

Here are parts of recovered progress reports. Various parts were edited or missing. This focuses on his history.

* OUR BACKGROUND *

In these days people want to know the background of others (and it does help us greatly in understanding one another) and so, for the benefit of those who have only recently come to know of us, we relate such of our background as may help them understand. Please remember as you read, that while I have always sought to "labor more abundantly than they all", yet in all this, it is indeed

"BY THE GRACE OF GOD
I am what I am", for all that we are, and all we have done, and for all that we have, we owe it all to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Whom we love and Whom we serve and Whose we are. And, as we seek to "suffer the loss of all things for Christ," we do so, counting our portion in Christ and our labor for Christ.

THE GREATEST WORK IN ALL THE WORLD
and we marvel at the grace of our Lord in entrusting such as we are with such a heavenly, such a holy, such an eternally momentous work, as carrying the gospel of Christ to a world of lost men. And because we owe all that we have and are, or ever will be, to our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave His all, even Himself for us, we have in all these years

REFUSED TO BE TAGGED
by any religious name, and refused to do our work in the name of any religious society, but the only name we bear is that worthy

Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and all our work has been done in His Name alone, so that any honor resulting therefrom shall go to the One Who alone is worthy, our blessed Lord Jesus. Our brethren and sisters in Christ (some of whom have different denominational associations) have given to the support of our gospel work as their personal and voluntary act, but we have never been supported by any religious denomination or Board, or any rich individual either, but we have

LOOKED TO THE LORD IN PRAYER
and He has met our needs through the gifts of His redeemed people, and through the hard work of our own heads and hands (first with chickens, then plants, and then building apartments on our property, as I can do all kinds of building work and my wife helps). Like Paul we can say, "These hands have ministered unto my necessities", and for the gospel expenses too.

BACK IN 1922
after some years of gospel activities near home, I spent 4 months of each year in gospel work - in school houses, chapels, and vacant buildings, with heavenly blessing. In 1926 the Lord separated me from the work I enjoyed and in which I made good (farming mechanically in Penna.) and

WE SOLD EVERYTHING AT PUBLIC AUCTION
and stepped out in faith. The Lord blessed us with 5 healthy children - 4 are now married and with their own families. We presented a gospel and 12 tracts to every rural family in 15,000 square miles. I kept out all the time with gospel meetings in school houses-- then under tent, preaching under canvas for 22 more years in South Carolina and Georgia, and by means of trailers bringing in the

scattered country people.

HUNDREDS WERE SAVED
as the Holy Spirit used the Word of God faithfully preached. And of these, hundreds were baptised, and in 3 centers they gathered together unto Christ alone, and showing Christian fellowship to ALL real born-again people. Going to the woods-cutting down trees-sawing logs and building from the rough---in this way 3 chapels were built and used for the blessing of all.

OUR BIBLE SIGNS ON THE HIGHWAYS
date back to 1918. We believed that God's Word was to be "held forth" and God would use it, so I painted and we put up on the highways, stretching 200 miles in all directions, many thousands of Bible signs. Most of them were built out of old auto hoods (note their shape) rescued from the junk yards and cleaned and beaten into shape and painted. The greatest trophy of grace through this work was Col. John Fain in Atlanta, who was awakened for God through the Bible signs and is now a real soul winner among military-men.

THEN CAME TWO FIRES
They were Devil-directed to burn out our workshop and house and especially the sign and tract work (only 20 hours before, the tent had been removed). They were awful, and we had no insurance, but we had the Lord, and helpful christian friends and kind neighbors, and recovery was rapid and all work continued. Switching from tent evangelism to

PUBLIC ADDRESS GOSPEL WORK
we set out on 1 to 4 day trips up to the mountains and down to the swamps--preaching over the trumpets in the towns--giving out

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gospel tracts and leaving gospel "bombs" at rural mail boxes. This went on for 7 years; we distributed tracts at the rate of 2 to 3 hundred thousand a year, and on my best day I preached 30 messages in that many towns; in one year I preached more than 3,000 gospel messages.

MY THROAT HAS HAD A RUGGED TIME
of it. At our house 4 trumpets have carried the messages over some 1500 houses and trailers (including a R. C. institution) as I preach every day I am at home and can arrange for it (150 to 200 messages a year) A total of 15 trumpets on chapels, etc. carry our gospel preaching.

SAMARITAN INN
we built on our place for destitute travelers to sleep, and we food them, showing them the kindness of God. Eternity will tell more about this work and its effect on the hearts and lives of the outcasts. Then in 1952 the Lord startled me by telling me to build

THE FIRST ONE IN AMERICA
A Drive-In to show Christian films. I never had seen a movie and had preached against them; but He insisted and in 6 weeks we had the first one operating. Now there are 6, and at them the gospel is preached and the Christian films are shown free to all. Many have heard the gospel who otherwise would not have. Now TV is threatening this "approach" too. Being out all winter and summer with my portable Drive-In

I LIVED IN A TENT
and cooked and slept in the field--ran a school bus to pick up those from another town and showed the Christian films and preached the gospel. Only eternity will tell

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the real results for God. During the day I visited schools, often 11 a week and memorable hours were spent with the youth. Truly God was in it. For 20 or more years as I buried myself and my ministry in little towns-- reaching the poor for Christ, my Lord kept telling me, "My servant, this is your training ground: I am preparing you for

A WORLDWIDE WORK"

Then as 1956 came, my Lord stunned me--telling me He wanted me to launch out into radio evangelism on many stations. I begged Him to relieve me; He had good men on the air and I loved my gospel work to the poor; but again He insisted, and after a big struggle I started in. Later, as I retired at midnight in my little bunk bed, He said,

"GET OUT OF THIS TENT

and get home". I couldn't sleep for hours, for I so loved the gospel work among the young in the schools, and at night to see the cars and trucks, families of people, too poor to go to lighted buildings. But I bid that loved gospel work farewell, and now I have the blessed memories of it. I moved back home-- my rugged field life a memory. While at this writing all the other gospel work continues, yet I fear my Lord may have to stop some more. And now I see

THIS RADIO EVANGELISM

is my world-wide ministry and to it we now give ourselves. How I wish I were 20 years younger, but I needed those experiences to season my ministry and make it rich and practical, and we are looking to the Holy Spirit, whose servants we are, to daily energize us for this great work. Hearing others on the radio make me realize that the Lord has given to me

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A UNIQUE MINISTRY

others tell about the gospel or teach the Word, but my ministry is to preach it right at them and to sound the note "Thou art the man". As I listen to my programs I realize that is not David Brinkman preaching-- it is the Holy Spirit. All this work depends upon EVERY message being

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S MINISTRY

that is why we announce it as "featuring the ministry of the Holy Spirit of God through His servant evangelist David Brinkman". Above all else pray that it shall always be so. This radio work, which is launched to go around the world "if the Lord will",

IT IS NOT SPONSORED

by any society, but depends for everything upon the Lord, as He supplies thru His redeemed people. He may use just little gifts of \$1 or \$5 or \$10 to supply the needs of thousands of dollars. My wife and I have for years given 50% of all we earned or that was given us to the Lord's work, and we have increased that to 80%, and all gifts marked "radio" go to it 100%. This is not mentioned to parade our giving, but as our Lord gave publicity to the widow's giving, we do so, to encourage others to also give, and do for Christ and for the gospel's sake. My wife has in all these labors been my true and faithful yokefellow. And now with this great world-wide ministry, we need the help of an army of those who love the Gospel of Christ. If you are such, my message to you is "We need YOUR help". Are you willing? If so, write us and we will suggest how you can help, and thus be a part of this great gospel work. "Your servants for Jesus' sake!"
And yours in Christ and for Christ,

David and Bessie Brinkman

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~ 1958

TIDINGS
 OF THE GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
 FEATURING THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD
~~P. O. BOX 44~~, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, U. S. A. **JULY 25, 1966**



above (left to right) are;—our son Caleb and his daughter Grace (Mrs. Holton); our son David and two young christians on the place who help parts of the work, Helen and Virgil Hillock. These men are employed so as to support their families, only give their spare time and nights to the gospel. Their fellowship and help are much needed and needed, as also that of so many others who help us gospel out.

