THE EAST TENNESSEE

VOL.31 NO.190 0202.01

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8 THE GAITHERS

10-11 WILL GRAHAM

18-19 THE SHROUD MUSEUM

26 celebrators conference

30 CHARLES STANLEY













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## WHAT'S INSIDE

THE CHRISTIAN GUIDE OF THE SMOKIES



# MERCY

here are times in life that problems are like the drift of the sea. You may feel like you're drowning in stress and fear. This often times can become too much to bare. As you well know, this is not a fun place to be. If you will trust in God when the drift is carrying you in the depth of the sea, his hand will reach down and lift you out of the waters deep. At that moment the forceful waves (your problems, stresses and fears) that were swallowing you into the darkness of the earth will become strengthless and powerless and have no effect over you.

With amazement you realize this was God the Father, of all mankind, ushering in mercy for you. The gentle strength of mercy lifted you out of the darkness and brought you into the hands of grace. Now you know him, whose hands these are. He is a refuge, a tower, a light in the dark. He is a comfort, a friend, a shelter in the storm. He is a healer, a deliverer and a redeemer. He is God, Jehovah Jireh, your provider. He is yours.

Trust in the God of mercy and grace will carry you. The most amazing thing

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

-Hebrews 4:16

#### ...and Grace carried me

is, through faith, grace will always carry you. It will be grace, one day, that will lift you into the very presence of the one who loves you most, your heavenly father, Yahweh.

Today, right now, believe and have faith that God is near. Reach out to him. He will meet you no matter where you

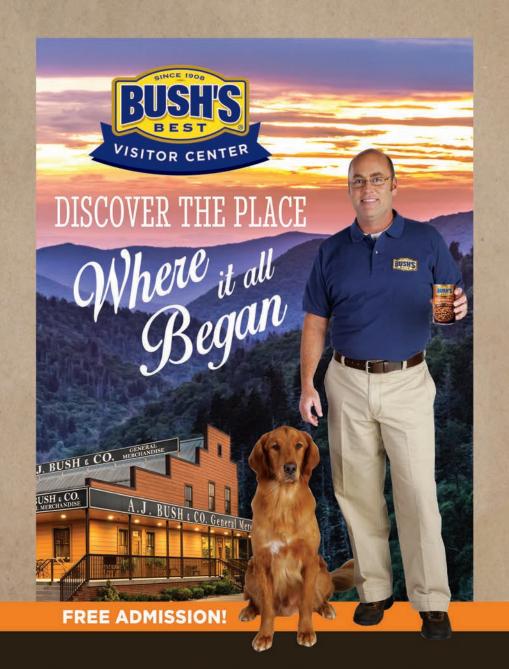
are. Raise your hands while in your troubles and receive his mercy. God has found favor in you and has sent a rescue for you. He hears your cry. He catches your tears. He will heal your wounds and restore you and make you whole. He is here for you. Experiencing the mercy of God will lead you into the hands of grace. Reach out to him. He will help you. There is even forgiveness in him.

In the life and resurrection of God's son, Jesus Christ the Lord, there is forgiveness of sin. The most amazing thing is through this act of forgiveness, mercy came. Because of his death and the resurrection, mercy brought us into the arms of grace.

It will be mercy and grace that delivers you into the very presence of the one who has loves you most, your heavenly father, Yahweh.

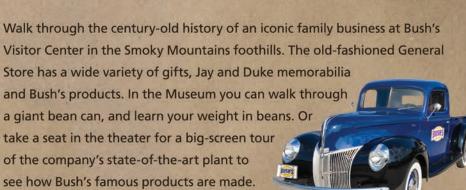
Welcome to the loving arms of God.











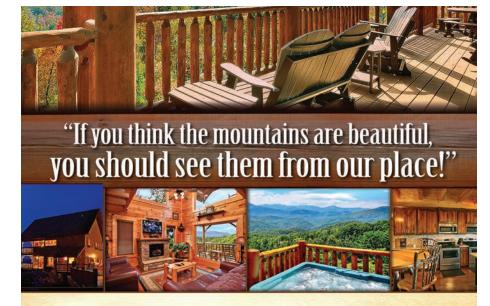
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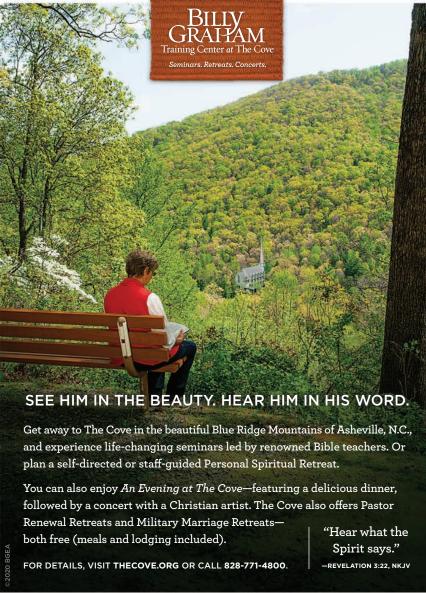
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10 \_\_\_\_\_\_ 11









