among those who act now to restore our country's integrity? If so, plan to attend this power-packed, three-day conference in Washington, D.C.

You Will Learn About

1. Secular humanism's impact on our government and what can be done to stop it

2. How to pray effectively for our government

3. Our responsibilities as Christian citizens, according to Scripture

4. How to make your views known to your elected officials

5. In-depth updates on critical issues, such as abortion, school prayer, IRS-Church conflicts, Christians and the courts, and many other issues and that is not all . . .

There will be a special briefing in the White House from administration officials on Friday afternoon. (Space is limited.)

Here are some of the many speakers you will hear



Robert Dugan, director of Office of Public Affairs, National Association of Evangelicals



R. J. Rushdoony,



John Beckett, presi-dent of Intercessors for America



John Whitehead,



Connie Marshner, director of the Child and Family Protection In-

and other prominent congressional and Christian leaders.

and other prominent congressional and Christian leaders.

INFORMATION

Location: Capitol Hill Hyatt Regency Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Hotel Rates: \$60 single and double, \$80 quad. Schedule: 7:00 p.m. August 9 through 7:00 p.m. August 11 Registration: \$35 one person, \$50 husband and wife

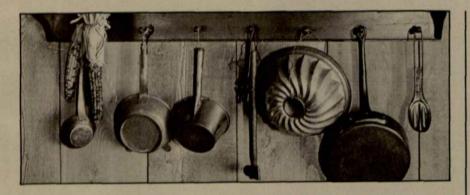
Complete details on hotel registration and conference schedule will be sent following receipt of registration

application.

For additional information: (703) 471-0745

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION APPLICATION Social Security Number:_____ (as appears on birth certificate for White House security clearance) Social Security Number: Spouse's Name: Address: ___ State: ____Zip: City: ___ Phone: (Check One: □ \$35 registration for one person □ \$50 registration for husband and wife ☐ Yes, I would like to attend the White House briefing. Enclose check payable to National Integrity Number attending () Forum. Send to: National Integrity Forum 11250 Roger Bacon Drive #10 Reston, VA 22090 Registration deadline is July 20, 1984.

HOMESPUN



The Lord provides for a vacationing mother and her children

God Fills the Gap

s a result of divorce six years ago, I was left to raise four children alone. Since then I have often felt a lack of wholeness as a family and consequently a prayer frequently on my heart has been, "Father, reveal Your fatherhood to my children and fill the gap that is there." I had personally experienced God's love and care for me and tried to impart an understanding of this to the children, but my desire was that they should know and experience the fatherhood of God for themselves.

I saw an answer to this prayer last spring when my children and I began to plan a visit to the home of Laura Ingalls Wilder in Missouri. She is the late author of the Little House on the Prairie series, which we were reading during our family time in the evening. The children were elated at the idea of actually "going to Laura's house." In the past our vacations had mainly revolved around visits with family or friends, so this would be a unique experience for all of us.

Of course, a vacation such as this would be somewhat expensive, as we would have to travel from our home in Milwaukee. Because our income was extremely limited, I was simply trusting the Lord for the extra money we would need. As our departure date approached, however, it began to seem that the trip was not going to be financially feasible after all, and I finally told the children that it appeared we would not be able to go. They were extremely disappointed—more so than I had expected.

Their hurt made me hurt, and the only solution I saw was to cry out to the Lord. I told the children, "There's only one thing to do that I know of. The Lord is our Father and we could ask Him to provide the money." Each face lit up with fresh hope and their prayers were the most sincere I had ever heard. To our amazement, just one week later the money started coming in. In less than two weeks we had the full amount we needed!

As the trip got under way, I found our problems had not ceased. We were six hundred miles away from home at a campground in Missouri, and the car began to overheat badly.

I feared this would mean expensive repairs and the end of our vacation before it had even really begun. What made things worse was that we didn't know a soul within those six hundred miles who could help us. I had felt in the center of God's will from the beginning of the trip and sensed His presence with us in the midst of everything, but I couldn't help but think how very vulnerable a woman and children are in such a situation.

I broke the news carefully to the kids, but they seemed devastated. Then my son Brad, remembering how we had been enabled to take the trip in the first place, piped up from the backseat, "Why don't we pray?" We all agreed our only hope was in the Lord, and so we asked Him, as our Father, to help us.

Our prayers received a surprisingly quick answer. Within the hour we met a Christian man and his two sons who "just happened" to camp right next to us. They not only befriended us, but were able to direct us to someone who in turn recommended a man who could repair our car. When the mechanic was through, I looked in disbelief at the bill he presented to me. It was a mere eighteen dollars! He charged me for only one hour of labor even though he had worked on the car for two hours, and did not bill me at all for the minor parts he had to put in.

We continued our vacation as planned and had a marvelous time. But the best part of the trip was that not only had the Lord been a husband to me in real and practical ways, but my children saw God's love and care for them—as their Father. And I learned, beyond any doubt, that we are indeed a "whole" family.

Sue Felsing is a New Wine reader who lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

How It All Began

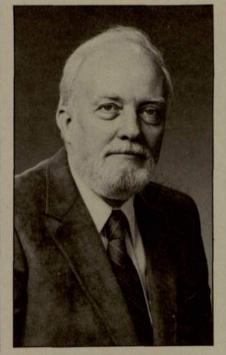
New Wine's chief editorial consultant reminisces about the magazine's early days.

he charismatic outpouring of the Holy Spirit sweeping across America in the 1960's dislodged a number of denominational pastors from their pulpits and set them into itinerant ministries, traveling the country, speaking at retreats and conferences to interpret the renewal. I was one of those men. In January 1968, I left my denominational church in Pennsylvania and moved to Pompano Beach, Florida, to begin a free-lance ministry of Bible teaching and writing. Our family arrived in southern Florida just two weeks ahead of Derek and Lydia Prince, who made the move from Chicago for the same reason.

A major factor in both our moves to southern Florida (and the later moves of Bob Mumford and Charles Simpson) was our association with the Holy Spirit Teaching Mission, a nonprofit organization formed in 1966 by a group of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Christian businessmen to sponsor teaching conferences on the charismatic renewal. The four of us, as well as a number of other ministers and traveling Bible-teachers, were regular speakers at HSTM conferences.

The Beginnings

In the spring of 1969, the director of HSTM, Eldon Purvis, in whose home the HSTM offices



Don Basham remembers New Wine's beginning as unimpressive and almost "accidental." No one involved with the magazine at that time had any idea of the impact and influence New Wine would come to have.

were first located, suggested we begin some sort of regular publication to communicate with those who attended the quarterly conferences. A few days later, five men, including Derek and me, met to consider such a publication. As I recall, the meeting was fairly brief and very casual. None of us had any experience with publishing a magazine. No thought was given to such important matters as editorial policy or theological perspective. Most of our time was spent trying to decide whether to use two or three columns of print per page. We also casually agreed that a name such as "New Wine" might be appropriate.

In retrospect I would have to say that New Wine Magazine's birth was singularly unimpressive, almost accidental. Recalling that first meeting fifteen years ago, I am reminded of a statement in one of the journals of Henry David Thoreau. Commenting on a sleepy New England village he was acquainted with, he said, "It's a very small place; nevertheless a great man may be born there any day." None of us at that first small, casual meeting had the slightest inkling concerning the vital impact and influence New Wine Magazine would have in years to come. Neither did we anticipate the various crises both the magazine and those of us associated with it would be forced to endure. Not many weeks after that meeting, in June 1969, the first issue of New Wine appeared.

Early Growth

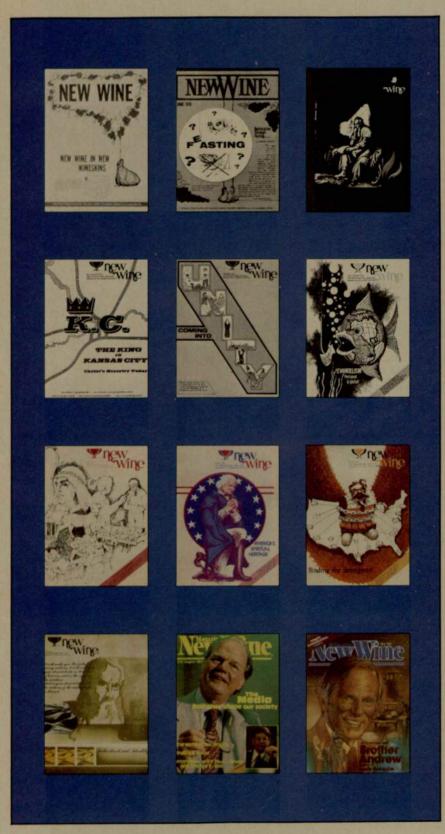
From the first issue, each of the four teachers, along with other prominent authors and Bible teachers, contributed regularly to the contents of New Wine; either through articles, tape transcripts, or reprints from books. Also, the four of us, Bob, Charles, Derek, and I (Ern Baxter did not join our number until 1974), served on the editorial board of the magazine from its first issue. In the many conventions and conferences where we ministered, we would promote the magazine, thus adding hundreds of new names month by month. We also added names and addresses from each of our own personal mailing lists.

One development that took us all completely by surprise was the immediate identification people all across the country made concerning the four of us and New Wine. In their eyes it became "our magazine." And it was almost universally assumed that we were employed by the Holy Spirit Teaching Mission and New Wine. In actual fact, all of us had independent, selfsupporting ministries totally apart from New Wine. We merely taught in HSTM conferences and wrote for the magazine, just like many other teachers and ministers. The only difference was that we served on the editorial board and our pictures were published on the contents page each month.

Yet the misconception that we were employees of New Wine could not be altered no matter how hard we tried. In fact, Charles, who in those days was still pastoring a Baptist church in Mobile, Alabama, was often introduced as "Charles Simpson, who works for New Wine Magazine.'

A Common Misconception

In a question and answer session in a 1970 conference in West Palm Beach, Florida, this exchange, which illustrates how much people identified us with



New Wine, took place between me and a member of the audience:

Question: How long have you four men worked for the HSTM and New Wine Magazine?

Answer: We don't work for either. We serve on the editorial board of the magazine, write occasionally for it, and teach at some of the HSTM conferences. That's all.

Q: Yes, I know, but you do draw salaries from New Wine, don't you?

A: No. All our ministries are self-supporting.

Q: But you teach at New Wine conferences!

A: Yes, and so do many other ministers. We receive honoraria just as they do.

Q: Then you don't actually work for New Wine?

A: No.