E—The picture has 2 parts as only half of Caleb in the picture, so we had to piece it out from another

AN ANSWER TO A BIG QUESTION

Those who are interested in this international gospel and who see something of its coverage and varied work, have asked me, "What is going to happen to all of us when you are gone?" **FIRST**—remember that at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and if all gospel work of this character will stop, and the devil's agents will take possession of all gospel centers and turn them into their works. But if my departure with Christ precedes our Lord's return, then here are the things I am doing to prepare so that all this will go right on:—
 1—The deeds etc. for the properties are already being done so the Grace and Truth Program has full title to the properties. 2—My wife, younger than I, I have no one to know how to conduct many phases of the work,

world. It has been the Holy Spirit working thru me so let the glory be given to Him.

1-1/2 Million in 20 days

The sign in the picture tells the story. We were not trying to make a record, but we had to have the shipments at the dock for the boat sailings. Our 2 "antique" presses worked away (with some break downs soon repaired) and by printing some nights till 5 A. M. we got them all printed. We only send out folded tracts and that meant 1-1/2 million of them went thru our one folding machine in 20 days, and most of them were 6 and 8 page messages. When our folding got behind our young people set up shifts and ran into the morning hours. The picture shows only some of the boxes. There were 174 boxes that measured 7 tons by space and weighed over 4 tons. Half went to Korea and half to Nigeria. Presently 3 boat shipments are on their way; pray for a speedy and safe voyage. Contacting the West Africa conference of ship companies we were granted a new rate on our printed literature—a saving of 16 per cent. Thank the Lord and pray as we await the decision of the conference that covers Korea shipments. To have a saving on Korea will mean very much to us as our present rate of shipments to Korea run about 25 tons by space a year. **NEWS**—Just got word of a 45 per cent reduction in our rate of tracts to Pusan. A "green light" from above—so let's advance more. Amen.

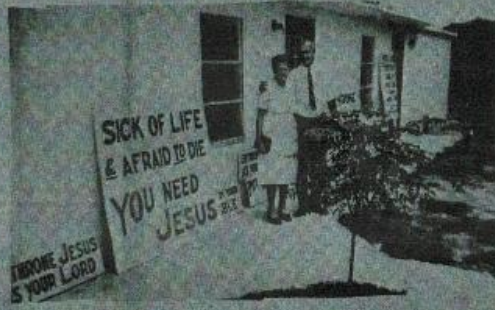
OUR BIBLE WORK

(MISSING)

TIDINGS

SEPT. 28, 1970

OF THE GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
 FEATURING THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD
 AN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY
 IN CANADA, INDIA, KOREA, GHANA, NIGERIA & --
 P. O. Box 44, Augusta, Georgia, U. S. A.



D. B. and his wife Bessie, his "true yokefellow" in all the gospel work. Presently we work together as "construction workers" by day till 8 P. M. and then printers till 1 A. M. (with the other work added in--somehow.)

OUR TIDINGS IS VERY LATE--7 MONTHS SINCE THE LAST ONE--but our effort to keep all the gospel work going, and with the added construction work, left no time to prepare TIDINGS. And our mail (and maybe yours too) is so full of expensive, promotional appeals from all kinds of religious work, I was slow to add our humble Tidings to the pile. I would quit if I were writing it to vie with others. I sincerely send it forth as a means to keep those who pray for this work informed, since we cannot write personal letters to tell them. We do not aim at wiffully collecting money by cleverly written appeals, nor making our work look spectacular by exaggerated stories--God forbid, but if "the truth is stronger than Goliath" be not surprised, for as this humble gospel worker creeps on in the mudflats around the

world in many languages, it so amazes us we can only say, "What hath God wrought!" Please carefully and prayerfully read this record of what the Holy Spirit has been doing with these His bondslaves. As we feel ourselves increasingly unworthy of this honor, we are, like Paul, doing, "as much as in me is" to get the gospel out.

VERY PERSONAL -- 3 A. M. FEB. 6, 1970

After shooting a lot of negatives in the dark room with chemicals (a job that seems to go hard with me) I had a day of sickness and had to finally take the bed--billious and a violent headache that no pills would relieve--I felt like a wilted rag and then fever joined to get me down. As the fever and pain persisted the verse in the Bible came to me (Matt. 8:15) where Peter's mother-in-law "laid sick of a fever"--"And He touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them." But our Lord Jesus was not here; He was on the right hand of God interceding for us. Yes, but did He not do all His miracles by the power of the Holy Spirit as He said? And was not the Holy Spirit here?

So I did this, I held out my weak and feverish hand to the Holy Spirit for Him to touch it. I reminded Him that was the hand that had painted all those Bible signs, had laid all those blocks, had printed those tracts and had written those messages etc. He touched that hand and my fever cooled so instantly I was amazed, and my violent headache subsided. And as "she arose and ministered unto them" so I got up and got busy. I constantly remind the Holy Spirit that I am His servant to do whatever He wants me to do, and He really keeps me busy with so much to do for my God. All this makes me the more to crave and pray that I might be "in the Spirit" and do all I do at His command and by His enabling. What would I ever be--what could I ever do--without the Holy Spirit--NOTHING. His servant and yours,
 David Brinkman

JULY 4-- BIBLE SIGN TRIP

With the help of 2 of our sons in building the signs, and the help of a sister in the Lord in painting in the letters, we were able to get up 2 loads of the highway Bible signs. Some of our young men took one load of them north in the morning, putting them up on the dual highway U. S. 1 out of Augusta. Then in the afternoon they took a load south on U. S. 25. Some of these were 12 feet by 4 feet. Now we have materials to make 50 more of these highway signs for their next holiday trip--Thanksgiving day. These will go south on that much traveled U. S. 301. Pray for the Holy Spirit to speak to many by the Bible signs. Just imagine a wicked sinner reading, "You can be a miracle of God's saving grace"; or a cowardly christian reading, "Are you ashamed of Jesus your Savior Who died for you? Only eternity will reveal how the Holy Spirit, Who gives me the words He wants me to put on the Bible signs, uses them to speak to saints and sinners."

BIBLE SIGNS FOR TRINIDAD

In response to request we mailed 4 of our big 8 feet by 4 feet Bible signs to Trinidad. These are rolled up, being on aluminum plates; then they tack to boards. Thus we can sign up other lands for Christ too. Those in other lands willing to go to work with Bible signs should contact us. We make no charge for our part; they must be responsible for the erection.



