

# Attributes of God

by George Verwer

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of understanding God's holiness and sovereignty, and how it can impact our lives, ministry, and personal relationships.*

**Duration:** 44:09

**Scripture:** Leviticus 11:44, Isaiah 6:3, Isaiah 6:8, Ephesians 1:12, Ephesians 1:14

**Topics:** "Attributes of God"

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## Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes the importance of having a vision and praying big prayers. He warns against viewing missionary work as a game or a casual endeavor. The speaker emphasizes the need to seek God and go deeper into His heart and mind. He also highlights the importance of prayer, studying God's attributes, and having a strong relationship with Him. The sermon references biblical figures like Isaiah, Joseph, and Nehemiah to illustrate the challenges and rewards of following God's calling.

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## Transcript

Isaiah chapter 6. I think it's very good preparation for our night of prayer which lies ahead of us and any visitor is more than welcome to stay. I feel it's very appropriate to prepare us as we go forth into Asia this year. By God's grace this year we will have almost 400 young men and women committed to the work of God east of Istanbul.

I believe without exaggeration that is a 20th century miracle. 400 people working for Christ in Asia. How we are ever going to hold the ropes in the offices I don't know.

I was talking to my wife wondering if I or even both of us should take Steve Hart's bookkeeping course next week. I've become a bookkeeper but really praying and trusting that God is going to raise up the home staff and I don't know how. I don't think too much about it lest I get a headache.

We know God is able to stand behind those who are out in Asia and of course out in Europe as well. Don't think for a minute most of those in Europe are in the offices. The majority also are in the streets and you've seen some of you already the army that is headed for France.

Isaiah chapter 6. In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up. His train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphim, each one had six wings.

With two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he did fly. One cried unto another and said, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of his glory.

And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him who cried and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, woe is me, for I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips. For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.

And flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar. And he laid it upon my mouth and said, Lo, this has touched thy lips. And thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me. And he said, Go and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not. See ye indeed, but perceive not.

Of course, Isaiah had an unusual task, not like our task. And that's why we read verse 10. Make the heart of this people fat, make their eyes heavy.

Shut their eyes, lest they see with their eyes, hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and be converted and be healed. I believe one of the most important and one of the greatest needs in the Church of Jesus Christ today is a vision of the holiness of God. The holiness of God.

This is very much linked with a great need to understand more about God himself. I've spoke less at this conference than any other year in the past 13 years that I've ever been in an OM conference. Praise God, I believe as others are raised up, I can speak less and less.

But if I had a few extra nights, I would speak to you on the attributes of God, the attributes of God. And I want to recommend to every OMer to take time this year to study the attributes of God. I was looking at a book on the book table.

I don't have it with me. But if you ask the man in charge for a book on the attributes of God, he'll show it to you. By a man named Francis, I believe from Nigeria, where he's working in Nigeria.

A.W. Tozer has also written a book on the attributes of God, which is unfortunately incredibly expensive in this country. I don't know, some secular publishers got a hold of it. You'll get some very cheap editions of that out in Asia.

You may even find one in Belgium. Also, there's a book by Packer, we're all sold out, a hardback book on the attributes of God called Knowing God. And I would ask you to study the attributes of God, the holiness of God, the glory of God.

The faithfulness of God, the omnipresence of God. His omnipresence, His omnipotence, all-powerful God, the wrath of God, the very nature of God needs to be understood by every believer. It's amazing in this day in which there's much controversy concerning the Holy Spirit, that there seems to be an incredible lack of books about God himself.

There's much more in the Bible about God himself than about the Holy Spirit. Unless you be concerned, there is no competition in the Godhead. Is that a great debate in heaven going on over who is more important? Is it the Holy Spirit or Jesus or God, the Father? Could anything be as ridiculous as that? Of

course, we know the Holy Spirit, one of the main ministries of the Holy Spirit is to reveal the Lord Jesus Christ.

One of the great ministries of Christ is to show forth the Father. And so it is important, those of us who believe in the Holy Spirit, those of us who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and His sufficiency to also understand God Himself, God the Creator. Now, we're all different.

And the thing that has meant the most to me about God, next to His love, for we have a God of love, He's a God of wrath, but He's a God of love. He's a God who is just, who is holy, who is pure, who is righteous, but He is also a God who is merciful and mighty to save. But one of the things that has given me such inspiration again and again to my faith is that God is the Creator.

Perhaps it's because as a young boy, I loved nature. Spent hours and hours, weeks in the woods, sitting all day in the woods, alone, love to be alone. Some people think that all the outward temperament types, the extroverts, some man in England said, woo, you're so intensive that these guys always like to be with people.