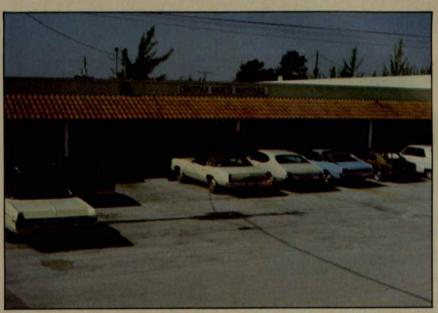
Q: But you live in the town where New Wine is published, don't you?

A: Derek Prince and I do. Bob Mumford lives in California and Charles Simpson pastors a church in Mobile, Alabama.

Q: So just you and Derek work for New Wine?

A: No! None of us work for New Wine. We serve on the editorial board; we contribute articles, but that doesn't mean....

We later came to feel that such nearly total identification of our names with *New Wine* was something established by the Holy Spirit. Eventually, it was to become "our magazine."



In its earlier years, New Wine was published by Christian Growth Ministries in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

But not without a crisis that brought some real personal agony.

A Change in Direction

In 1970, severe internal problems in the administration of the HSTM, which published New Wine, began to appear. Although we teachers were strongly identified with the magazine and the HSTM, we were not members of the governing board of HSTM, an unfortunate fact that prevented a solution to the crisis for a number of painful weeks. That meant we had responsibility without authority, a position we found to be untenable. Eventually the director of HSTM resigned under pressure and our names were added to the board of HSTM. And with some dedicated employees standing steadily at their posts, we assumed oversight of the magazine itself. During that crisis the four of us were bonded together in a covenant relationship. In subsequent years, Derek and Bob both served as editors of the magazine, although with only limited personal involvement. Eventually I became editor, in 1976, with an office and partial salary, a post I held until 1981.

We changed the name of the HSTM to Christian Growth Ministries, which we felt more accurately described our purpose, and New Wine continued to be published in Florida. In December 1978, we moved the entire operation to Mobile, where the magazine continues publication today under its present board of directors (see listing on page 5). Two years ago, the sponsoring organization underwent an additional name change and is now known as Integrity Communications.

A Measure of Controversy

The ministries of men who deal prophetically with significant spiritual truth almost invariably become involved in controversy. And so it proved to be with us. Through the years we have dealt both in our personal ministries and through

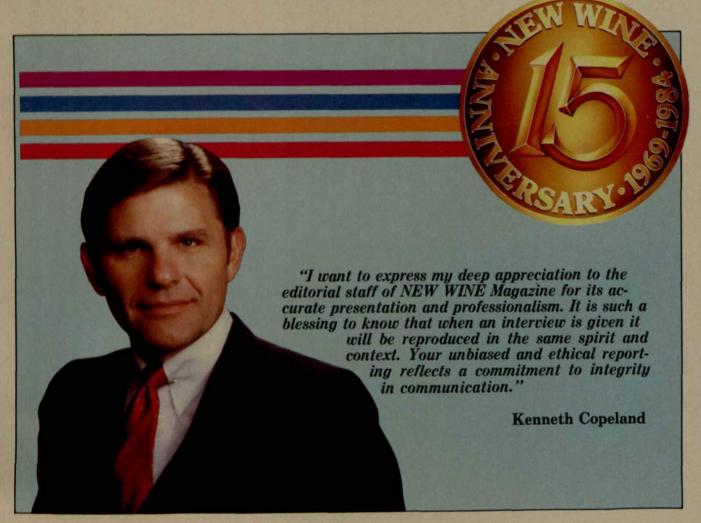
New Wine Magazine with what we like to refer to as Kingdom teaching-vital, biblical truths, which while inspiring spiritual growth, not infrequently engender criticism. Through the years New Wine has dealt extensively with such Kingdom truths as the baptism and gifts of the Holy Spirit, divine order in the home, demonology, authority and submission, and discipleship or shepherding. A continuing measure of controversy has swirled around these emphases, especially speaking in tongues, demonology, and discipleship.

The discipleship controversy proved to be the most intense and lengthy (see Charles Simpson's letter on page 16), bringing with it an unreasonable amount of personal vilification and misunderstanding. Although many other ministers and churches saw that proper submission to authority and personal covenant relationships were important means for bringing unity and maturity to the body of Christ, and themselves began in their own quiet way to implement their convictions, the spotlight of controversy fell on the five of us. Fortunately, the magazine scarcely reflected the controversy and many of our readers were never aware of how intense the criticism of us was during the years of 1974 to 1980.

Publishing Biblical Truths

While New Wine has never hesitated to publish truth that some feel is controversial, it did not then, nor has it ever, promoted one particular emphasis of spiritual truth to the exclusion of other truths. Rather, through the years, we have sought to publish a balanced, mature teaching on a wide variety of subjects pertinent to the kingdom of God and the maturing of the whole Church, including the viewpoints and teachings of leaders from a variety of Christian streams.

However, periodically certain



particular articles have engendered more excitement than others. While each of the teachers could point to specific articles of theirs that stirred up unique responses, in my own case two particular articles stand out.

In 1973, New Wine published a chapter from a little book I wrote called True and False Prophets. The article was entitled "We Have This Problem." The book and the article dealt with the subject of morals and ministry, the basic thesis being that the test of a true prophet or minister lies not primarily in the content of his ministry but in his personal character. Jesus said, "Ye shall know them by their

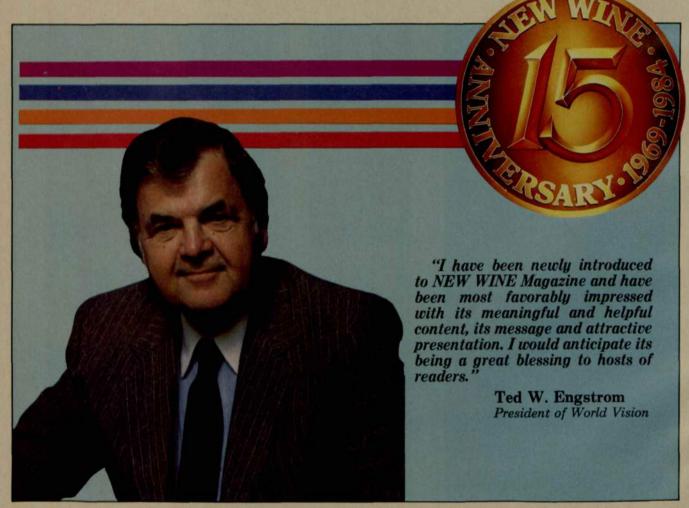
fruits (not their gifts!)" (Mt. 7:16, parentheses mine).

The chapter published in *New Wine* resulted in a flood of letters. Some said, "Thank God for giving you the courage to write on this subject! Your magazine article helped us avoid a tragedy in our church." The majority of letters expressed gratitude, but some reflected stunned disbelief and outrage. One minister was so offended he wrote, "I not only cancel my subscription to your distasteful magazine, I demand that you burn my next issue!"

A Sensitive Subject

The other article, published in 1975, which I wrote reluctantly and only by the direct commission of the editorial board, dealt with the sensitive subject of the Christian and sexual perversion. The decision came as a result of a steady stream of letters from troubled Christian couples who, facing hellish tensions in their marriages, were seeking help and counsel. Only after many revisions and much consultation with the other teachers was the article published.

Once again a flood of letters followed its publication; letters expressing heartfelt gratitude predominated but there were many responses from offended readers as well. While the article



was carefully discreet, dealing almost entirely with biblical principles, still some readers called it an invasion of privacy. Others claimed I was trying to impose my own personal standards on the Church. Thankfully, most letters expressed gratitude, some even stating that the article saved their marriage. We were also surprised to find letters in response to that particular article still arriving three years after its publication.

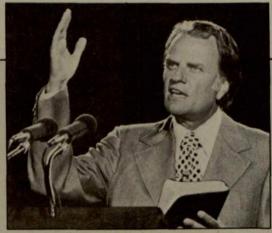
Such experiences are the lot of any magazine that strives to interpret unchanging biblical truths in a stormy, troubled society that has largely cast aside moral and spiritual absolutes to flounder in a sea of subjectivism and relativism.

A Mixed Blessing

One touching and somewhat disturbing fact that has become so clear to us through the years is how New Wine has served as almost the sole source of spiritual nourishment to thousands of readers. We see statements such as, "I live thirty miles from the nearest church and your magazine is the only spiritual food apart from my Bible"; or, "We attend a church that provides so little help that your magazine is all that keeps us going."

Letters that express this have poured into *New Wine*'s mailroom by the hundreds each year. They have a double-barreled effect on the publishing staff. Our first reaction is one of deepest gratitude to God for the ministry of the magazine and a regularly renewed commitment to be faithful to the ministry entrusted to us.

The other reaction is one of deep concern that so many thousands of hungry Christians are not having their needs met in their churches, a concern that leads us to pray that God will once again light fires of spiritual



Billy Graham on evangelism

NEXT MONTH

Billy Graham encourages us to share the redemptive message of the gospel.

How can we find God's purpose for our lives? Bob Mumford points out that God reveals Himself to us as we learn to wait on Him.

The excruciatingly painful disease called lupus erythematosus is usually fatal. A New Wine reader in Kalamazoo, Michigan, who suffered for two years with lupus, shares how God intervened and completely healed her.

All in the July New Wine

revival throughout the churches of our country.