GRACE CHAPEL GROUNDS—5 miles from Augusta—1-1/2 acres. 4 trumpets carry a gospel message each Lord's day over a rapidly growing community—trailer parks etc. 41 years ago I cut this out of rough woodland. The assembly "I planted," following scores saved in my tent meetings.

- # 1 - Grace Chapel with 3. 3. rooms
- # 2 - Office Building (28 x 40) with our apartment
- # 3 - Printing Building (24 x 70)---signs ready for a trip
- # 4 - is not visible (10 x 36) tool building
- # 5 - is barely seen (20 x 65) Bldg. for supplies, paint room and shop.
- # 6 - Homes building (27 x 58) 3 apartments for workers.

SOMEWHAT PERSONAL—AT 72 YEARS

the Holy Spirit has so strengthened and energized me I have been enabled BY HIM to mix my own mortar and lay all the cement blocks on the 3 big block buildings (pictured), and I ran the concrete mixer and shoveled the sand and stone for the 5 concrete floors and the 3 concrete roofs. (I had reckoned myself as only "A-dollar-a-day" worker with maybe my visuals thrown in, since I eat so little.) But when I learned what they have to pay men to lay cement blocks, I counted ONE DAY and found I had earned \$50.10 and without any help and mixing all my mortar myself. This is just one of the ways the Grace and Truth Program does so much on such a little money—all the labor is freely given as to the Lord.

But do not think I am enjoying a perennial youth—no, I know I am not what I used to be, and I lament so often, "I'm a tired old man," as exhaustion grips me. Please pray earnestly for my wife. 3

and all our helpers, and for me, that our strength shall be renewed day by day to meet the challenge of this work. And then there is the mental strain—with age making it harder to think of and to do several things at the same time, and with the responsibilities of such a far-reaching work on my mind day and night. All this demands clearness of mind to attend to all phases of the work. We both suffer at times from arthritis. My heart too has rebelled but the Lord directed a christian doctor to prescribe what has been blessed to me. But I dare not lift so much as previously etc, so I try to be a bit careful. Our inabilities make us feel the more our complete dependence on the Spirit of God, and also our need of the help of others. You who pray for us, we thank you in His Name; please continue to "pray without ceasing."

AND SINCE WE SO NEED HELPERS the Holy Spirit has instructed me to prepare accommodation for trailers on our Grace Chapel grounds for those WHO HAVE A TRAILER and who will help in the gospel work, being willing to do whatever they are able to. Even the aged can help prepare the tracts. We will make no charge and supply water, electricity and sewerage free. Thus retired christians can enjoy christian fellowship at the meetings, and can serve the Lord in getting His gospel out to Korea, Ghana, Nigeria and vast India. They can also have a time of relaxation and be in a change of surroundings. Georgia winter climate does have its cold spells, but they are not so long, and it very seldom goes below 15 degrees.

WE WILL ALSO PREPARE A ROOM for one who can stay but a week or so and help. This room will be fitted for private sleeping and cooking—very plain. No charge will be made for its use or for the utilities to one who helps in the gospel work. OUR AGED HELPERS—At this writing 5 of our elderly helpers are completely incapacitated to help any longer in the gospel work. For years they faithfully did what they could and their reward will be great. And now 4 remain and they are in failing health. It seems imperative that "the Lord of the Harvest" will direct others to help in this work. We are praying as our Lord told us to do. Matt. 9: 36-38. My wife and I still carry a big load of the work. We do all the printing, and most of the building, and we tie up the packages for the mails. And day and night my mind travels from Korea to India and Africa etc. as I ask the Holy Spirit to keep me from falling to keep up the supplies to our foreign evangelists, so they can go forth to the markets and villages with the gospel preached and in print.

BOAT SHIPMENTS OF TRACTS

Since our last tidings, while we had all our construction work to do and to pay for (we always pay-as-we-go) yet we continued printing, boxing and shipping our gospel messages in the million shipments by boat. Just before the last tidings we had sent to Ghana and to Nigeria. Then we sent to Korea over a million messages and 3 big cases of garments. Then the second shipment of the same size went to Korea. 4

GOD ANSWERED PRAYER FOR INDIA

AND THE HOLY SPIRIT showed me a way to do it. It makes a lot more work for us as we must prepare all the tracts into a book form to get the lower postage rate. This has worked and our India brethren report the safe arrival of the packages in good condition and no custom charges. By this new way we have now sent some 600,000 of our messages, supplying all of some 150 gospel workers in 4 languages for India. Thus we avoid a transshipment from Madras after the boat docks, and we have direct contact with each worker. But it has greatly increased our labors; but this we gladly take for we are so happy to again get our gospel messages into India.

HERE IS OUR COST We produce on our presses, at a cost for the paper and ink, 1,000 of our 8 page messages for about 90 cents per thousand. And now the postage runs about 90 cents for 1,000. So we produce and deliver to our worker's home in India at the rate of \$1.70 per 1,000, 8 page messages in their native tongue. If we had a press in India we could not print them there and post from the press to the worker at near that price, and to buy them there would be far greater. Now if YOU think this wonderful (we do) then forget not to add the hours of hard work to print, staple and prepare and package these India messages, and then do have a part in it. If you live too far away to work with us, then pray as Matt. 9:36-38 says. NOTE—Many christians live near us and they could help if they would, but they don't—WHY NOT? Be assured we welcome all the saints who want to help us get the gospel out.



Our son Caleb running the paper cutter. Caleb has a job, supporting his family, and is presently our most useful fellow-worker, especially with the technical and mechanical part of the work. This paper cutter has been a fine asset to the work. It has cut away over 100 tons of paper with a knife sharpened only once and no other expense. BUT the rest of

OUR PRINTING EQUIPMENT NEEDS RENEWAL

Since our 3 presses are all obsolete, with over 20 years hard work behind them. (Just the past week our main press broke badly—needing welding and a big overall repair which Caleb did.) So if any christian has, or knows of, some offset press or a folding machine etc. that the owner would be glad to donate (old presses have almost no commercial value) for it to be used in helping to get out the gospel to foreign lands—please let me know. It may be better than the presses we have. We know we will soon need better presses and printing equipment.

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OUR FINANCES

Last month—for example—there were only 30 people who sent gifts to this gospel work, and 9 of the 30 gifts were \$2 and \$5 gifts. And during that month, BESIDES OTHER EXPENSES we had to make checks for \$1,000 to carry on the work in Korea, Ghana, Nigeria and India. How can we keep going? This question I cannot answer: it is like asking, how could Jesus feed all those people with only a few loaves and fishes? We don't try to explain it or figure it out—to me it is a modern miracle of our wonder-working God. If some wonder, when they get no Tidings, whether we are still doing the gospel work. WHY WONDER THAT? For after seeking to faithfully and steadily (not sports and stops) serve the Lord Jesus in the work of the gospel for more than 50 years, do you think that now we are turning back? God forbid. So—Tidings or no Tidings—count on the work going on, and when no Tidings come, let it indicate to you that we are busier than ever in our gospel outreach.