It's not right, actually. So all of us crave moments of being alone. And to get out in the creation, in the midst of the creation of God, whether it's listening to the birds or looking at a tree or a flower or a plant or the sunset or standing on the edge of Grand Canyon, which has been one of the greatest thrills in my life.

The creation of God. Many, many times in my life, when I was out in the midst of the creation of God, going overland, and I tell you, it's a thrilling trip, this overland trip. If you like God's creation.

If you like the stuffy, smelly cities, well, then you can walk around Soho. But if you like God's creation, you'll find this overland trip absolutely exhilarating. It'll be hard, not too easy sleeping in the back of the truck when it's eight below zero.

You know, it doesn't only happen in Afghanistan. I remember that happening in my first truck. I was O.M.'s first truck driver.

Of course, I didn't drive, I just aimed. And we drove all the way to Mexico in this old truck. And I remember coming back, it was below zero, no heater.

I remember after driving about 25 hours, letting someone else drive. It was even worse than I was. And I went into the back of the truck.

The whole inside of the truck was frozen solid, really cold, sheer ice. It's terrible North American winter. And I remember asking someone for a peanut butter sandwich.

The early days, you know, peanut butter was the major food of the entire movement. I ate so much peanut butter in those days, I never wanted to look the rest of my life. Even now, I get a psychological reaction to peanut butter.

I can't stand it. And I remember, I think it went back to this first truck trip. I remember taking a peanut butter sandwich in the back of the truck, and it was absolutely frozen solid.

It was like eating ice cream out of the deep freeze. Maybe a new thing in the ice cream world, peanut butter ice cream. You know, when you get out of that truck in the middle of Afghanistan, and you look into the snow peaked mountains, you see the creation of God.

I remember breaking bread together, coming home once, traveling through the Turkish mountains. I lost track of how many times I've been over land. And I remember going off into the mountains and having the Lord's table, surrounded by the natural beauty, not a single human being anywhere in sight.

God, the Creator, many times, looking over God's creation. I lived in Nepal for a couple of years. I may go back and live there again.

Looking over the Himalayas, had to recommit my life to God. God, the Creator, God, the Sustainer, God, the Giver of all life. By Him, all things consist.

That refers to Jesus Christ, by the way, because Jesus Christ was with the Father in creation. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Who is the Word? The Lord Jesus Christ, Logos in the Greek.

Word every O-M-er should know. Do you know God? Do you know the attributes of God? Could you sit down and write, what does the holiness of God mean to me? You had your Bible content exam, that's just sort of a little glorified pop quiz, just to see how you feel. The papers are being corrected right now, by the way, in the other rooms, they listen to me.

And you're going to find out how, you know, just general Bible knowledge. But a lot more important than that is your knowledge of God. And of course, we get to know God through the Word of God.

I would recommend another study this year, and that is that you study the names of God. I did a very long study on all the names of God. Jehovah Shabbat.

Jehovah Nissi. And all these other names of God. You can trace them through the Old Testament.

That's a very good one for your study program. Because it's in these names of God in the Old Testament that we learn more of His character. The Lord God Almighty.

And one of the great problems today is that our God is too small. We have difficulty praying in the funds needed for God's work because our God is too small. You've got your God somewhere like the Ford company, you know, is having all these troubles these days.

Or some of these other big companies that are debating about selling out. The Kuwaitis just went over the United States and bought a big chunk. You read that in the paper? Seventeen million dollars.

They bought an island off the coast of South Carolina. That's great, man. They can buy several states for all I care.

As long as they'll give us some oil for our OM ship. You know, we're praying about going into Kuwait this year. And that needs to be saturated with prayer.

Wouldn't it be beautiful if one of these old sheiks came aboard and got saved? But you know, our God is beyond all these oil magnets. All those oil wells ultimately are in His hand. They can't pump a gallon without God's permission.

Ultimately. Because one of the greatest attributes of God is the sovereignty of God. Do you know what that means? It's a very practical thing.

It means that though Dick Griffin is in Mexico, perhaps going to lose the sight of one of his eyes, one of my closest friends, one of the first OMers. He'd been 16 years in that job. And the only reason I've been able to move on to new countries year after year is because there have been men like Dick Griffin who are willing to stick something more than a year or two.

And if we don't find more men like Griffin, we're not going to go into any more fields. In fact, we're going to close fields. Though we praise God that we have the one-year people and the two-year people, we need men and women more than ever before in this work.