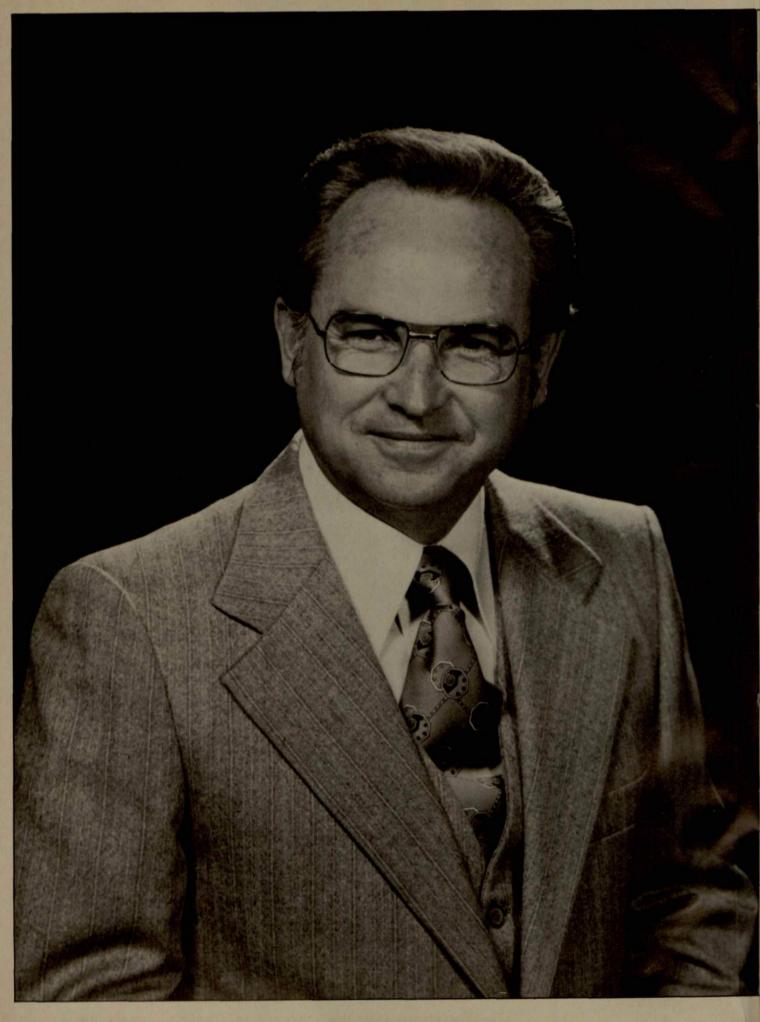
Gratitude for Our Readers

As we begin our sixteenth year of publication, we wish to express our deepest gratitude to God the Father for His faithfulness to us through all our fortunes and misfortunes. We also wish to express our thanks to tens of thousands of you dedicated readers-some of whom have been New Wine supporters from the very first issue-who have so faithfully supported us with the prayers and contributions and encouragement so essential for the success of any Christian publication.

Finally, we want our readers to know that the entire staff of New Wine Magazine and Integrity Communications is totally committed to the ministry God has placed in our trust. We look forward with eagerness to the years ahead, fully confident that God, who has brought us this far, will continue to bless and prosper His ministry through New Wine Magazine and the other ministries of Integrity Communications.

Don Basham is chief editorial consultant for New Wine and the author of several books, including Face Up With a Miracle and Deliver Us From Evil. Don resides in Mobile, Alabama, with his wife, Alice, and their family.

15



An Open Letter to Our Readers and Christian Friends

BY CHARLES SIMPSON, chairman of the Integrity Communications Board of Directors

Dear Friends in Christ,

Fifteen years is a significant milestone for New Wine Magazine. Because New Wine is the project that initially brought some of us together, it is also an important milestone for us as a group of leaders. In light of this significant anniversary, we want to take this opportunity to open our hearts to you.

First of all, the board of directors would like to express its sincere thanks for your loyal and prayerful support. We are privileged by the Lord Jesus to have your love.

Some of you are new readers and may not know our history; others are longtime readers and may wonder how we interpret our journey, and what we hope for the future.

First, let me take a few moments to recap some of our history. In 1970, a little over one year after New Wine's beginning in 1969, those of us who then bore the primary responsibility for the magazine—Derek Prince, Don Basham, Bob Mumford and I—felt led of the Lord to commit ourselves to each other in a relationship of mutual care and spiritual oversight. (Over the years that relationship has been adjusted and refined, with one adjustment in recent

years being that Derek Prince has maintained a more separate mission.) In 1974, Ern Baxter entered into a relationship with us even though before that he had ministered together with us at conferences and meetings. Several of us have been associated together for fifteen years or longer.

It is somewhat difficult for us to assess our own role to the larger Church. If I could offer a description, I would say that we are called to be prophetic teachers to the Church at large. We have been called to teach through our publications and speaking ministries, and also to implement what we feel God is saying to His people—to "practice what we preach." In other words, we have not only preached, we have pioneered. That process has led us on an exciting and sometimes precarious journey. It has manifested our own weaknesses and shortcomings-"the Word of the Lord has tried us." It has also manifested God's faithfulness to us.

In the late 1960's, when our personal ministries were increasing and *New Wine* was about to come on the scene, a controversial issue was (and still is) the baptism of the Holy Spirit. For many who received this experience, a further issue immediately

arose—the decision whether to stay in the church they attended, in spite of the opposition frequently encountered there to their experience of the Holy Spirit, or to leave their traditional church setting to become part of other groups that were developing at the time.

There were many other issues that arose along the way: the mode of water baptism, deliverance from demons, the nature of faith, male and female roles, spiritual authority, and committed personal relationships. Our commitment to one another and to the Bible as God's Word forced us to face many issues that we and other Christians had not found it necessary to face previously; and we were not the only ones confronting new issues. In the 1960's, the whole Church was facing serious issues of spiritual, biblical, and political natures. The charismatic movement was a mirror of our social diversity while moving together in a common experience with the Holy

As the four of us had committed ourselves to one another in faith for mutual care and support, other Christians were committing themselves to us for leadership. They were Charismatics who felt alienated from historical churches or lacked a sense of direction. Some were "Jesus people"; still others were new Christians.

Some of these people were recipients of our publications and tapes and simply committed to our influence. Others were committed to our corporate direction, and others were committed to us individually on a more personal basis. Soon we had a growing and very diverse following. Suddenly, we found ourselves to be not only Bible teachers, but leaders of a movement—a movement characterized by diversity.

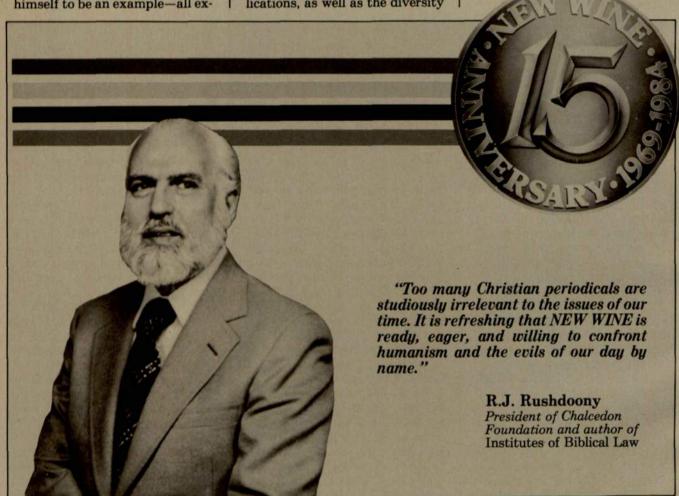
Pioneering is one thing; lead-

ing is another. New Wine and its related publications have pioneered truths, and have tried to teach on the cutting edge of what God has been emphasizing among His people. Whether it was the work of the Holy Spirit, relating responsibly to your church, divine order in the home, male and female roles, submission to spiritual authority, discipleship, deliverance from demons, the kingdom of God, Christians' social responsibility. or numerous other important issues, we have tried to be both biblical and courageous.

As I said, pioneering is one thing; leading is another. One can teach prophetically, exhort others, and even go out alone himself to be an example—all examples of pioneering. But to lead others into those areas is infinitely more demanding and perilous. Someone has said, "One step ahead, and you are a leader. Two steps ahead, and you are a pioneer. Three steps ahead, and you are a martyr." It is in leading others into the reality of the truths we have shared that we have experienced the greatest satisfaction and yet the greatest misunderstanding and controversy. When we have been right, it has been rewarding to sense the Holy Spirit's pleasure-whatever the cost. When we have been wrong either in principle or application, it has been painful. Because of the wide diversity of the audience touched by our publications, as well as the diversity

among those churches that follow our leadership, some controversy is inevitable. But we have never seen controversy as a goal or as something we can casually accept.

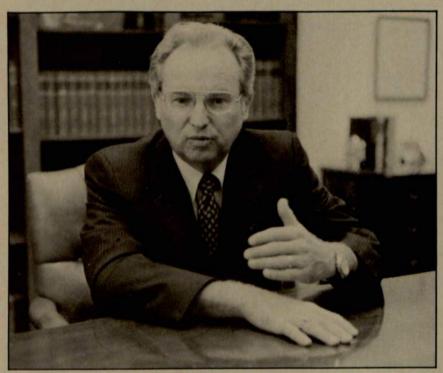
Each month, approximately 250,000 people from all kinds of Christian backgrounds and experiences receive our tapes and read our magazine and newsletters. To those people we are primarily teachers advocating obedience to the Word of God. We are honored by their support. In actual fact, only a small percentage of those who receive our materials are actually con-



stituents in churches where we bear a more direct responsibility. Our desire is to increase our relationship to the whole Church of Jesus Christ and find His place for us in it. We are not and do not aspire to be a publication devoted to only one group of churches or even just the Church as a whole. Rather our desire is to teach the whole counsel of God as Scripture presents it (and as best we understand it) to the whole world.

However, it is in those churches and groups that have closely followed our teaching and where we have more direct responsibility that we have experienced our greatest challenges. A few years after Derek, Bob, Don, and I had committed ourselves in 1970 to mutual care and oversight, we sponsored a "Shepherd's Conference" for pastors, conducted in Leesburg, Florida, in 1973, which attracted four hundred to five hundred leaders. In 1974, we sponsored a conference in Montreat, North Carolina, that attracted fifteen hundred pastors and leaders. In 1975, we sponsored a conference in Kansas City, Missouri, which attracted forty-five hundred pastors and leaders. By no means were all of these leaders involved in a direct relationship to us or "submitted" to us, nor did we intend them to be. Our desire was to share the truths we were seeing in God's Word so that they might be evaluated and considered in a wide forum of leadership. We also wanted to assist a large number of new leaders who were emerging.

But looking back, 1975 was a particularly turbulent year. The leadership conferences and our teachings had caused some negative responses. We were charged by some with being divisive and especially with advocating an authoritarian structure that abused people. These and other



Charles Simpson says that New Wine and its related publications have pioneered truths and have tried to teach on the cutting edge of what God has been emphasizing among His people.

charges were extremely painful to us.

Because of the controversy, we decided not to continue the conferences, but rather to work with Christian leaders from many groups to host the 1977 Kansas City Charismatic Conference, which attracted about fifty thousand Christians. About nine thousand of those attending were members of churches in some way related to us. The Kansas City conference was a step toward reconciliation among many Charismatics.

In 1976, New Wine and Logos Journal jointly carried a forum of several leaders in which we attempted to discuss the issues, correct misunderstandings, and accept responsibility where it seemed appropriate. In the ensuing years, we have continued that process and sought to remain open to opportunities for reconciliation and unity within

the body of Christ. Much reconciliation has taken place.