To date all our 5 new buildings (covering 1/7 acre) at this stage of their construction, have cost us a total of \$5,253.08 and ALL THESE BILLS ARE PAID. (look at the pictures and all that costing only \$5,253.08! another miracle!) But now we face expensive materials to buy—electrical installations, wall board, floor tile etc. and then will come appliances etc. And at this date all our printing and foreign accounts ARE PAID. For this we bow in thanksgiving to our Living God. And since He has supplied the funds thru the sacrificial gifts of a few of His people—to such we give our hearty thanks in His Name—you have made our load lighter, for had we also staggering bills to face it would make the going much harder. Soon we must order another carload of paper—the last one cost \$4,000—it may be much higher now. As we face the bills of days to come, we are assured by the Holy Spirit that He will keep the work going forward. So in faith and with no fears, we step forward to again prove our "J.J."—Jehoval-Jireh—the Lord will see and He will provide.

Yours in Christ and For Christ,
David Brinkman, Minister of the Gospel

P. S. Gifts to the Grace and Truth Program in Canada and U. S. A. are tax deductible. Enclosed with this Tidings are the receipts for all gifts sent in the first 6 months of 1970.



Caleb and the machine he and David, our sons, made to gather the pages of our Dr. Luke books. It pushes out 24 sheets at one time so that every few seconds a whole book is prepared for stitching and folding. It has worked well and yet cost us very little for materials to make it.

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TIDINGS

Nov. 15, 1971

OF THE GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
A MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
P.O. Box 44 AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, U.S.A.

Please forgive us that 5 months have passed since last TIDINGS. The mails are full of promotional christian appeals so our little TIDINGS will not be missed by most; but for those few who pray each day for this work of the Holy Spirit and who want to know more about it, we offer our apology. As they read this issue they will learn the reason for it.

SATAN HAS DEALT US A CRIPPLING BLOW

right at the home base of supplies. Our adversary the Devil has had his eye on this gospel work and has schemed how to destroy it. His influence for God has alarmed him, and his vast outreach has invaded his territory. He is too wise to strike at the out-stations— he makes his target the central control. And he doesn't trifle with the aloof and serene, but he marks out an active and capable worker. And instead of creating opposition with his worldly crowd, he finds a christian to be his official tool. Of Peter our Lord said, "Satan hath desired to have you." When Satan gets hold of a christian to be his agent it brings about a condition so distressing it challenges the faith and courage of the remaining workers, and the one involved so acris, he (or they) lose their testimony before the un saved, while to the christians the change—for-the-worse in them is so unbelievable it seems like a bad dream.

We had felt so few in number to carry on such a big work we have been praying to the "Lord of the Harvest" to find us some God-prepared workers; but, instead Satan has come in and has marched off with 2 of our most active and capable helpers. And the Holy Spirit has suspended them from this work—at least for a time—as He takes them in hand. For them we tremble, for "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God"; and we hope and pray that this Divine discipline shall be followed by their restoration to the Lord, so that their potentialities shall not be lost, but they shall come out of this experience as broken and humble servants of Christ—prepared for His use, wherever He may place them. Please pray for them.

AND SATAN'S DOUBLE PURPOSE IS to use this to so add to our burdens he will break our health. So now my wife and I have a much heavier work load by day and by night. With all the printing—all the correspondence—the handling of the expenses etc. as well as construction work to do, and the care of the apartments—and never did they need so much—with drains to unstop—toilets to rebuild—heaters to clean—a water tank to install etc. etc. I confess it takes all there is in us. It seems like the Devil has vowed he will break us down, but the Holy Spirit says, "No you won't do it, for I will give them grace and strength to take it", and this HE IS DOING. So now please pray for this gospel work at this critical time, and wear with us in our sorrow, and pray for us in this battle.

BIBLE SIGNS AND BIBLE POSTERS

The Spirit of God speaks to many thru these signs. Have they a place in your prayers—they should have. In the last months we have printed over 100,000 of the posters. In a few days we will receive masters of these in Tamil (India) and we will print thousands of them. Our workers beg for more of them. People proudly put them up at their front door where all their visitors will read them. A gospel worker in Mississippi who has gotten thousands of our gospel tracts and a few of our silk-screened Bible signs on aluminum, appeals for great numbers more. In Nigeria they also need many MORE. So we plan when bro. Wm. Rempel visits us this winter to make up hundreds of these. They are made on old printed plates and they look good for years when tacked to big trees, sides of buildings or in frames.

OUR HIGHWAY BIBLE SIGNS—It seemed impossible to get time to make up 2 birds of these and for me to paint them, but we did. Our young men made a double team sign trip—joined by Bro. Chas. Williams in Atlanta—one team covered the highways encircling Atlanta and the other team took the highways between Atlanta and Athens and now 64 more of the signs stand silently on the highways telling out their awakening messages. Be sure to put these on your prayer list. Some of the new wordings the Holy Spirit has given me are in the pictures in this Tidings. **NOTE**—my heart is pained beyond expression as I see how our JCS has given us the materials to do with, and the know-how to do it, but we accomplish only a little of what should be done—one ingredient is missing—what is it? I told one brother, who wanted to get something for me, that he should buy me what I needed most, and no price is too high for it—what? T-I-M-E.

OUR CONSTRUCTION WORK AT GRACE CHAPEL PROPERTY has slowed down to almost a stop. The buildings are all built, but electrical inspection may be a snag, the plumbing, some closets, inside doors, the laying of the tile on the floors, and installations of the water heaters etc. are still to be done. But we feel we must give the printing of the gospel priority. Now little is done in building except as my wife and I do it. And I couldn't do much without her at my side. We do all our work together and our burdens serve to draw us very near to one another (we have passed our 48 years of being "married in the Lord"). And best of all our trials have brought our Lord very near and dear to us. The Spirit of God had earlier in 1971 given me some indications of our selling and moving in '71—now that looks not likely, but whatever He decides to be best for the gospel work will be very acceptable with us. We are content to stay or to move whenever He directs—He knows and we do not. Please continue to pray about the sale of the properties—this would relieve us of all the apartment work and would provide funds to carry the gospel forward.

OUR FINANCES—If you have been adding up our present expenditures, when you read "Our Finances" you will brace yourself, expecting to get the story of a big deficit and an appeal for funds. No—you can relax and read on. As treasurer I SEEM to do this—with just enough to hold the account balance, I deposit \$200 and then write checks for \$500, and still there is a balance to our good. It is like the 5 loaves feeding 5,000 and SOME LEFT OVER. The gifts have been few and the expenses enormous, but still, at this writing, all the bills are paid. How did I do it? I didn't—God did. So again we raise another Ebenezer stone for "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us"—in Him be the glory. And you who have given—rejoice with us—and I must tell you that YOU have taken a big burden off of me—for with the load we bear, if there were added "no funds" I would be crushed, if unable to support our workers in other lands. (I hope Satan will not read this.) Let us then plan big things for God in the gospel work, and "praise Him for all that is past, and trust Him for all that's to come." Amen.