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#### Be Prepared



by WILL GRAHAM

You've likely encountered people who are skeptical as you try to share your faith. The person may be one of the nicest people you know, yet they are antagonistic when you broach the topic of Jesus. How do you handle such a situation?

BE READY: 1 Peter 3:15 says, "But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you" (ESV). As you begin praying for your friend, the Holy Spirit will open doors for you to share your faith. Be prepared for this opportunity!

**GENTLENESS AND RESPECT:** There's a bit more to 1 Peter 3:15. After saying be prepared, the verse goes on to say, "yet do it with gentleness and respect." Yes, your friend may be antagonistic, but being angry or rude is not the answer. Instead, be loving, soft-spoken, and respectful.

**BE FAITHFUL:** God doesn't need a salesperson. He asks for your faithfulness. No matter how much training we have, or how much knowledge we possess, we cannot change someone's heart. Only the Holy Spirit can do that.

Trust that as you make yourself available and allow God to work through you, that He is also working in your friend's life and using your words to bring about a good work. It may not happen that day. In fact, it may take years and dozens of conversations. Be encouraged, though, that you are doing the work that God has called you to do, and He is there with you as you represent Him.

WILL GRAHAM—the grandson of Billy Graham and the oldest son of Franklin Graham—is an associate evangelist, vice president, and executive director of The Cove for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.







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## HROUD MUSEUM THE BURIAL CLOTH OF JESUS

N THE HEART OF PIGEON FORGE IS THE SHROUD MUSEUM WHERE HISTORY, SCIENCE AND FAITH MEET.

The cloth (Shroud) that was used for the burial of Jesus Christ is believed to be found and is in Turin, Italy. Science and history has authenticated the finding. At the Shroud Museum in Pigeon Forge you'll see a full-size replica of the Shroud of Turin used at the burial of Jesus. The linen is 14 feet long and 3.5 feet wide that bares the



front and back image of the crucified body of a man believed to be that of Jesus. Millions of people the world over believe it to be the actual burial cloth of Jesus Christ. If you go to Italy you won't see the real shroud. You'll see exactly what is in Pigeon Forge at the Shroud Museum. The original is rarely displayed. The real cloth's authenticity has been debated for centuries. It's likely Christendom's most studied — and controversial — artifact.

The replica shows the blood stains, spear wounds and facial contusions. A surgeon who visited the museum said he could see the carpel bones in the hand.

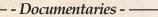
The Shroud Museum includes a reconstructed rock-cut tomb like the one Joseph of Arimathea loaned for Christ's burial. Visitors who step in this space can experience the third day at the empty tomb. Photos

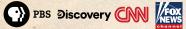


of the Shroud show enlarged images of the patches that were carbon dated and tested by researchers.

The Museum is 1,800 square feet consist of photographs and panels listing historic dates and research. Visitors will see artifacts describing Roman crucifixions. Displays also include actual first-century crucifixion nails and a third-century Roman spear found in archaeological digs in Italy or Palestine.

The Shroud Museum is the most unique museum in the Smokies in which History, Science and Faith meets.