But the mid-1980's are here, and many divisions linger in the Church. We refer not only to division among Charismatics, but among all true believers. We must do all in our power to heal those breaches in order to be obedient to the Lord and to prepare the way for the spiritual awakening that is needed and will surely come.

The last fifteen years have been good in many ways, trying in others. But we want to go beyond the past, devoting ourselves in the present and future to edifying and caring for God's people, unifying the body of Christ, and evangelizing the nations. On behalf of Don Basham, Ern Baxter, Bob Mumford, myself, and the churches that have tried to follow our leadership, I acknowledge that we have often missed the mark and fallen short

of the goal.

We have missed the mark in several ways that are apparent to us. We have often miscalculated our influence. These miscalculations have set events in motion that have unnecessarily brought about hurt.

There have been occasions of authority being exercised in a carnal fashion. We have often failed to address these situations soon enough or adequately.

We have sought to grant Christians all of the liberty that the Bible itself grants, but our teaching on liberty has sometimes been construed to be libertarian and brought offense to other Christians.

Another area of controversy has been male and female roles and our particular emphasis upon reaching men. The degree of our emphasis upon men has appeared to disdain the valid role and ministry of women.

In like fashion, we have had a strong emphasis on pastoral ministry and teaching, because of the calling we have had from God. But to some, we have often appeared not to appreciate other callings, such as evangelism. These problems are especially grievous when our position is construed as opposition to other Christians.

These areas of failure have and do confront us. We are sorry. We are not only sorry for our mistakes, but we are sorry for the condition among God's people that weakens the Church in the face of its mission. We desire and ask for the forgiveness of those who have been offended.

It is difficult for leaders to offer apologies for a number of reasons. The main difficulty I face is my deep love and sense of indebtedness to those who have paid the cost and paid us the high honor of following our leadership. My own sense of having missed the mark in precept or application must not be construed as an indictment of those whom I regard as some of God's most faithful servants. We continue to believe that people need to be discipled. We believe that having been discipled, people need to be cared for pastorally. We also believe that pastors need that care as well. But we pray that we and those with us can apply those convictions in such a fashion that carnally motivated or immature persons will not abuse God's people and override personal priesthood.

We recognize that there remain some wounds that are not healed. Naming unreconciled areas would not serve the purpose of healing. But we hope that this statement will please the Holy Spirit and facilitate what He wants to accomplish.

We remain open to assist in rectifying specific problem areas that exist. We believe that the majority of the leaders and churches that labor with us share the attitudes and views we express here.

As men who are identified with a distinct body of teaching and beliefs, it is important that we state emphatically that it is not our intention or desire to start a new denomination or to use these publications to that end. We have no formal superstructure, no corporate organization that governs local churches, no system of tithes or offerings that go to one location, no single headquarters (regardless of what some have stated). and we have selected no name or single emphasis that will dominate our faith in the entire Word of God.

Having stated our intention not to start some kind of denomination, let me add that neither do we desire to be at odds with the denominations that do exist. What we want to do in the future is to lift up Jesus Christ as

the head of the whole Church and the rightful sovereign of all creation. And we want to be a part of what we see is coming and is needed—a powerful wave of God's Holy Spirit across the entire Church.

Let none of us be permanently deterred or turned aside to wrangling and disputes. We must earnestly pray for the Church to get past these things. All of us only "know in part." Until we see Him as He is, we must all hold our truths in humility and faith. Those of us who choose to live with our teachings, and the friends who follow them, soon come to know our own imperfections. Our confidence is not in our ability to perfectly obey; it is in a perfect Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We will continue to lead those whom God directs to us, with the admission that pioneers do not always make good leaders, and with the realization that full agreement may not come this side of the Lord's return.

Over the last several years our publications have featured numerous leaders who are not directly associated with us. Featuring them did not indicate total agreement with us on their part, or our total agreement with them. What it did indicate was a recognition that they are God's servants and have something to say of real significance to God's people. It also indicates that we want to open our constituents to those who are gifted of the Lord from all parts of the Church.

What about the next fifteen years? Well, both in what we preach and publish, we hope to continue toward maturity. We will do our best to impart our measure of truth and love to those who have confidence in us. Beyond that, we will continue to pray and take steps to express our love to the brothers and

sisters in Christ who are in other segments of the Church including many of you. Our fellowship will be around Jesus Christ and not controversy.

In preparing to write this letter I considered Daniel's prayer in chapter 9 and Nehemiah's prayer in chapter 1 of their respective books. They saw their sins and the sins of their people and humbled themselves. They sought God in an evident humility that was recorded by the Holy Spirit for all posterity. God heard their prayers. Subsequently, these men saw beyond their sin. They saw the ultimate victory of God and His people.

Permit me to close by declar-

ing that we aspire to see beyond our own failure. Even amid the disarray of fractured Christendom and our own part in it, we have great hope, because on the cross Jesus defeated Satan and broke his power. In resurrection, He gave us all a blessed hope that we too will triumph over every foe, even death. We aspire to see the victory of Christ reflected in a triumphant Church.

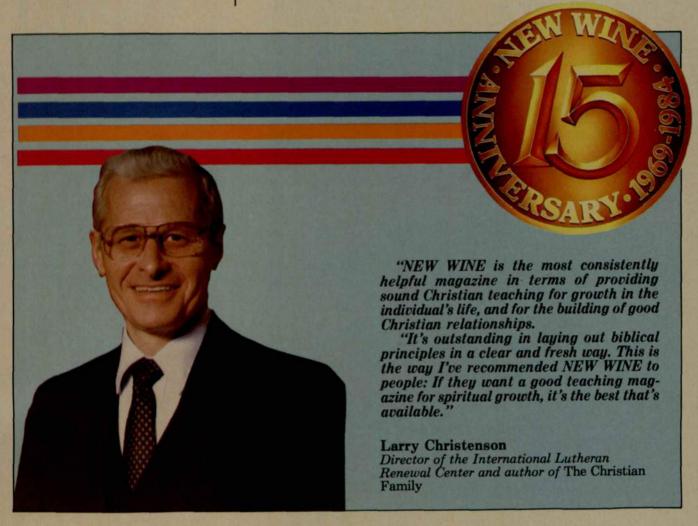
We aspire to be good stewards of those entrusted by the Holy Spirit to our care. We aspire to bring those whom we influence or lead into harmony with all of the Lord's people—to the extent that we can receive His grace to do so. We aspire to

see a new move of the Holy Spirit and a new era of Christian love. Beyond these biblically rooted desires, we aspire and travail to see the emergence of a biblical world-view that can be clearly communicated to nations until the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our God and His Christ!

Thank you for your prayers, love, and support. We thank God for your faithfulness.

Yours in Christ,

Charles V. Simpson



HIGHLIGHTS

A Message for the World

A STAFF REPORT

Reviewing the issues God has led us to address

s New Wine celebrates its fifteenth year of publication, it is a time for all of us on the staff of Integrity Communications to reflect on the past, present, and future of this ministry.

We are grateful for the privilege of communicating truths from the Word of God these many years to people in countries all over the world. When we look at a world map and realize that we have the responsibility of placing scriptural teaching in the hands of Christians in more than 140 countries, it causes us to put our entire trust in God and His grace.

Our preparation for this anniversary issue involved a review

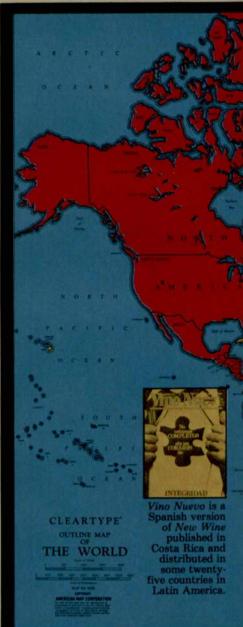
of all the issues of New Wine published over the last fifteen years. Instead of keeping the experience of that review all to ourselves, we thought it might be interesting to recount for you some highlights of past issues. Hopefully, it will not only bring back some memories for you, but also provide a clearer understanding and confirmation of the way God has led us as we have published New Wine and the way He has led you in your walk with Him.

1969:

June—The first New Wine. Included scriptural insights on the growing charismatic renewal with continued on page 39



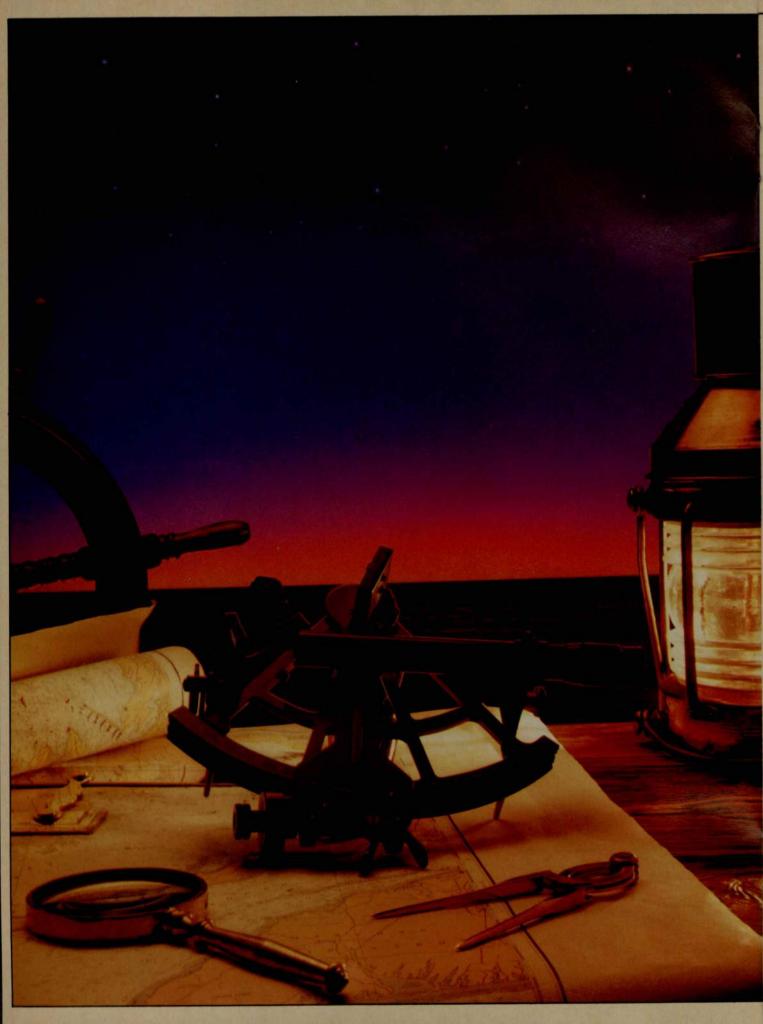












Where Do We Go From Here?