Yours in Christ and for Christ,

David Leslie Bunker

NOTE— all gifts to the Grace and Truth Program Inc. are tax deductible in U. S. A. and in Canada (2 distinct non-profit organizations)

TIDINGS

GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
An International gospel ministry of
THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD
Through His bond servant David Brinkman
AND ALL IS DONE IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Address all mail to - GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
Rt. 5 Box 342, Augusta, Georgia, U. S. A. 30908

DECEMBER 2, 1982

The Root Of The Trouble Is With Us Preachers,

and our preaching, and our superficial maneuvers to manufacture "converts" and to make "members"? He would remind us of what He wrote in 1 Peter "The word which by the gospel is preached" and people are really "born again." He would denounce our made-up sermons, and if He gives us something to preach, we change it when we see this one or that one in the audience. My dear brethren, let us from this hour decide to wait on the Holy Spirit for His message, and deliver it, just as He gives it, no matter who is there to hear it, and no matter what the results may be. We may not now see the fruit, or for years after it, or till we learn in Heaven just how the Holy Spirit used His message as we faithfully and fully and in faith delivered it. I do believe, if we, who are Divinely entrusted with the ministry of that gospel by which people are born of God, so preach, the religious hypocrites will sulk away to their camp, and some pretenders will be so convicted, they will throw off their hypocrisy, and will repent in confession of their sins, and will become really "born again" to hear the

(MISSING)

OUR AVERAGE WEEKLY OUTPUT HAS BEEN

Presently each week a truck goes with the packages in postal sacks, ready to be trucked to New York or New Orleans and our average shipment is 300 tapes and 300 packages of tracts which means tracts plus Bible books and posters, and 1200 sermons on tapes. And when I was stricken and in the hospital those young people went to work even doing some printing and so much more. This was a great encouragement to me as I laid helpless in the hospital. Surely some future servants of Christ must be among them.

OUR FINANCES

Bills have been very great, but by draining out all our reserve we were able to pay all the bills. To our Living God be the glory, and in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ we thank each of you whose gifts have helped to keep all our bills paid.

But this hospital bill is my personal bill and not one dollar from the program funds will be taken for it. Make all checks to the Grace and Truth Program for income tax reductions. And if you wish any part of the gift used for my hospital bills (\$11,000 and more doctor bills still coming in) or any part used for our "Food and raiment" account (now at zero, but we are not starving for christians, are sending in food) be sure to mention the part of the gift for either hospital or our food. Otherwise, all will go into the program funds.

NOTE- This "TIDINGS" has been very poorly set in its order, and much has been forgotten--please have mercy on me in my condition (a wrecked body--weak and exhausted by day and by night, with the result of my being "in shock" with my life hanging in a balance, and then reviving). Be merciful on any mistakes and pray the more for me, as I still seek to be by the grace of God--the bond servant of the Holy Spirit of God--
and "Your servant for Jesus' sake,

David Brinkman

TIDINGS

MARCH 6, 1983

GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
An International gospel ministry of
THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD
AND ALL IS DONE IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Address all mail to - GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM
A Ministry Of The Holy Spirit Of God
-Rt. 6, Box 342, Augusta, Georgia, U. S. A., 30906

The last "TIDINGS" related how Satan attacked me to kill me and to destroy this gospel work. But my God stopped him just when I was in "shock" with my heart giving way as blood poured from that massive bowel hemorrhage. I needed 6 pints of blood. I tremble as I learn more and more how near I was to death. It was a miracle that I lived and my mind is clear. My whole body had been wrecked, but I didn't realize I was still a sick man. My doctor tried to impress me with this. Then after fifteen days in the hospital I came home. But I set to doing things, even preparing the last "TIDINGS". And so it gave you the idea I was well again and able to do the work. That was not so and I need to correct it. In trying to do what I could I exposed myself too much and I took pneumonia and had to go back to the hospital for 4 days. As my bills were so big (finally amounting to nearly \$12,000.) and I had no money to pay them, I felt I must go home and depend on anti-biotic tablets (against the doctor's orders) I had to repeat the course of tablets 3 times. So for five weeks I had to lie in bed, only able to sit up some, while my loving wife nursed me.

In those days and nights I communed much with my God and prayed for others. Now, in the mercy of my God the fever is off and I am slowly gaining strength. This so destroyed the gospel work the presses were stopped, and no packages were sent out and the mail piled up FOR OVER 3 MONTHS. The young people who help in their spare time worked away hard at what they could while feeling the distress and disappointment in this shocking blow of our adversary the Devil.

TRY TO UNDERSTAND THIS, -I have spent my life, working hard in serving my Lord and to be a blessing to others around the world, and to have to lie there helpless day and night, taking my wife's time and strength to nurse me --that was distressing beyond telling.

Now we hope to get into action again, but the Holy Spirit has ordered that we must "SLOW DOWN", and we must reconstruct our operations with many cut-back changes. My health makes it so that instead of trying to make up for lost time, I MUST "SLOW DOWN" in the future. I need grace to take it patiently. Pray for me and our helpers who want to do more--not less.

OUR HISTORY -- BY THE GRACE OF GOD

For 40 years we put Bible signs on the highways, starting before automobile days with signs on poles and trees and going up to 16X20 feet signs. Also painting large roadside rocks. The Lord stopped our sign work just before state laws about signs made our work impossible. Our signs were in five states.

For 20 years I preached in gospel tents, after first using empty school houses. Hundreds were saved and I baptized them, and when possible I gathered them to teach them the word of God. Three chapels were built where they gathered in the Name of the Lord Jesus. In Grace chapel the assembly continues to this day after fifty four years. Its grounds have the press building and other buildings.

Using packets of tracts we covered every farm home over a large area. We put up balloons with tracts tied to them--one was picked up 600 miles away.

For over 12 years we had public address trumpets on our buildings and car. Taking sleeping bags, we took 3 and 4 days trips into distant parts, my helpers giving out the tracts as we stopped at towns and I preached all the day long.

It was before the days of television we had 6 gospel pictures drive-ins with their big screens showing christian films and preaching, while in the day I visited schools with a picture and speaking to the whole school. I slept and cooked in a 6x6 ft car trailer out in the field. It was indeed cold many nights.

Then one night the Holy Spirit startled me saying, "Get out of here and get on the radio". The work with the school children was so dear to me, I wept. I told Him He had some good men on the radio without me. But I obeyed Him.

For 12 years I was on radio stations (several were fifty thousand watts stations) covering North America from Alaska down into Mexico and all the islands. Most of the messages on our tapes today were first radio messages.

The radio was the only way the Holy Spirit could get me to write out His messages. But when fifteen minutes on those large stations cost so much, I had to make every second count. That is why some were spoken very fast. With the messages written, the Holy Spirit of God took me off the radio and set me to printing them. This grew to sending boat shipments of four and five tons to Korea, India and Nigeria.

Then He assigned me to print the New Testament in five books, -- We have only 3 now "Dr. Luke" "Peter and Paul" and "John and Jude". These were sent out by tens of thousands and in 9 languages.

Then came the cassette tapes with 100 libraries loaning tapes to thousands of evangelists and gospel workers, and every day tens of thousands hearing these messages of the Holy Spirit in colleges, schools, markets, churches, remote villages, prisons, hospitals and crusades as people were moved to repent of their sins and call on the Lord Jesus to save them. And with the tapes the tracts go out by the millions and with them Bible posters by the thousands. And God wonderfully uses them too.

This covers the high spots of our history in the gospel work. We cannot even imagine the thousands led to Christ, not by my "eloquent sermons", but by the Holy Spirit's messages.

In those early years my wife and five children worked hard with me to help support the family and help with the gospel bills by raising plants, then chickens and then building and renting apartments. Through all our trials and triumphs my dear wife has been my "true yokefellow" and this history could never have been without her. In all this history we give God the glory. It was all done in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ and we say "Let Jesus wear the crown".