And I don't care what their age is, who are willing like Dick Griffin to say, God, here I am. Here I am. And I'll not leave until you move me.

Here he is in Mexico. And after all these years, he's now got this tumor in his eye. And he may lose the sight of one eye this week.

We're going to be phoning tonight again. As we meet in prayer. But the sovereignty of God means that with one eye or two eyes, he is God's child, Brother Dick.

And God is going to overrule and God is going to use him. And he's going to experience blessing and strength through this trial that is upon him. That's the sovereignty of God.

If there's anything we need as we go out in such an impossible situation this year, it's a greater view, a greater understanding of God himself. He's not some little God who's going to drop dead when your truck goes off the road and you find yourself in a major accident, who is going to do a disappearing act when your money doesn't come in. And you sit back.

Oh, God is sovereign. We see this in the life of Joseph. We were speaking about this the other day.

It's not time to turn to all these passages, but you know them. How everything went wrong for Joseph. What a story that is.

Oh, my heart has been hit again and again by the story of Joseph. Everything went wrong. His brothers deserted him.

He made mistakes. Turned in prison. His goods seemingly was honored with difficulties.

And then we see the hand of God turning the situation and Joseph raised up as a mighty man. We see it in the case of Nehemiah. What a story.

Oh, I'd love to preach to you for seven days on Nehemiah, one of my favorite books in the Bible. How many have studied Nehemiah in the last six months? Raise your hand. Nehemiah, praise the Lord.

Not too many. It's a good book. God gave us that book of Nehemiah when we were on the ship and there were so many problems and every day something else was broken down.

And I'll never forget when the engineers came to me and said, George, three of our pistons are cracked. What? Do you know what a piston costs for a ship? It costs a lot more than a new car, I'll tell you. One piston, three cracked pistons.

And I tell you, we were praying for pistons like they were going out of season. Then after a lot of prayer, a lot of wrestling and not seeing too much happen, we found out that these are special pistons. They were manufactured with slight cracks.

Our engineers hadn't quite had that variety of Danish piston before. Of course, the Danes are unusual people. God overruling.

And this year, some of you are going to have crises. Some of you are going to have problems. Some of you are going to find yourself in intense situations.

And one of the keys is a simple little word. We use it all the time. I use it on the telephone.

When somebody calls me and blurts out some major problem, I just say, don't panic. God's still alive. Will you make that your motto this year? Don't panic.

I remember a time traveling overland with my whole family. We were in the middle of Iran. It was a terrible trip.

We got stuck in the Turkish mountains in a blizzard. We ended up thinking we were going over the edge and trying to turn this vehicle down in the middle of the highway in the middle of the night. My little daughter cried out and got saved that night.

She's still convinced she got saved. She prayed for Jesus to come into her heart. Anyway, we finally got through all the snow.

We got to Iran. We're heading for southern Iran to get the warmer climate. And I brought the briefcase out of the car and put it in the restaurant.

Or actually, I had another brother bring it. And he put it by the side of my chair. We forgot all about it.

Had all the passports, had all the money, had all the vehicle papers. Everything. And I had my mind on other things.

I was just slipping around the streets of Iran trying to get out a few tracks. Forgot complete about this briefcase. So did he.

We got back in the vehicle. 100, 200, 300, 500, 600, 700, 1000 miles away. Pakistan border.

Just before we were getting to the border, I thought, who's got the passports? Where's the money? I was sick. I was sick. Oh, I walked through the streets of that town.

And tried to figure out whose fault it was. It couldn't be mine. I don't know if any of you have that problem.

When anything goes wrong, whose fault is it? There's something in us that works that way, isn't it? And the Lord said, sorry, George. It's you. My fault.

Well, it took me about four minutes. Swallowing, apologizing to the team. Then I walked through the streets and I said, thank you, Jesus.

You're still alive. And it's yours. And I had such a tremendous time of worship.

And praise. After another 15 or 20 minutes, I went straight to the telephone. Called Tehran, asked somebody to get in an airplane and fly to that city.

They did. This was 20 hours later. They walked into the restaurant.

And there it was. Money. Passports.

The vehicle papers. Everything. Muslim restaurant.

Jumped in a bus. Brought it to us. And many people all over the world, they got a letter from me from the border that year.

Quite a few days there. Unfortunately, I had my secretary with me. Had a lot of extra time with the family.

We went hiking together. A lot of other interesting things happened. It was a great experience.

Well, we had 16 punctures before we got to the Pakistan border. It was an interesting time. That was the border into India.