An interview with Bob Mumford

In this interview, Bob Mumford, who has been involved with New Wine since 1969, takes a prophetic look at the ministry of New Wine.

New Wine: In light of your fifteen years of involvement with New Wine's ministry to the body of Christ, what do you believe have been the most significant issues you have touched upon in your writing and teaching?

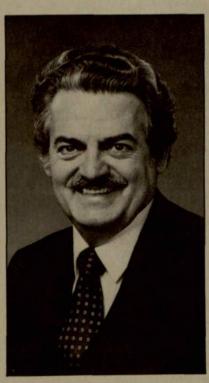
Bob Mumford: First of all, let me say that it is a personal pleasure to celebrate these fifteen years we've had. It's hard to believe that it has actually been that long since we first began to publish New Wine.

When I consider the issues we have examined over those years—there have been many significant ones—I find that two major themes stand out: the cry for maturity in the Church and the message of the kingdom of God, which I consider the touchstone for understanding the New Testament.

From the perspective of topics I have personally shared through New Wine, I believe my burden has always been prophetic in nature. But besides proclaiming the truth of God, I have also been concerned with the "how to" of implementing it in our lives. I have always believed that it takes more than just knowing about God or the Bible-we need to make God's way real in our lives. This is true maturity. There are many who tell us what to do, but I have always been concerned with how to do it. Of course, in more recent years my burden has been to deepen our understanding of the government of God.

NW: What areas do you see the Holy Spirit focusing on right now?

BM: I do believe that there are certain topics that the Holy Spirit emphasizes more than others at a given time. And I see two major issues that the Lord is calling our attention to right now.



Bob Mumford, who travels widely in ministry to Christians of all backgrounds, has also written a number of books about the Christian life. He lives in Mobile, Alabama, with his wife, Judy, and their family.

First, there is an emphasis throughout the body of Christ for Christians to develop a biblical world-view. We need an overall philosophy that affects the way we live—our family, our finances, our relationships, our involvement in the world around us. What we believe should have practical application to every area of life.

The second would be a move of the Holy Spirit to restore content to the gospel. In many attempts to "sell" the gospel to our television saturated and biblically-illiterate society, the gospel has been emptied of its true content, making it almost like an empty shell of what it really should be. People responding to the gospel need more than an empty shell. They need a gospel with content-with real teeth in it. So I see the Holy Spirit restoring true content to the gospel message.

NW: What changes do you see taking place now and farther up the road in the charismatic renewal?

BM: I have always been known as a Charismatic, and I think I am a man who genuinely loves the charismatic dimension. From the perspective of my long involvement in this move of God, I see some changes coming to pass that I feel are very good.

I see the charismatic renewal breaking out of its banks and being received and accepted by churches everywhere. At the same time, the truths of other churches and movements are penetrating the renewal, providing some helpful content to it. So I see the other churches and movements moving into the charismatic renewal, while simultaneously the charismatic renewal is opening up to the Church as a whole, and that's very encouraging to me.



To order additional copies of this special issue of New Wine Magazine, please see the order form on page 41.

NW: If you were to speak from a prophetic point of view, what message would you direct to the Church?

BM: I would say that if there were one message that the Church needs to hear it would be that Jesus came to announce and establish the kingdom of God. A kingdom is a form of government, and Christians need to see the New Testament government-

The Church, for the most part, does not see apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelists as governmental men—as agents and representatives of the government of God. We don't understand the kingdom of God in governmental terms. We don't understand that Jesus is a king and that as such He issues commands that He expects to be obeyed. That is a message that the Church needs to hear.

NW: What do you see in store for the body of Christ in the next few years?

BM: One development I anticipate is a restoration to the Church of the apostolic and prophetic ministries. I believe with all my heart that in the next five vears some truly apostolic and prophetic men will be coming on the scene. In contrast to some of the "self-appointed" apostles with rather narrow vision that some of us have seen in the past, these will be men of stature with wide respect beyond their own denomination or following. Their apostolic and prophetic voices will be heard by large segments of the body of Christ.

The challenge will lie in how the Church responds to them. In

There is a surge of interest in America to find a more stable moral posture. I think that God wants to turn His people and this country back to Himself.

tally. Now I realize that not everyone or every group needs to have that message emphasized, but in this country we have lost touch with the governmental aspect and the authority of the gospel.

biblical times, when a prophet appeared on the scene and addressed the people of God, they either had to receive his message, which usually meant changing their ways, or get rid of the prophet. Unfortunately, the people of God have too often chosen to get rid of the prophets. I think there is a potential conflict concerning how the Church will respond to these ministries as the Lord brings them into focus.

Another aspect of the challenge is: How will these ministers respond to each other? How will true apostolic and prophetic men respond to each other? I believe that there has been a "climate change" in the Church in the sense that Christian leaders do not seem to be as insecure and argumentative as perhaps they have been in the past. There seems to be a real longing for unity and a sincere desire among many Christian leaders to acknowledge and re-

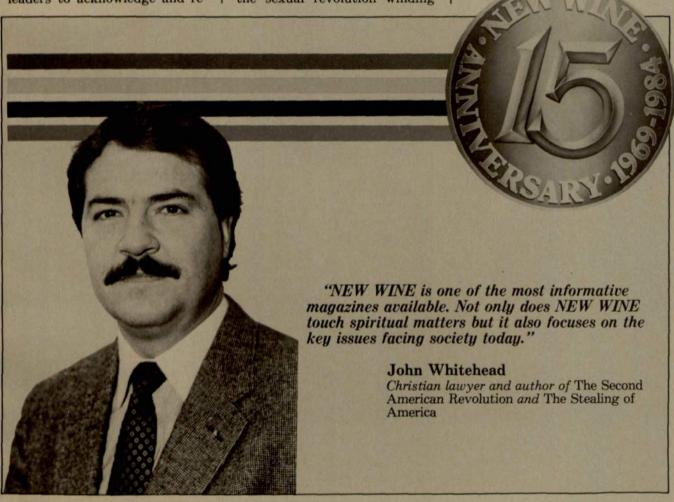
spect each other's ministries in spite of differences. This is critical. If men with strong apostolic and prophetic voices would honor and respect each other, then that same kind of recognition would filter down through the Church and bring with it a broader understanding of the government of God.

NW: As you look to the future, what gives you the most hope?

BM: I see not only the need but also a developing hunger for the truths of the kingdom of God we have endeavored to share through *New Wine*. I see in America the beginnings of the end of a permissive society. I see the sexual revolution winding

down. People are fed up with the bad fruit of it. I see the destructive nature of drugs being revealed. There is a cry beginning to emerge for respect of life, law, and order. People want drunk drivers dealt with. They want murderers dealt with.

There is a surge of interest in America to find a more stable moral posture. I see that as a very real hope, and I think that God wants to turn His people and this country back to Himself. I believe it can happen. My desire for myself and for the Church is that we play a part in the healing and restoration of both the Church and our nation.





NEW WINE in Perspective

An interview with Derek Prince

e recently had the opportunity to talk with Derek Prince, who has been associated with New Wine since its inception. Derek shared with us his memories of New Wine's first fifteen years and his perceptions of the future.

New Wine: What was significant to you about the beginnings of New Wine?

Derek Prince: I feel that New Wine in the providence of God came into being at a very crucial time. It was just before a tremendous wave of spiritual renewal began. I can't number the people who have said to me that they found the Lord in 1970, 1971, or 1972, during this tremendous work of the Holy Spirit in bringing people to Christ, which was felt across this nation, and to some extent, in other nations. I believe that New Wine at that time served a purpose in providing the kind of teaching that these people were going to need to get them established and to bring them into those experiences that would equip them for their future life.

NW: In your opinion, what are the most important topics that New Wine has covered?



Derek Prince, right, who has been involved with New Wine Magazine since it began, ministers both in the United States and Israel.

DP: A very important teaching we have covered is spiritual warfare. If I remember rightly, one issue of *New Wine* on spiritual warfare had to be reprinted because the demand for it was so great. Another aspect of *New Wine* has been the focus on building Christian character, which continues to be a much needed emphasis.

Two other important topics have been the centrality of the home and the family, and the efforts to awaken people to the tremendous dangers of secular humanism. Those are some of the topics that come to mind.

NW: At times over the years, some of the topics New Wine has covered have been rather controversial. How do you view the impact of the stands we have taken?

DP: Of course, New Wine has passed through a number of controversies. There was the controversy over deliverance and demonology in which Don Basham and I were particularly involved. And there have been other subsequent controversies. But I think on the whole, by the grace of God, we maintained a good attitude—we didn't focus on defending ourselves, we simply sought to present the truth in a gracious way.

There is a Latin saying that says, "Great is the truth and it will prevail." That's one of my firm convictions. Paul said in 2 Corinthians chapter 13, "We can do nothing against the truth." So my concern is that we will continue to be in line with the truth, especially that particular aspect of truth which is needed at this time for the people of God. I think it's important that we are prompted by the Holy Spirit to come out with a message that's timely. That is my concern, not only for New Wine, but also for the many other ministries that will be needed to gather in the harvest that's coming.

NW: It seems as if we are emerging into something beyond the charismatic renewal. What are your impressions of where God is taking us next?

DP: I think the charismatic renewal was sent for a purpose. And I'm not really sure at this point whether we're going to move into something new or whether the charismatic renewal itself is going to move further. Maybe it's not important to make that distinction. One of the truths I've consistently emphasized is that, in the natural, in the land of Israel the rain was always given for the sake of the harvest. Right through the Bible, these two themes are joined, whether it's in Deuteronomy or in the Epistle of James or wherever it may be. I still think that's true. I believe the outpouring of the Holy Spirit we have witnessed, and perhaps a much greater one to come, are given to awaken and equip the Church to reap a world harvest, which is ripening very rapidly.

Another tremendously significant trend is conveyed in the eleventh chapter of Romans, verses 25 and 26, where Paul says, "Blindness in part has happened unto Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in and so all Israel shall be saved." So while there is this emphasis on reaping the harvest of the Gentiles, there is also a deep work of the Holy Spirit going on in Israel and among the

Did You Know?

Did you know that new wine is something often mentioned in the Bible?

Throughout our fifteen years of publication we have received numerous letters asking why our magazine is called **New Wine**. And because it is an unusual name, that's a good question. **New wine** is a term that frequently appears in the Bible, most often as an indication of God's blessing and restoration.