In those years of gospel work we gave everything out free, even Bibles and Testaments. We took no collections at our meetings, nor would we receive gifts from the unsaved. We had no society or rich christian supporting us, nor any who pledged our support. It was a miracle--to our "J.J."--Jehovah-Jireh (the Lord will see and He will provide) be the glory. "J.J." is in my wife's wedding ring and He has not failed us.) My thoughtful and generous mother would send us packages, and how our children delighted in those "packages from grandma". Such christians are rare jewels. Their reward shall be great.

The Word

Grace and Truth printing spreads the Gospel

By Carol Daly

Herald Staff Writer

At a time when street preaching is scoffed at, remnants of a forgotten evangelistic era nurture the mission of a Christian printing company in south Augusta.

Stemming from the age of all-day tent revivals, Grace and Truth printing company on Old McDuffie Road was founded on a tradition of spreading the Gospel while being mindful of changing times.

Started in 1858 by the late David Brinkman, an evangelist, the printing company produces New Testament books in five languages and sends them to missionaries around the world.

Grace and Truth operates solely on donations and derives no profit from the publications. All printing and shipping is free to the overseas recipient.

The company, still operated by Brinkman's children and his wife, 81-year-old Bessie Brinkman, grew out of the evangelist's desire to change with the times as he ministered.

Brinkman began his ministry while a young farmer in Pennsylvania. Summers would be spent in the northern fields and winters would find Brinkman preaching his message in the South.

Unlike many evangelists today, Brinkman often did not gather his followers in great auditoriums. Instead, he developed creative methods of presenting the Gospel to the people of the South. His work in the South led him to abandon his northern roots.

For 40 years Brinkman and his workers placed "Bible signs" along the highways. The signs — some as large as 16 feet by 20 feet — displayed biblical quotations and Christian messages.

The sign work ended during President Johnson's tenure, said his daughter, Grace Holten of Augusta. Mrs. Holten remembers when she would travel with her parents putting up signs and helping with her father's mission.

Mrs. Holten fondly recalls her father's tent meetings. Held for four to six weeks in one neighborhood, her father would preach each night while she played the organ.

Poor folks would attend the meetings in open-air trailers hooked behind a car. The homemade trailers, slightly resembling horse trailers, had about six seats and a canvas top. On pleasant days, children loved to have the top pulled back as they rode to the tent meetings, she remembers.

The evangelist, his wife and five children also distributed packets of tracts (biblical literature) to rural areas. Some tracts were tied to balloons, others were sealed in jars and released in streams.

Brinkman and a group of believers built a small chapel in 1929 that still stands on Old McDuffie Road in front of the print shop. The pastor also preached at two other churches each week.

In the days before television, Brinkman and his helpers would present "Gospel picture shows" at the drive-ins. The giant screens showed Christian films and were accompanied by the evangelist's preaching.

The traveling preacher also visited schools, where he would be permitted to speak and show Christian pictures. He usually slept and cooked in a six-by-six-foot car trailer in a nearby field.

Progressing with the times, Brinkman began spreading his message on radio. In order to prepare the spoken word, he was forced to write his message down. Many of these early radio sermons later were reproduced in the printing shop to be sent to missionaries in Korea, India and Nigeria.

Brinkman began using his printing in every facet of his work. He'd print brochures to be passed out at the theater and print books of the New Testament to be sent overseas.

Not long afterward, the innovative evangelist incorporated cassette tapes into his ministry. The tapes were sent to more than 100 lending libraries operated by evangelists and gospel workers.

"He would just progress with the times," said Mrs. Holten as she recalled her father's work. "When one means (of evangelism) got outmoded, he'd go on to the next."

David Brinkman died a few months ago at the age of 86, but the work he started lives on in his family and his church.

His son, David Charles Brinkman, a mechanic, runs the press each night after he finishes his regular day's work. Mrs. Holten works with her mother during the week, helping with the administrative work.

Young people from the church gather on Sunday afternoons to help collate the literature. The tracts and tapes are sent out weekly to the overseas evangelists.

Although Brinkman never took up a collection during his years of preaching, somehow ends always were met, his wife said. Even with postage bills of \$1,100 to \$1,200 every two weeks, Mrs. Brinkman said the bills always got paid.

THE GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM

IS IT WORTHY OF WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT?

• CONSIDER • PRAY • TAKE ACTION

In the early days of my evangelistic labors an older brother insisted on me taking time out, to go around to gatherings of christians and tell them of my gospel work; but I declined, thinking it to be more important to do the work than to talk about it. And now, by means of this paper, I will endeavor to (without hindering the work to do so) inform interested ones of this great gospel work the Holy Spirit has led me into, after preparing me for it by scores of years of rugged training.

When I Was A Lad On The Farm
We had this experience: the first year we had a crop failure, so the second year we could only buy 2 tons of fertilizer for the 105 acre farm. We tried to share it with each field, but we spread it out so thin it did no good. Had we concentrated it on a few acres it would have paid off. Some christians have only a little time they are willing to give to the Lord, and only a little money and they help here a little and there a little, but it is so little it can't be seen. Let us

Learn From This Extreme Illustration
Suppose you had a dollar to give and you sent ten cents to each christian work, writing ten letters with ten stamps. Then ten workers had to write letters and pay stamps too. You spread your gift so thin it only hindered the work of the gospel. If a gospel work needs \$1,000. a month, to operate and every gift were but \$1., it would take 1,000 letters a month to just acknowledge the gifts. Since you cannot support all the missionaries, or all the Bible Societies, or all the evangelists with their varied gospel works, then search, with Divine guidance, to find a real Christ-honoring gospel work and put all you are and have into it--your time and work--your prayers and gifts.

Make It Your Work And Carry The Burden Of It
Learn all you can about its methods, its problems and its triumphs--offer your help and your suggestions. There are many fine gospel activities going on in the mission field and the home lands--thank God for them and bid them God-speed. Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you to the one where He can use you the most, and concentrate on that one. (Please

Do Not Confuse This With Churchanity
of our day, that gets people to put all their time and money into their church, for it to use it for itself, and not to reach the lost with the gospel of Christ). This paper is to give you information about this distinctly gospel work, THE GRACE AND TRUTH PROGRAM. To the glory of God I say, I know of no gospel work like it in all the world, and that is why

I Am Putting My Very Life Into It
all that I am and all that I have. Its messages are unique--its combination of radio, press and Bible signs is unique, and its operations are as well. The Holy Spirit has raised it up to show the world what a great work He can do, with such poor tools, in workers and in equipment.

Here Are But A Few Of Its Features
1-It is carried on only in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, with no religious society sponsoring it, nor being benefited by it--all is done for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, Whom we love and Whom we serve.

2-It is the only radio program we know of that announces itself as "Featuring the ministry of the Holy Spirit of God". Its messages are not outlined doctrines conformed to some religious school of thought but they are gospel messages given by the Holy Spirit, in which the Bible truths are geared to the problems of this generation. While behind them is my 45 years of personal Bible study, and 40 years of rugged experiences in the field of pioneer evangelism, yet with all that, I could not preach such messages--I marvel at them and study them myself--all credit for them belongs to the Holy Spirit of God, Who is "the Lord of the Harvest", and Whose servant I am.

