



# ***GIVING THE BIBLE TO THE WORLD— AT LAST!***

Victor Hugo has often been quoted as saying, “Nothing is as powerful as an idea whose time has come.” The development of the Gutenberg printing press is an illustration of this truth. When this big idea became a reality and was put to work dispensing information, it slowly but permanently changed the world. Even today, the printed page continues its work of disseminating information. Nearly every person on earth has been affected by the printing press in one way or another.

The Internet is another big idea that continues to change the world. Now twenty-three years old, the Internet carries vast amounts of information day and night into all parts of the earth. Every nation and territory of the world is being affected by it. Look at the world map on the insert, and you will see some proof of this claim. The Internet does its work postage free, as it transports messages to the far-flung reaches of the earth in seconds. No communication medium, has had as phenomenal an effect on the population of the earth as the Internet has had. It takes its place alongside all the big ideas regarding worldwide communication.

## ***AN UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY!***

Since 1989, Truth for Today World Mission School (TFTWMS) has been dedicated to spreading the gospel throughout the world using the printed page. All the branches of TFTWMS have combined to send out a

constant flow of expository studies into 146 nations. These monthly mailings are currently educating, cultivating, and encouraging 33,000 servants of the Lord for the evangelism and edification they do in the communities in which they live.

In 2015, utilizing the opportunity the Internet presents, TFTWMS will release online a comprehensive, expository study of the Bible. Ultimately, this study will be so thorough in its coverage of the Bible that it

will provide an opportunity for almost anyone on earth (barring language difficulties) to study through the Bible verse by verse. This is a “first” for TFTWMS and a “first” for the church and the world. With this new venture, something historical will take place, and new ground will be prepared worldwide for the seed of the Word.



## ***COMPLETE AND THOROUGH***

Eventually, this online study will take the student through the entire Bible using high-level, college-like courses. Each book of the Bible will be covered through a 500- to 700-page study text that has been written by a competent scholar within the churches of Christ. Windows of personal instruction and guidance will be offered with each assignment. Tests will be given, and an accurate transcript will be provided. Upon finishing a course, the student will be awarded a certificate reflecting his accomplishment.

**ARABIC**

**BENGALI**

**CHINESE**

**ENGLISH**

**FRENCH**

**GERMAN**

**GUJARATI**

**HINDI**

**INDONESIAN**

**JAPANESE**

**KANNADA**

**KOREAN**

**MALAYALAM**

**MARATHI**

**NEPALI**

**PORTUGUESE**

**PUNJABI**

**RUSSIAN**

**SPANISH**

**TAMIL**

**TELUGU**

**URDU**

**VIETNAMESE**

When the student finishes the complete study, he will have gone through every book of the Bible and will have been tested for comprehension and retention of what he has studied. In addition, he will have heard on the Internet some of our best Bible teachers, and he will possess on his computer about fifty detailed, verse-by-verse, digital commentary texts covering the entire Bible. In other words, not only will he have studied through the entire Bible, but he will also have on his computer, at his fingertips, a comprehensive library containing material on each book of the Bible.

### **MULTILINGUAL IN DIMENSION**

World population is estimated at 7.2 billion people. These inhabitants of the earth speak fifteen major languages, eleven minor languages, and perhaps seven thousand dialects.

Obviously, in order to reach out effectively to this many people, the followers of our Lord must put the message of the Bible into the major languages and significant minor languages of the earth. This is not a total solution to covering the earth with the gospel, but it would provide an opportunity for 65 to 70 percent of the people of the earth (if they are connected to the Internet) to be able to study through the Bible. TFTWMS is moving toward this goal as quickly as funds and staff allow.

TFTWMS is unique as a teaching work among the churches of Christ in that it sends out monthly mailings in the most-used languages of the earth. The current mailings are going out in fourteen languages, and four more languages have just been added.