For example, the prophet Joel describes a time of tribulation in Israel: "The grain is destroyed, the new wine is dried up, the oil fails" (Joel 1:10 NIV). But then he goes on to say that if the people would cry out to the Lord and repent, He would restore the land, the threshing floors would be filled with grain, and the vats would overflow with new wine and oil (see Joel 2:12-24). And then in chapter 3, the Lord promises that on the day of restoration "the mountains will drip new wine" (v. 18 NIV). In Nehemiah, new wine is an offering to the Lord (see Nehemiah 10:39).

In the New Testament, new wine is symbolic of the new covenant of grace (see Matthew 9:17), and also appears in connection with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 2:13).

Those are a few of the scriptural meanings of **new** wine. Our prayer is that this **New Wine** can be a part of the restoration of God's people, an acceptable offering to the Lord, and an instrument of His grace through the power of the Holy Spirit. We thought you'd like to know.

Jewish people worldwide, preparing them to be reconciled with God and to receive their Messiah. This passage in Romans really pinpoints the double thrust of God's purposes in the earth at this time: on one hand, to the Gentiles; on the other hand, to the Jews. I feel personally privileged, because in some degree I'm involved in both activities.

One thing that has impressed me in my travels in various nations is the responsiveness of people to the gospel—in many cases, people who previously showed very little responsiveness. I attribute this to the fact that the harvest is ripening worldwide. This gives me a tremendous sense of urgency to cast in the sickle and to reap the harvest, because if we don't it will be lost. I trust that New Wine will be used to awaken and equip the Church for this task.

Another current direction that I believe to be from God is the building of bridges between different Christian groups and the establishment of relationships that make it possible to cooperate fruitfully in the great main purposes of God.

NW: What do we need to do now in preparation for God to use us in the future?

DP: Scripture consistently emphasizes the need for prayer. So often we want results without prayer, but rarely does that happen. We also need to be immersed in Scripture. I find that if I don't give generous time to my Bible, just reading it and hearing what God is saying, my faith is dissipated. In many cases we must deny ourselves the luxury of too much exposure to the secular media-not necessarily because they are sinful, but because they are a lower priority than the things that build our faith.



Prince believes that a wave of the Spirit of God similar to the one that prompted New Wine's beginnings is about to take off and roll onto the beach of time.

We're coming into a season when our greatest need will be faith, and we will not have that faith unless we have already built it. For my part, when I look at our crazy world and its confusion, I find that to retain my sanity, I have to live in the Word. I would become a cynic if I didn't abide in the Word of God.

NW: As you look to the future, what's the thing that causes you to be the most optimistic, the most hopeful, about the Church in general and the progress it's making?

DP: It may sound like a strange answer, but I see a process of restoration taking place that is parallel for the Church and for Israel, and in Israel it is manifested in current political events.

The miracle of Israel's restoration gives me faith that God will likewise do what He's committed Himself to do for the Church. One Scripture that is very real to me is in Jeremiah

chapter 1, where the Lord says, "I will watch over my word to see that it is fulfilled." That's how I understand events in the Middle East—God is watching over His word to see that it will be fulfilled. But He's equally committed to His word to the Church. That's a source of great encouragement to me.

NW: As a final thought on New Wine's anniversary, how would you sum up what lies ahead?

DP: I believe from all evidences that a wave of the Spirit of God similar to the one that prompted New Wine's beginning is about to take off and roll onto the beach of time. And I think once again all of us need to be prepared for whatever opportunities or challenges that presents.

In the years ahead, I hope that *New Wine*, rather than concentrating on being tremendously profound, will be a practical teaching tool to meet the needs of the many new believers who are going to be born into the kingdom of God. □



Life on Wings

BY ERN BAXTER

It is our destiny in God to soar like eagles.

This classic article by Ern Baxter originally appeared in New Wine in Septem-

Since the beginning of man's record of himself, the challenge of flight has captured his imagination. The conquering of the air in our own generation has produced a wave of awe and romance unequaled in the annals of man's existence. Somehow the ability to fly has epitomized the longing of man to rise above the natural limitations of earthbound mortals and soar into the realm of the supernatural.

God has made provision in His kingdom for man to have this spiritual need met, and yet few believers ever find the satisfaction of knowing fully what God has allotted to them.

How can a man break into the realm of the supernatural in his walk with God? In one form or another this question seems to be one of the pressing concerns wherever I travel. Rather than embarking on a heavy dissertation, I want to look at a beautiful illustration used by the prophet Isaiah.

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint (Is. 40:31).

King of the Birds

This passage speaks of the eagle. As the lion is the king of the beasts, so the eagle is the king of the birds. The Holy Spirit has likened us and our Godward aspirations to the aspiration of being like the eagle.

As I watched the eagles in the Columbia Basin near Portland, Oregon, I began to understand why they have represented throughout time the Godward thrust of man: power, freedom, beauty, the lord of their environment through their ability to master the air. They move in regal splendor, for they are born as kings. As the eagle is born with the divine right of kingship, so we come from the new birth with the inherent potential of soaring into the very presence of God Himself. The fact, however, that eagles are so equipped does not necessarily mean that they will ever get off the ground.

Deuteronomy 32:11 has some interesting information about eagles: "As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreading abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings."

All eagles begin as eaglets and before these unseemly, squalling fledglings take their place with royalty, they must be trained in the ways of the king of birds. This little verse is the Flight Training Manual of student eagles and earthbound Christians.

The Eaglet's Lesson

Picture with me two little eaglets snuggled cozily in a down-filled nest, high on an eerie ledge on some remote mountainside. (Christians often find themselves born into equally precarious circumstances.) Everything is just wonderful; mother eagle sallies forth daily and brings back choice tidbits for those ravenous appetites. During the cold mountain nights she settles over the nest and the eaglets snuggle securely under those warm, soft wings and look out at the stars not very far away. They are newly born and baptized in the Spirit. Hallelujah! Life is wonderful and being a Christian sure makes life easy-no more problems! God knew what He was doing when He thought up this arrangement!

One day Mom begins to act very strangely. Rather than landing on the nest, she hovers momentarily, beating the air with those great wings. As Junior watches her, he thinks, Mom sure has powerful wings! That is exactly what Mrs. Eagle want Junior to know.

Then she does something downright crazy. She grabs a piece of the nest and drops it over the side of the cliff. Then she returns for another chunk, and another, and another. The little eaglets are beginning to think Mom has lost her marbles! By now the framework of the nest is pretty shaky and that nice soft down that made Junior feel so secure is at the bottom of the canvon. Nest life is becoming a standing-room-only situation on what is left of their home.

Can you see what the mother eagle is doing? She is preparing her young for the first stage in the eagle training. After our Lord received the Holy Spirit and the declaration of His holy sonship, the Scripture says that He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil. I have written in the margin of my Bible at this point, "Is this standard operating procedure?" I believe that God's modus operandi is to begin to confront us as soon as possible with the necessity of maturing into something other than nest-bound believers.

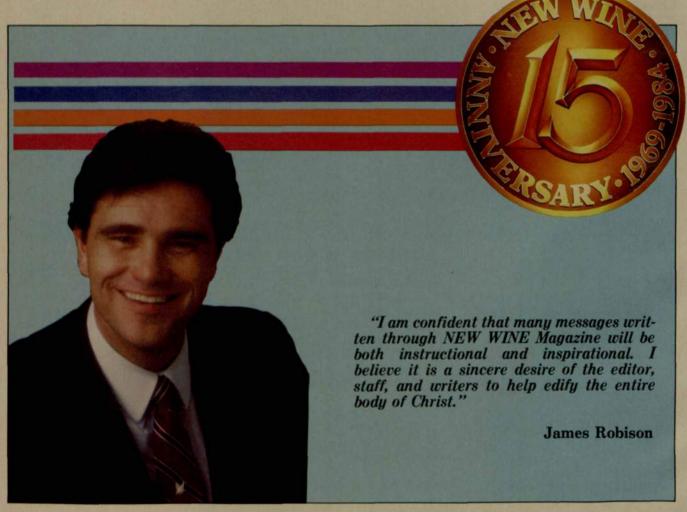
Growing Up

Paul told the Corinthians that he could not talk to them as mature men because they were as babes (see 1 Corinthians 3:1). He did not say they were babies, but that they were like babies. When a baby slobbers its pabulum down its little chin and milk runs into its little ears, we all laugh and think it is cute. But when a twenty-one-year-old man slobbers his food down his chin, then he is *like* a baby and this is sickening. God does not mind a Christian going through the pabulum stage; it is a part of growing up. But it is tragic in God's eyes when we never grow out of infancy.

Interestingly enough, the discomfort of our bewildered eaglets has been deliberately caused by the one who loves them most. How often when we have a streak of trouble do we cry out, "The Devil is attacking me!" Are you positive it is the Devil?

Maybe the One who loves you most is stirring up your nest.

Like many believers, the little eagles conclude that standing on that windy ledge is at least tolerable and they can make the best of it. But dear old Mom has more in mind than just a nest stirring. She catches one of the little fellows in her powerful beak and nudges him toward the edge of the ledge. The poor little guy wonders what is happening now. His little heart is beating faster and faster, and as he is pushed closer to the edge he thinks, No, it can't be! Mother wouldn't do this to me. But she does.



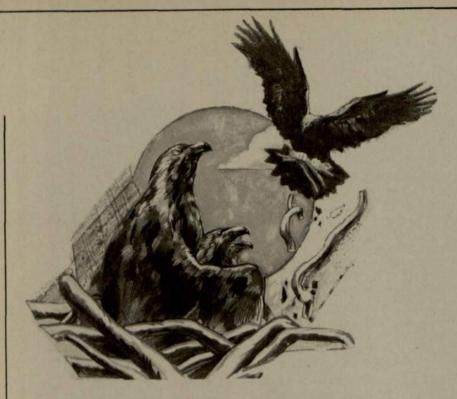
Out of the Nest

With one final push he starts to plummet toward the bottom of the canyon—he is sure this is the end. Then out of nowhere there is a swoosh of Mom's mighty wings and Junior is heading for the safety of the ledge on her powerful back, quite relieved. The first time God kicks us out of the nest and catches us before we hit bottom, we gasp, "Oh, thank heaven! I was sure God had let me down that time."

Back on the ledge our wouldbe king is just getting over being dizzy when Mom starts pushing again. "Not again," he moans as he starts his second tumble. "What if Mom doesn't make it this time?" But she does. Several trips later Junior begins to get the feeling that Mom is trying to get a point across. Between rides he suddenly remembers Mom's huge wings hovering over the nest. He looks at his own straggly wings and thinks, I wonder if . . . If she does that again, I'm going to give mine a try! Rest assured he gets another chance. Mom will not stop until Junior finds the gumption to try his own wings.