Adult \$15.00 Children 6-12 \$8.00 (under 5 Free)

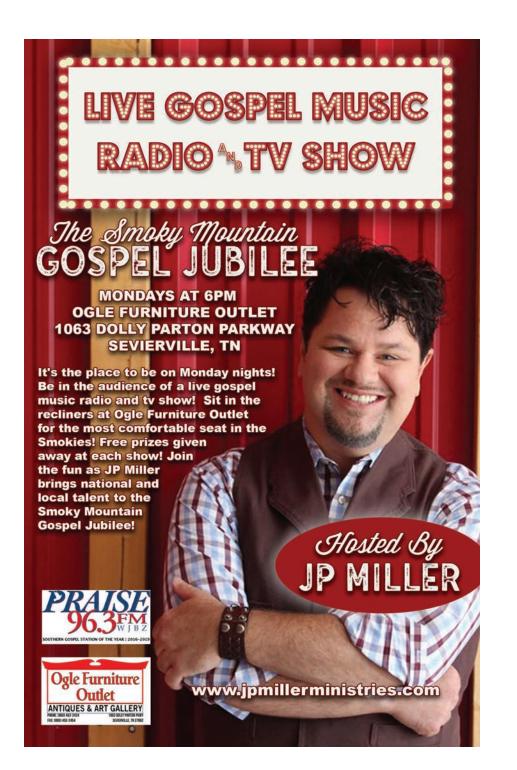
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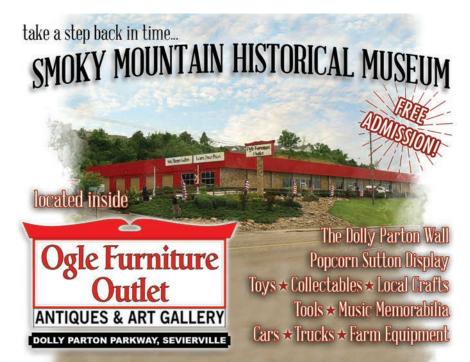
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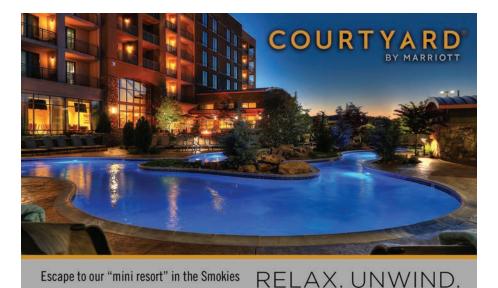




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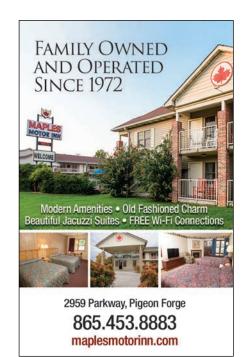
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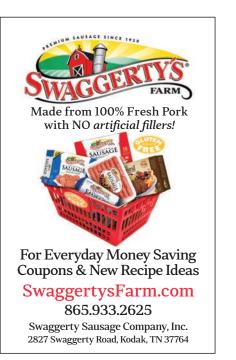
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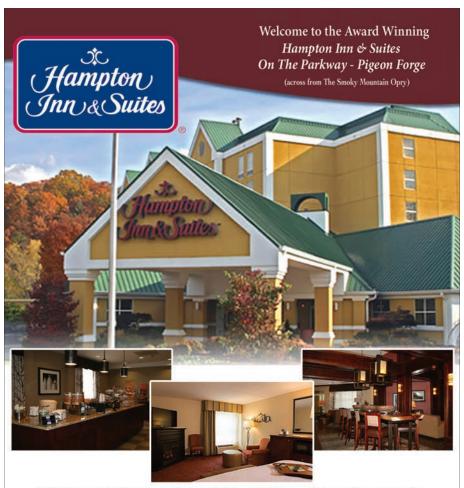








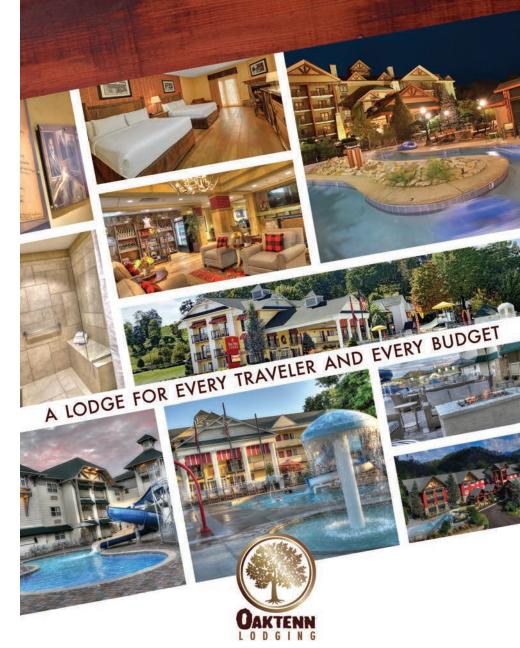




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