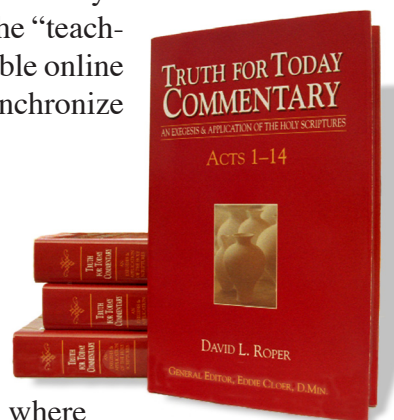
### **VERSE-BY-VERSE COVERAGE**

In 2001, the first volume in the Truth for Today Commentary series was released. Thirty-one volumes are available at this time. Each is approximately 500 to 700 pages in length and contains an in-depth, thorough study of the Scriptures that has been faithfully and responsibly written. When the series is completed, it will contain studies on every book of the Bible.

These commentaries are the study texts that will become the “teachers” of the online school. All of these study texts will be available online in twenty-three languages (including English). They will synchronize with the culture and society wherever they are being studied.

The first year of study, six courses in New Testament History, will be online in twenty-three languages as the school begins. Future studies will include New Testament Theology, Old Testament History, and Old Testament Theology.

The school is designed to be used by our brotherhood as a follow-up to all of its teaching works. It will no doubt be an invaluable service in different locations throughout the world where qualified teachers are scarce and where such teachers are beyond our ability to support.



### **PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS**

One of the many dimensions of this online school is its practicality. A congregation can use it in several different ways. This flexibility will allow each local church to make meaningful use of the school within the congregation and the community.

Such a school will provide a new incentive among us to return to a detailed study of the Bible. It can be used not only as a local school of Bible study, but also as an opportunity for several members from the congregation to enjoy a thorough study of the Bible in their community. In addition, it can be a preparatory school for elders, deacons, Bible teachers, and teenagers who are planning to attend a Christian college or university.



*Students of the Bible in India*



### ***WORLDWIDE AVAILABILITY***

Computer technology has made it possible for TFTWMS to make courses available in English and in twenty-two other languages for most of the world to study. When the school is online in early 2015, anyone with a computer and access to the Internet will be able to reach these studies and become an on-going, diligent student of God's Word.

TFTWMS is giving a gentle challenge to the brotherhood to utilize and support this school that appears to be the most effective online school of Bible instruction available. The complete Bible, both Old and New Testaments, will, in time, be online for the majority of the world to study. Never before have we had an opportunity of these dimensions for reaching out to the world with the complete message of the Bible.

### ***2015 IS THE YEAR!***

The school will be made available online in 2015. On its initial release, ThroughTheScriptures.com, the website for the school, will contain a complete study in English of the New Testament and twenty Old Testament books. The site will also offer six courses in the twenty-two additional languages: two courses on the life of Christ, two courses on the Gospel of Matthew, and two courses on the Book of Acts.

### ***GREAT EFFORT IS NEEDED!***

An online school of this design and size cannot be constructed without great effort. With the Lord's blessings and with the brotherhood's support, this school will become a reality. The entire project is scheduled to be completed and online by 2020.

### ***AN INDIGENOUS EMPHASIS***

From its beginning, TFTWMS has especially sought to encourage indigenous works and churches. This approach to evangelism appears to be the closest approach to the New Testament pattern for evangelism and edification. Our goal is to assist the national preacher or teacher to be self-supporting, regardless of where he lives. This online school, when finally in place, is intended to be self-supporting.



*A student of the Bible in Peru*

### ***OUR GREATEST NEED***

The website for the school, ThroughTheScriptures.com, is in the last phases of construction. However, we still have much to do to make the translations available for online use. Time, money, and precision are required for such a project.

This school must be given to the world! People throughout the world are hungry for the true Word of God. They are waiting, and they believe that those who have been blessed with knowledge of the Bible will make sure they get their opportunity. Our time to serve the world has come. Let us take it!