Little eagles are gangly creatures, wobbling shakily on untested wings. But each desperate plunge brings a little more mastery of his wings. One day he spreads those wings and rather than falling, he finds himself rising up and up and up, riding the mighty air currents far above his ledge home and the nest that confined him. No longer a fledgling begging for tidbits, he is learning to become one of the eagles—he will be a king.

Ministers and evangelists often make becoming a Christian as being born on a satin pillow with a cordon of angels wafting us through life and depositing us at the foot of the



celestial throne. Only after we are well settled in our nest do we learn that God is more intent on the production of character than the provision of our comfort.

Living as a King

The Bible land knew two types of eagles: the golden eagle and the imperial eagle. The golden eagle speaks of us as partakers of the divine nature and the imperial eagle speaks of us as kings. In the Scripture, the two go hand in hand.

Our divine right is to reign as monarchs in our own lives! The circumstances that confound and befuddle the world become launching pads to new heights in God. Satan and his henchmen become the snakes, which an eagle bisects with a slash of his mighty talons or drops from dizzy heights to be crushed on the rocks below. This is our inheritance.

Some years ago I was managing a campaign in Cleveland. Upon departing the city for a few days, I told one of the committees, "Get a plot of ground where we can pitch a tent for about three thousand people and we will take care of the expenses later."

When I got off the plane upon my return, the chairman met me and said, "We have a wonderful place for the tent."

"Wonderful," I said. "How much did you have to pay for the land?"

"Fifteen hundred dollars a

"What!" I gasped. (Back in those days fifteen hundred dollars was like fifteen thousand today.)

We had decided not to make a big thing of money, so there was little we could do but trust God. After the first day and a half we were five thousand dollars down—a rather awkward place to be.

That afternoon I preached on Romans 5:17, which says that we reign in life by Christ. As I finished I said, "Now as you meet one another for the next few days, address each other as 'King so-and-so.' You may address me as 'King Baxter.'"

That night I was handed an envelope addressed to "King Baxter." I opened it and read a delightful note. "Dear King Baxter: My wife and I have a feeling that our fellow king has a need. Out of our royal treasury we wish you to accept the enclosed check for five thousand

dollars." I may not always have it, but there is money in the royal family.

Mounting Up on Wings

The writer of Proverbs said that among those mysteries of the universe that were too hard to understand, one was the "mystery of an eagle in the air." The symbolism of this passage is the Christian's inexplicable potential, which is like the eagle's, which can fly higher than any other bird and never wiggle a wing. What do I mean

by "wiggle a wing"? Did you notice that the psalmist said that eagles "mount up," and not "flap up"? Eagles were not made to go flapping about-they were created to soar high and free. Eagles learn to fly without struggling because they understand the air currents. An eagle will perch on a rock and wait, testing the winds. When the right wind is blowing, he lifts into the air with a royal scream. Herein is one of the eagle's secrets in being able to mount up-waiting. Those who wait, says the scripture, will be the ones to mount up. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."

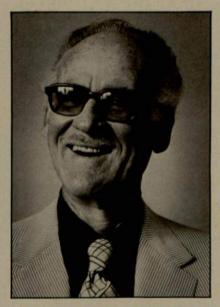
High Flying

Something in an eagle demands he fly higher than all the other birds. He often flies well beyond the view of the naked eye.

He rises past the telephone wires, where the crows screech, "Cawww, Cawww, stop and we'll give you the latest on the Sunday school superintendent, Cawww, Cawww."

But the eagle calls back, "I'm not interested! I'm going up beyond the clouds, where I can look full into the face of the sun."

Even though an eagle flies high into the blinding sun, he is



Ern Baxter, author of "I Almost Died!" pastored one of the largest evangelical churches in Canada for twenty years. Since that time, he has traveled extensively in ministry throughout the United States and abroad.

equally adapted to dark mountain valleys. He has two sets of eyelids. With his earthly eyelids he can see perfectly well at ground level, or he can roll down his heavenly ones and play in the glaring glory of the sun.

Christians must know how to walk on the earth as well as fly in the glory. It is possible to become so spiritual that we cannot see reality in our daily lives.

As the eagle mounts high above the clouds, he sails those great air currents into the very presence of God. You and I are not fashioned for the dirt and pollution. We were not born to be dirty crows on a telephone line. We are appointed to the pure worship of God, to climb into the rare atmosphere of the holy of holies.

How High Can We Go?

Some ask, "How far can I go, Baxter?"

"Enoch walked with God: and

he was not; for God took him" (Gen. 5:24). That eagle flew high! One day he flew so high that God said, "Enoch, it is closer for you to come on up than to go back."

How high? George Mueller was once told by a captain of a ship on which he was a passenger that the ship could not make New York on schedule because of dense fog that had set in. "We'll see about that," said Mueller. As Mueller prayed, the fog lifted and the boat hastened toward his waiting appointment in New York.

People can say, "I don't believe that God lifts fogs!" They will stay in a fog, but God lifts fogs for people who have the faith to have fogs lifted.

God has made us eagles like Himself and He wants us to fly! All the experiences that we become so excited about—our conversion, our baptism in the Holy Spirit, the spiritual gifts—are but a part of our introduction to the supernatural life that demands us to become God-like, because we are partakers of the divine nature.

When Eagles Die

Every eagle will have his downtime. He may be sick or molting, but he never panics. He finds a rock and sits there, letting the healing power of the sun do its work. If you find a low place in your life, do not start running around trying to find God-for the people will say to you, "Here is Christ; there is Christ," and it will bring frustration. David said, "I waited patiently for the Lord" (Ps. 40:1). God often has a work to do and all we are asked to do is to wait. There will again come a time of mounting up on wings, but the waiting must come first.

Every eagle knows when his time for death has come. He finds a high rock where he can watch the setting sun and settles down to wait, and then dies watching the sun.

There is only one picture on my study wall and it is that of my saintly maternal grandmother. When I was a very young child, Grandma took over much of my rearing. My earliest memories are that of toddling up to the picturesque little picket fence in front of her home on a Saturday morning, looking forward to all the delicious smelling goodies that she took from the cavernous depths of her vast old-fashioned oven. How I loved her.

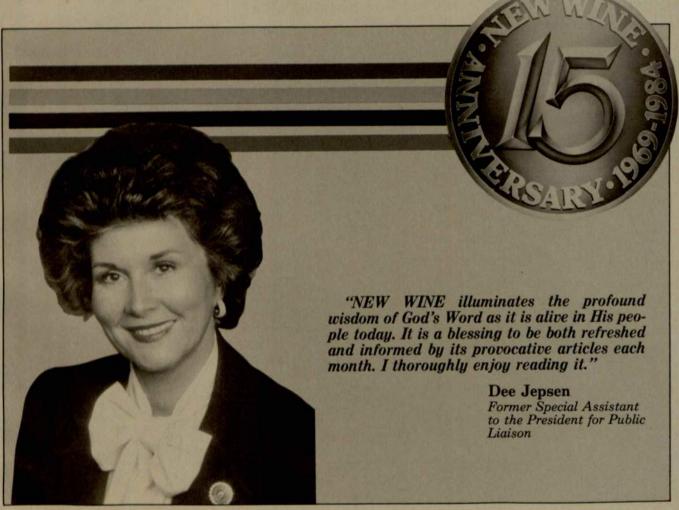
Because of the religious confusion that was in our home, I walked in rebellion as a teenager, but Grandma never let go of me. She was living in our home by that time, and I can remember well stumbling into the house at three or four o'clock in the morning and seeing her light shining under the door. I could hear her sobbing, "Oh, God, oh God!" Even though I usually felt like kicking the door down, I knew that it meant something.

Grandma's Answer

The time came when God got me. I had dissipated my life until I was a moral, physical, and spiritual wreck before He found me. Using what musical talent I had, I set out in the Lord's work and soon found myself in the ministry.

Grandma ended up moving with us to Vancouver, British Columbia, where I had my first important charge. She came to every service and sat in the front row and just smiled at me. (I don't think she ever heard a word I said.) She was saying, "You answered, Lord, You answered." She was nearly eighty and had the most beautiful white hair you ever saw.

Every day for four hours Grandma would sit in her old rocker and rock out an anthem of praise and supplication to God for me. Her prayers sustained me in a way that I was to realize only after she was gone.



One day when I was with her, she suddenly said, "I'm going home."

"Home?" I asked, "Home where?"

"I'm going home to be with the Lord," she replied, as if it were something quite ordinary.

"Oh, Grandma," I objected, "don't do that!"

"Yes," she insisted, as though she and the Lord had talked it over and it was all settled.

A little unsure of what to make of it, I asked, "What are you going to do?"

Quite positively she answered, "I am giving notice on my room. I will go back to the prairies to spend Christmas with the children, and then I am going home."

Looking Into the Sun

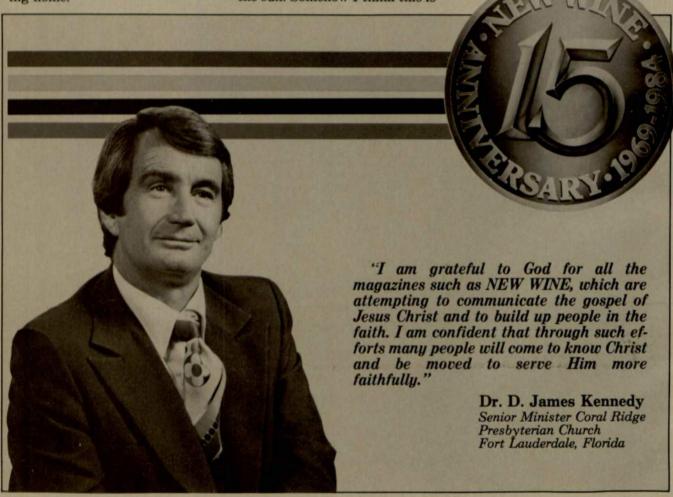
That is exactly what she did. With Christmas only three months away, she went back to the prairies for the holidays. wrote her Christmas cards and put everything in order. When she was ready, she called all the children together and did all the decent things one does when one dies. She called for the pastor and had him read her favorite Psalm (she was two verses ahead of him by memory) and told everyone good-by. When she had attended to everything, she turned her face toward the sun and slipped into the presence of God.

Grandma was an eagle. She died as eagles die, looking into the sun. Somehow I think this is

how saints were meant to step into eternity.