3-The gospel outreach into the world field, after only 3 years, has already become enormous. The English program reaches out over 200 millions of people of all classes and races, while our Spanish program (if the Lord will) will soon stretch over 50 millions of Spanish speaking people. And this is only a start.

4-By doing our own printing, and with a "relief" press, our work is not the best, but it is suitable to reach the common man. At the rate of a million a year they go out to many parts of the globe, and this could be multiplied if we had the funds to buy the paper. Our letters with the gospel are mailed at about 500 a day (we hope to soon send a 1000 a day) and these go into all kinds of homes--infidels, foreigners, Catholics, Jews etc. while our tract racks are at work in all kinds of locations.

5-Our Bible signs on the highways, the city lawns, electric poles, on cars etc. bring striking gospel truths to people of all classes, right where they move to and fro. And

In All This Gospel Work These Unique Principles Are Practiced

1-No worker is paid anything for his labor--it is given us to the Lord. I support myself and family and help support the work too by "these hands" - see Acts 20: 33-35.

2-Everything is given free--no charge is made for signs, printed messages etc.

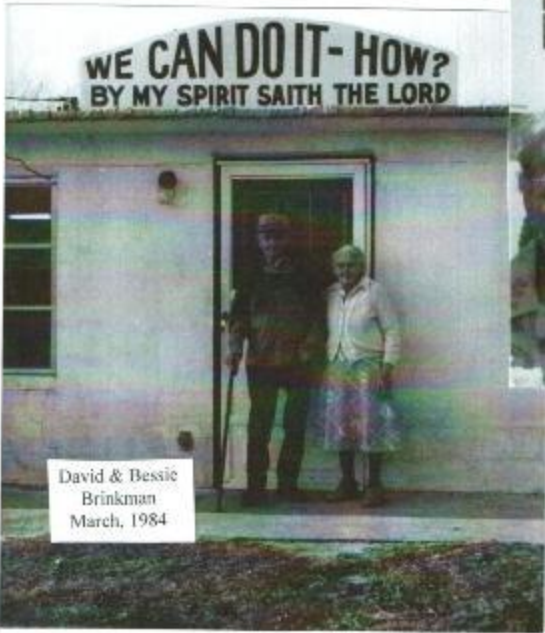
3-As to economy--we endeavor not to waste a sheet of paper, or a second on the radio, and use scraps of paper, metal etc. that are discarded by others. Our Lord hated waste and so do we. We try to do the most with the least.

4-Our home and property (come and see it for yourself) is a workshop for the Lord--all has been laid at His feet and awaits the Holy Spirit's orders. In everything we seek the Holy Spirit's leading, whether constructing something new or repairing a broken and contrary machine. The Devil fights us at every move, but the Holy Spirit gives the victory.

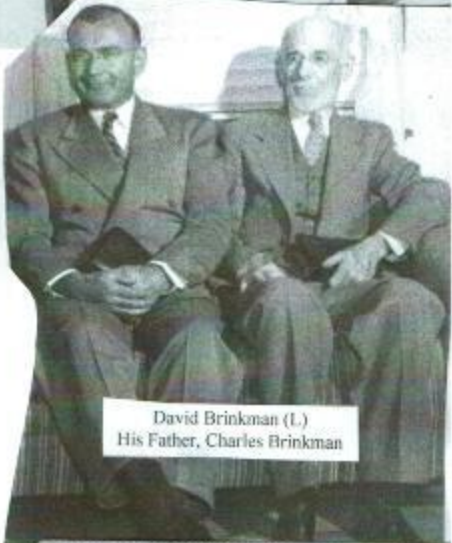
Our Radio, Press, And Bible Sign Activities
blend in perfectly--each one helps the others. Today this glorious gospel work is just budding into a powerful testimony for Christ in the world, but it is in desperate need of more godly, self-sacrificing laborers, and more consecrated funds. Ask the Holy Spirit if He can use you in this work--for you to make it your work and to be a real burden bearer with us in it, and to put all you are and have into it. We welcome the help of those who love the Lord Jesus and are willing to lose their lives for His sake and the gospel's. If the Holy Spirit wants to use you in this work--take action--don't defer it--opportunities are passing--eternity is nearing--and your days to serve, and mine, will soon be over. Our Lord said, "That thou dost, do quickly". "Your servant for Jesus' sake"

And yours in Christ and for Christ,
David Brinkman, Minister of the Gospel

GRACE AND TRUTH RADIO PRESS
-2327 Millidgeville Rd- Augusta, Ga. U. S. A.



David & Bessie Brinkman
March, 1984



David Brinkman (L.)
His Father, Charles Brinkman



ROADSIDE REMBRANDT, 51-year-old David Brinkman signs one of his gospel-spreading masterpieces. The studious-looking evangelist has been at it for 30 years and has posted more than 5,000 signs.



Old auto hoods, flattened out, form many of his signs.



Another Splendid Way of Broadcasting the Gospel

GOSPEL SIGN BOARD designed and painted by brother David Brinkman laboring for the Lord in Georgia.

The sign which stands outside the Brinkman home at 1948—15th Street, Augusta, is 12 ft. high, 18 ft. long and painted in ten colors. It has an eight day clock with a 2 1/2 ft. dial and changeable date plates.

Cars feeding two main highways, pass here day and night and as the sign can be read a block away, it carries its message to the thousands of passengers as they pass on their way.

The picture shows Mr. and Mrs. Brinkman and their four children, Grace, Paul, Anna and David Charles.

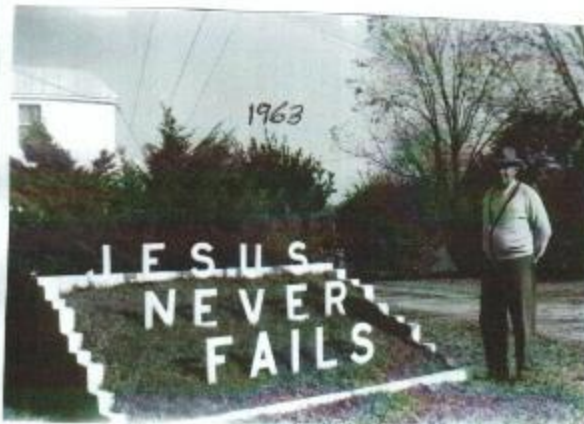


We believe that these are splendid ways of reaching thousands with the Gospel, who otherwise would not hear it.

We trust that all the Lord's people will remember these efforts in prayer that they may result in the salvation of many precious souls. Ed.



*June 1938
Appeared in
Voice from the Vineyard
Missionary Magazine No. 4*



Evangelical SIGN PAINTER

Biblical messages along every mile of the highway between Atlanta and Augusta, Ga., are so effective that many a traveler on the road has sought immediate salvation upon reaching his destination. Painter of those scriptural signs is 51-year-old Evangelist David Brinkman, who has personally tacked up 5,000 of them in the past 30 years. Most of the signs are made from old auto hoods, salvaged from the junk yards and beaten flat. Sign-painting is only part of Brinkman's work. Last year he preached 961 sermons in 600 towns of seven southeastern states. His day often begins at 4 a. m., ends at 10 p. m. Before striking his tent in a town he and local followers deliver tracts to private homes—adding up to 200,000 tracts annually in the 15,000 square miles of Georgia nearest his home in Augusta.