*Students of the Bible  
In Brazil*





**TRUTH FOR TODAY**  
**WORLD MISSION SCHOOL**  
2209 BENTON ST., SEARCY, AR 72143

Return Service Requested

***WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR ONE OF THE MOST FAR-REACHING BIBLE STUDY PROGRAMS THAT WE CAN IMAGINE?***

***JOIN WITH US IN THIS GREAT CHALLENGE  
OF REACHING OUT  
INTO ALL THE WORLD!***

- Pray for all the different aspects of TFT's work — its present work and its future dreams.
- If you can, help us immediately with a personal contribution.
- Encourage leaders of the local congregation to remember Truth for Today World Mission School as they plan the monthly budget.
- Pray about putting Truth for Today World Mission School in your long-range estate planning.



Funds are needed to cover the cost of translating the study texts into twenty-two languages. Many of the books have been translated, but there is still much to be done. Just think: You can help provide a study of the Bible in twenty-two languages of the world!

Setting up a gift annuity to provide funds for this work is also a wonderful way to help. An amount can be set aside which will provide interest payments for the donor during his or her lifetime, while at the same time supplying funds for making these studies available to 65 to 70 percent of the population of the world.

You can make TFTWMS a part of your estate plan-

ning. How far-reaching it is for Christians to place world evangelism in their wills! If every Christian designated 10 percent of his or her estate for world evangelism, a large amount of funding would one day be available for doing the work Jesus has asked us to do.

In addition to all of this, it is important for congregations to include this work in their budgets. How helpful this has been and will continue to be!

The challenge is this: to be faithful to our Lord by giving His Word to the whole world. This generation has been blessed with a unique opportunity to provide a thorough study of the Bible for all people.

2209 Benton, Searcy, AR 72143 • 501-268-7588

Donations can also be made at our website: [www.biblecourses.com](http://www.biblecourses.com)

## ***AN OPEN LETTER TO THE BRETHREN***

Dear brethren,

Thank you for the assistance you have given Truth for Today World Mission School in the past. Your generous gifts have helped TFTWMS grow from a small beginning into a work which is currently reaching into 146 nations around the world. Through God's grace and the help of the brotherhood, we will continue to send our regular mailings of printed material to 33,000 national preachers and teachers.

However, the time has come for us to add an online school capability to the existing work of TFTWMS. This school, which we are calling "ThroughTheScriptures.com," will provide an opportunity for people throughout the world to study through the entire Bible. **The school will be available in twenty-three languages and has the potential to reach out to two-thirds of the earth's population.**

We have nearly completed the initial stage in building this online school. The website is being developed, the English study texts are being prepared for use in the school, and a segment of these texts has already been translated into several languages. By the year 2020, our goal is to have these texts, which cover every book of the Old and New Testaments, in twenty-three languages (counting English). **One of the finest and most far-reaching gifts we can give the world is access to expository studies of the complete Bible.**

We know that this can be done, and we also know that it must be done. I am asking you to help us complete this project. The school is designed to become more and more self-supporting as it grows and is used. We have the funds to begin the English edition of the school; it will go online the first part of the year. **Our current need is funding for the translation of the study texts.**

This is a big task, but I believe we can achieve it. The project has a long reach. This school will be the largest outreach (in a single project) that the church has ever made to date. It will be a positive and highly significant step in the direction of carrying out the Great Commission. I tremble as I think about the good it can do. **We must be bold, determined, persevering, believing in our Lord, and united in our focus.**

God has given us this wonderful opportunity for this moment in history. Let us do all we can to achieve it! Let us not rest until everyone on earth has had a significant opportunity to hear the gospel of God's grace. **Will you help us?**