There is great reward in God for those who will dare to be eagles and learn to soar into what God purposed us to be. God is calling us to press into Him and rise higher in Him. He is calling us to new heights of divine awareness, new decisions, and a new set of priorities. He is calling us to be eagles.

Ern Baxter, a longtime leader in the charismatic renewal, is a member of the Integrity Communications Board of Directors. He resides in Mobile, Alabama, with his wife, Ruth.



Review

continued from page 23

articles by recognized charismatic teachers Don Basham, Derek Prince, and Bob Mumford, along with a Bible study by Charles Simpson.

1970:

February—Issue devoted to the role of Israel in God's plans.

March—Emphasis on praying for the government at a time when secular society was involved

in rebellion and turmoil.

The list of contributing editors in these earliest issues includes Brother Andrew (author of God's Smuggler), Harald Bredesen, Morris Cerullo, Gordon Lindsay (Christ for the Nations), and other recognized Christian leaders.

1971:

Material by Derek Prince, Bob Mumford, Charles Simpson, and Don Basham featured regularly in *New Wine*.

December—First appearance of "The Best of New Wine," featuring the most significant articles from the past year's issues; a regular practice in each December issue until 1976.

1972:

May—First issue dealing with spiritual warfare and the dangers of involvement in occult practices. August—Special report on Explo '72—evangelistic conference in Dallas, involving one hundred thousand students.

September—Lawlessness. Introduced teaching by Bob Mumford on authority and "the problem of doing your own thing" or rebellion. Appropriate topic for a generation entering into what was to become known as the "me" decade.

1973:

February—Health and Healing. Had been an emphasis in earlier



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issues, but focused upon in this issue. Unity, another topic appearing in this issue, was to receive regular attention in *New Wine*.

March-Marriage and Family. Consistent emphasis in New

May—Water Baptism and June—Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Clear scriptural teaching to add clarity to questions being raised on these issues.

September—Classic Articles. "From Curse to Blessing" by Derek Prince, and "Life on Wings" by Ern Baxter (reprinted on page 32).

1974:

January—Morals and Ethics. Beginning of a series of articles on moral issues, such as abortion, homosexuality, ethics, and sexual conduct.

February-Unity. Mandate of unity for Christians.

March—Discipleship. Lead article by Charles Simpson entitled "Making Disciples," a topic that touched off a tremendous reaction

October—Restoration of Woman-hood. An issue that received

wide acceptance.

1975:

March—Contained "Breathing Room" by Bob Mumford, a classic study of how Christians should stand in but not abuse their liberty in Christ.

July-Carried the announcement of the publication of Vino Nuevo, New Wine for Spanish-

speaking people.

October—Restoration of Manhood. With a helpful article on the place of work in the Christian life.

November—Carried a report on the National Men's Shepherd's Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, including forty-five hundred Christian leaders.

1976:

March—Contained a discipleship forum, published jointly with Logos Journal, in which the New Wine teachers responded to questions posed by Jamie Buckingham and Dan Malachuk of Logos Journal.

May—Finances. Frequent emphasis was given in New Wine to the need for Christians to handle their finances in a godly manner. Also contained a report of a horrendous earthquake in Guatemala, to which New Wine readers responded with generous contributions to a Guatemalan relief effort.

November—Music and Worship. A regular emphasis in New Wine articles.

1977:

March—Binding the Strong Man. On the topic of doing battle with spiritual powers. One of New Wine's most requested issues.

July/August—Kansas City Conference issue distributed at the Conference on Charismatic Renewal in the Christian Churches, attended by more than forty-five thousand believers. A complete

report of the conference was carried in the October issue.

1978:

February—Embracing Suffering.

March—Overcoming Fear.

April and May—Effective Fathering and the Identity Fatherhood Provides. April included Bob Mumford's "Father Power."

June—Leadership. Also included, "Our Debt to Israel" by Derek Prince, emphasizing the need for Christians to demonstrate concern for the nation of Israel, a topic that has received regular attention in New Wine from its beginnings.

September—Abundance. Included the final part of Don Basham's series entitled "Raising Kids." (The family has been a consistent focus of New Wine.)

1979:

(At the beginning of this year New Wine moved from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where it had been located since its beginnings in 1969, to Mobile, Alabama.)

February and March—Secular Humanism. Included vital and enlightening material for Christians on this subtle danger. One of the best received topics ever in New Wine.

May—Cults. Bringing scriptural

May—Cults. Bringing scriptural clarification to resolve the confusion and fear generated by the Guyana massacre.

June-Encouragement.

November—Handling Your Hassles. Included a report on a "little hassle" all of us on the staff in Mobile had to handle—Hurricane Frederic.

1980:

March—The Working Christian. After a few issues dealing with preparing for the 1980's, we touched upon the topic of serving God through secular work. April—Building A Healthy Selfimage.

July/August—Turning the Tide

of Decadence. Response to this issue, which addressed the moral decay in society, was phenomenal. During this time, we also mailed to our readers, "When You Were Formed in Secret," a newly published booklet on abortion that prompted enormous response.

1981:

January—Preparing the Next Generation.

February—Perspective for a Decade.

July/August—The Media. Included an article on the destructive power of improper communication and interviews with radio commentator Paul Harvey and columnist George Will.

October—Modern Morality: Tampering With God's Law.

1982

January—Setting Priorities. Our need to manage our time properly.

February—The Battle for Our Culture. Featured an interview with Francis Schaeffer.

August—The Church and Washington, D.C. An issue that generated a tremendous response from our readers.

October-Worship.

November—Heritage. A well-received issue. Included a report of the World Communion Service sponsored by Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

1983:

January—Knowing Our Limits. Featured "Are You Too Busy?" and Bob Mumford's article, "Back Over the Barbwire." February—Prayer. A regular foundational emphasis.

June—Unity. Included first appearance of Don Basham's column, "The Way I See It."

July—Ern Baxter's newly released book "I Almost Died!" was featured in this issue.

October—Is There a Time for

REMEMBER:

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, IS A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING.

War? A controversial issue dealing with our need for a firm stance in confronting forces that oppose God's purposes.

November—Interview with Dee Jepsen on the blessing of womanhood.

December—Interview with Ted Engstrom of World Vision.

1984

January—Kenneth Copeland: A Voice of Victory. Focused on our need for Christian unity.

February—Bob Mumford: Thirty Years of Ministry.

March—James Robison interview with articles on spiritual warfare and deliverance.

April—God's Provision: Natural and Supernatural.

May—Interview with Brother Andrew, author of God's Smuggler.

We hope this brief review of the past fifteen years of *New Wine* has helped to give you a composite picture of the way God has led us over the years. By His grace, we will continue our efforts to communicate our portion of His message to the world.

Indications from many parts of the body of Christ point to a coming revival, an unprecedented move of the Holy Spirit, and tremendous opportunities to touch the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We, the staff of Integrity Communications, dedicate ourselves to what God plans to do, and pledge ourselves to communicate His Word and His actions as they emerge. We invite all of you to join us in the next fifteen years of this exciting journey as we participate together in the establishment of the kingdom of God in all the earth.

RESPONSE PAGE

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SPECIAL GIFT OFFER

New Wine can help you make a difference in someone's life.

O ver the past 15 years, New Wine has been a vehicle for Christians to share with other Christians.

It works.

Listen to what our readers tell us about how New Wine has helped them make a difference in someone's life.

"When my son introduced me to New Wine, he gave me a chest of gold."

J. Elliott

"We were given a gift subscription and now God speaks clearly through every issue."

L. Heydenburk

"I'm introducing New Wine to people who need teachings of solid truth."

D. DeHaan

"I'm sending New Wine to a friend who is going through many trials."

C. Hiatt

It'll work for you.

Here are some of the ways

our readers have used New Wine to make a difference in other Christians' lives:

- To provide a door opener for sharing.
- To help others add meaning and depth to their lives.
- To help guide others toward Christian maturity.
- To provide others with a source of continual encouragement.
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THE WAY I SEE IT

Even simple creatures are not always peaceful and trusting

The Harrowed Sparrow

BY DON BASHAM

hat can a man learn by sitting in his office staring out the window? You might be surprised.

Over a year ago, New Wine Magazine moved into new offices located on lovely, wooded property. I have a corner office with large windows facing north and east. The windows are mirrored glass; I can see out but no one can see in.

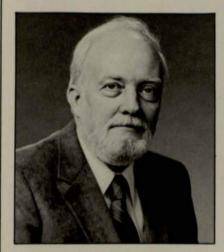
One morning I was delighted to see two bobwhite quail appear on the top of a terrace wall just outside my east window. I stood close to the glass and for several minutes watched the lovely wild birds peacefully sunning and preening themselves. Had I tried to approach them from the outside, I couldn't have come within a hundred yards. But with the mirror-window between us, I stood unnoticed, only an arm's length away.

God, are You watching me, as I am watching them? I wondered.

In His teachings, Jesus sometimes indicated we could learn from the birds.

"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Mt. 6:26 NIV).

"So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many spar-



rows" (Mt. 10:31 NIV).

But even birds, who have no real worries, are not always peaceful and trusting. A few mornings after seeing the quail, I heard a thump at the window and looked up to see a slightly dazed mockingbird pick himself up off the windowsill and dive at the window again, pecking furiously at his own reflection in the glass. All morning long, that silly, angry bird kept scratching and pecking at what he thought was a rival or an enemy. The next morning he was at it again-and the next.

I could have helped that bird had he been able to hear me. I could have told him that if he would just stop fighting and turn away, the "enemy" would also turn away from him. Then he could go on building his nest in peace. But tapping and shouting from my side of the glass did no good at all.

God, are You watching me, as I am watching him? I wondered.

It made me realize how frustrated God must feel when we turn from trusting Him to go knocking our heads against any perceived "threat" to our welfare—a threat that in reality is only the reflection of our own angry initiative.

After some days the mockingbird disappeared. I thought he had learned his lesson until one morning I met with Charles Simpson in his office on the other side of the building. There was that stubborn mockingbird banging his beak against Charles' window. He hadn't learned a thing; he had only changed windows.

As long as we trust Him, the Lord will provide for us just as He does for the birds who "do not sow or reap or store away in barns." But He will not stop us from temporarily forsaking that trust to go knocking our heads against the reflection of our own fears and suspicions anymore than He stopped that stubborn mockingbird.

So if you are currently engaged in pecking at some fearful, deceiving reflection, the answer is to repent, turn your back on it, and get on with serving God. Changing windows is no help at all. At least, that's the way I see it.

Don Basham is chief editorial consultant for New Wine.



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