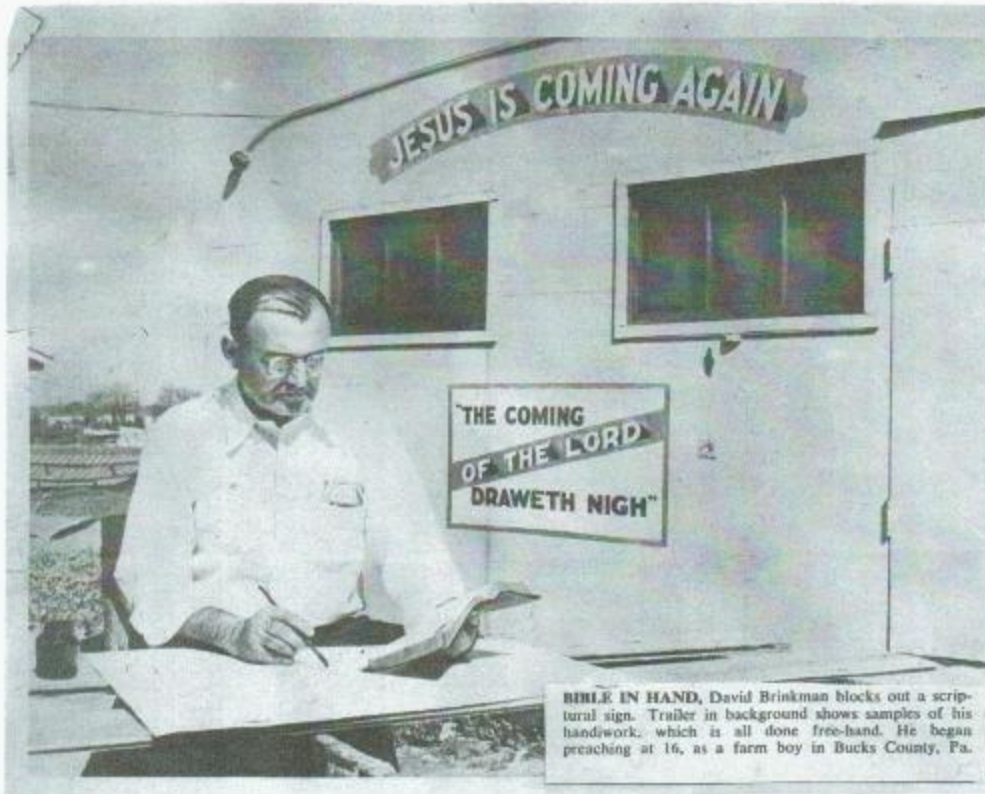
(Acme Photos)

BUFFALO COURIER-EXPRESS PICTORIAL, DECEMBER 25, 1947



A typical Brinkman sign, intended to cause motorist to reduce speed.

A QUICK SERMON from the roadside is flashed to motorists along the wreck-strewn Aiken-to-Augusta highway, courtesy of Evangelist Brinkman. Self-taught, he uses bright colors and chooses messages designed to make automobile drivers check speed and ponder on the wisdom of mending their ways.



BIBLE IN HAND, David Brinkman blocks out a scriptural sign. Trailer in background shows samples of his handiwork, which is all done free-hand. He began preaching at 16, as a farm boy in Bucks County, Pa.

Dedicated Sign Painter Spreads Holy Word

By BARBARA SULLIVAN
Herald Staff Writer

The evangelist - signpainter dipped his brush into white enamel and lettered "REPENT OR DIE" on a roadside rock formation near Modoc, S. C.

A car screeched to a halt, and the driver yelled, "You get that blankety blank sign off that rock. This is my property, and I won't have it!"

David Brinkman of Augusta, who has scattered his Bible messages throughout the U. S., Canada, and foreign lands as well, retorted, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. The Lord owns these rocks, not you. His earth should be used to carry his words."

There was no argument to his statements.

"There have been others who criticized my work, but they are in the minority. I put a sign on some property. Just three feet from a highway in Allendale, S. C. Soon I got a letter from a lawyer in Texas, saying that I'd have to pay \$100 a year for the sign. I told him that he was welcome to carry the matter to court, but that I doubted any South Carolina jury would make a man pay \$100 to spread the Lord's word. I heard later that the sign was taken down, but I wasn't prosecuted.

"I painted one sign on a rock near White Plains, Ga., and the banker who owned the land came and painted green paint over my sign. A friend of mine in White Plains asked him about it, and he became so ashamed at what he had done that he gave me permission to repaint the sign.

Some Cooperate

"Then," he continued, "some highway crews have deliberately ripped up my signs. But other highway crews have been most cooperative. When highways have been broadened, these fellows moved my signs from the side of the old road to the borders of the new road."

Adding up the pros versus the cons, Brinkman tallied, "The people who are in favor of my Bible signs far outweigh those who criticize. Those who oppose the signs have been relatively few in the 47 years I have been painting them."

Brinkman was a Pennsylvania farmer in 1913 "When I had my salvation."

Five years later, "We believed that God's word was to be 'held forth', so I painted and we put up on the highways, stretching 200 miles in all directions, many thousands of Bible signs.

"Most of them were built out of old auto hoods - you can tell from their shape - rescued from the junk yards and cleaned and beaten into shape and painted."

Then, in 1922, Brinkman claims, he was working in his cornfield "when the Lord said 'Go.' I loved the farm, and I didn't want to give it up, but I started coming down to Georgia and South Carolina during the winters. I spent four winters like that - preaching and sleeping in deserted churches while I served God. I preached in community schools, too. We came down here to live in 1926."

Brinkman continued to paint his Bible signs on rocks, automobile hoods, four-foot-by-eight-foot billboards, and now he letters huge eight-by-twelve signs on both sides. "We've discovered how to paint on smaller sheets of aluminum, and then put them together," he said.

His signs span from Georgia to Wisconsin and Ohio. He estimates the total number at "several thousand." He's reaching even a more distant audience now through a different medium.

"In 1956, the Lord told me to go on the radio. I didn't like the idea at all, but I had to obey. We spread God's message in French, Spanish and English. The Grace and Truth radio program is heard in Alaska, West Indies, South America, Nigeria, Haiti, Cuba and other places.

"I got the boot from one radio station in the western part of the U.S. There's one class of people you just can't criticize in our country. You can say what you want about politicians or even the president—but you don't dare say a word about one religious group. I made that mistake, and I was kicked off a certain radio station," said Brinkman.

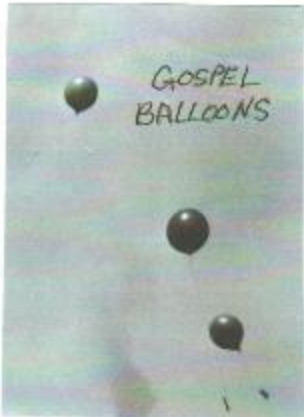


AS TWILIGHT APPROACHES, the tireless evangelist prepares to lower a motion picture projection screen in front of his home so that he can show religious movies. For benefit of neighbors and passers-by he broadcasts sermons daily at noon, his voice going out over amplifiers.





FINISHED SIGNS get to their locations on a specially-built trailer. Note public address loudspeakers on the car, for Brinkman to deliver sermons while on the road. His speedometer registers 226,000 miles.



GIANT SIGN of building blocks in Brinkman's yard spells out "Jesus Never Fails" for airline passengers.