Your brother in Christ,

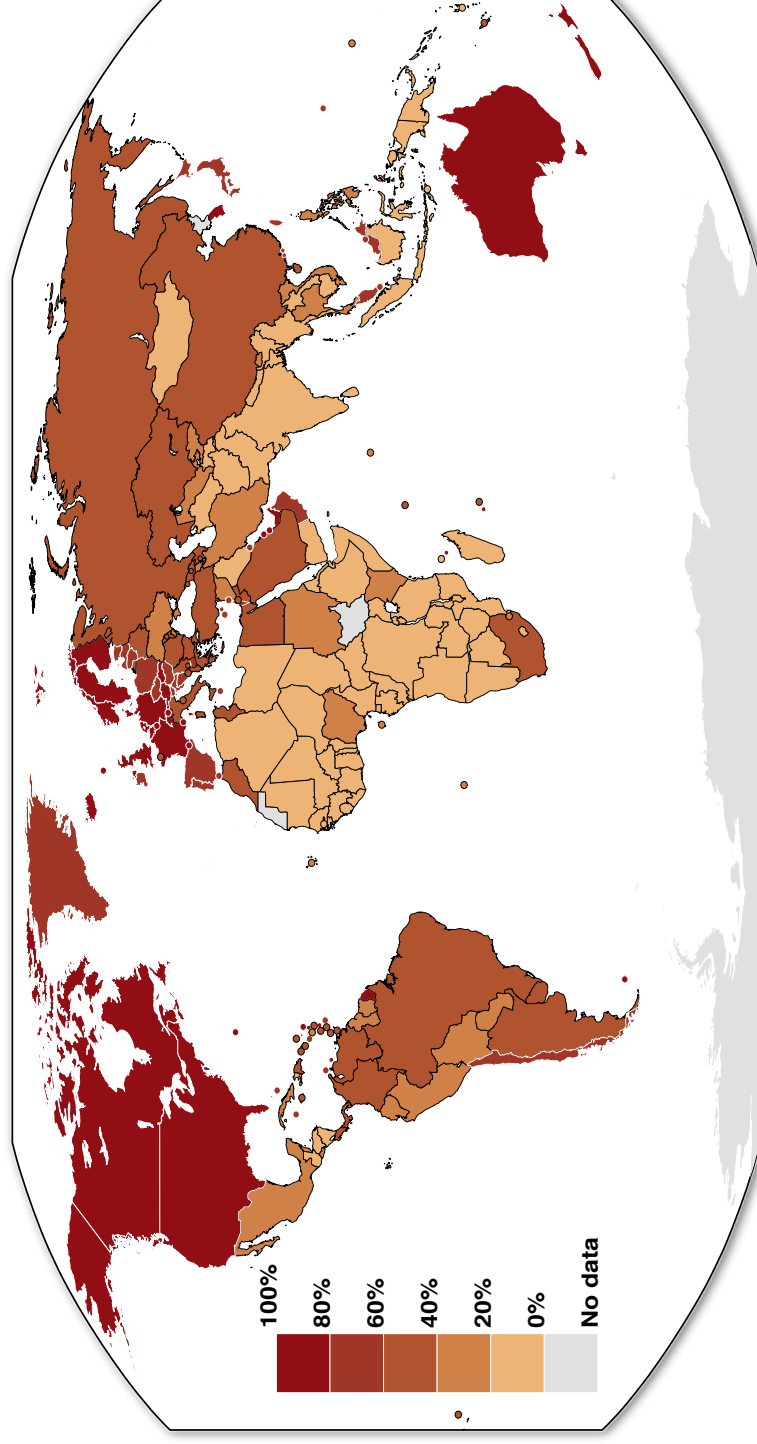


Eddie Cloer



# *THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO BRING GOD'S WORD TO THE WORLD . . .*

Percent of the Population with Internet



Adapted from "InternetPenetrationWorldMap" by Jeff Ogden (W163)

<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:InternetPenetrationWorldMap.svg#mediaviewer/File:InternetPenetrationWorldMap.svg>

80–100% Many nations are in this group, including twenty-four with a greater percentage of Internet users than the United States.  
60–80% Several European nations fall into this category, as does Japan.  
40–60% China is included in this category; with 641 million users, China has more Internet users than any other country in the world.  
20–40% Mexico and Kenya are two of the many countries in this group, where one or two out of every five people are using the Internet.  
0–20% India, with only 19% of its population online, is ranked third worldwide in Internet use, with 243 million users.  
No data Due to political problems, there are a few countries about which we do not have reliable statistics. North Korea falls into this group, although some of the people there do have access to the Internet.

## *THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES . . . AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME!*