In fact, when you run out of tires, in the middle of nowhere, and the Pakistani police come up and say, do you know this is a dangerous area? People are being killed here all the time. And they put one armed guard on one end of the road. And another armed guard on the other end of the road.

With the rifles. We managed to fix a puncture. Not me.

Fellow was with me. Well, you're going to have many experiences just like this. And you've got to see that no matter what happens, God is sovereign.

The sovereignty of God. Overruling sickness. Overruling heartaches.

Overruling. Endless suffering that just seems to come upon humanity like a great stream. Some of you who are older, who are visitors here tonight, know more about suffering than any of us here.

We're just kids. I'm just a kid. In terms of suffering.

Some of you have known real suffering. Real suffering. Recently, a young man back from the mission field, his father was a missionary.

In a fit of temper, took a pistol and killed his father on the spot. Can God overrule that? Vernon Blythe, one of my most faithful prayer partners. Some of you have heard his testimony.

This humble, broken man from California, stood with this work for 15 years. He stood one day in a schoolhouse, and his father walked out and took a pistol. Shot his mother through the head.

Shot his sister through the head. Aimed at Vernon. Vernon ducked.

Missed him by a quarter of an inch. Vernon played possum on the floor. Father thought he was dead.

Father picked up the pistol again. Shot himself. Can God overrule that? Is God still alive? Is God still around when those things happen? Vernon Blythe was one of the most bitter, young Air Force pilots in the United States Air Force.

He had more hatred and more vengeance. And then Jesus met him. And he's today one of the most broken, humble, Jesus-loving men I've ever met.

God is God. God is sovereign. Some of you are going back to broken homes this week.

Some of you are going back to alcoholic mothers, alcoholic fathers. I've had people share that with me this week. Some of you are going home in situations where you see your own father in immorality every week.

Some of you are going home to Christian homes where both parents are backslidden. Or even Christian homes where they headed for the divorce court. How can that be Christian? I don't know.

There are more divorces among Christians than ever before in the history of the church. But remember, as you face these heartaches, as you face these tragedies, last year within a month, one of the girls who sat in this conference was dead in a motor accident in France. Another girl sat in this conference died in a bathtub in Belgium.

Not a game, beloved. All of you are now old enough, you're facing life head on. And it's going to be filled with suffering.

It's going to be filled with trials. Sure, there'll be joys. Sure, there'll be victories.

Sure, there'll be times of praise. We've had a whole message about that. And it's in these times that our real knowledge of God will hold us steadfast.

It's when these tests come that the little evangelical froth and bubble boys go down the tube. They go running, although God is dead. Sometimes they even backslide through such experiences.

But a man who knows God, a man who knows the God of the Bible, a sovereign God, a holy God, a God who's working all things out according to his purposes, a God who has given Satan some freedom for a very special, unusual purpose that we'll only fully understand when we get to heaven, is a God who overrules. My favorite subject next to the Bible is history. All year, I try to grab moments to read history books, see historical films, go through the encyclopedias, reading history.

And history, I believe, shows that God is sovereign. Look at the history of the Jews. Look at the history of the Jews.

Oh my, incredible. A man who loved Jesus Christ, once faced the famous king. I don't know the story exactly.

The man said, give proof, give reason why you believe in the Bible. And the man looked at this famous man or king, whoever he was, and he said one word, the Jew, the Jew. Well, this passage in Isaiah speaks of the holiness of God.

God is perfect. Today, there's a lot of pantheism. When you get out to India, you're going to discover pantheism.

They say God is everywhere. And the animals are holy and the trees are holy. This is not the holiness of the Bible.

God is intrinsically holy. Doesn't just make things holy. Holy water, holy this, holy that.

God is holy. God is perfect in himself. And though God is everywhere, God is not in things.

God does not go in things, in trees and in bushes and in rocks. But he goes in people. And the word of God says, be holy as I am holy.

One of the verses that really upset me as a young Christian. And how we need to understand this gate truth. There are many areas where we need to know the holiness of God.

The area of our tongue, in the area of our eyes, in the area of our hands. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Isaiah said, the whole earth is full of his glory.

And this year, you may want to make a study on the glory of God. The glory of God. Look that word up in the concordance.

The glory of God. It speaks much also in the book of Ephesians about the glory of God. Again and again it says, unto the praise of his glory.

Just look at Ephesians for a few minutes. Time is going. We want to get into the prayer meeting.

Verse 12, chapter 1. That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. Verse 14, who is the earnest of our inheritance, unto the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. And even over in many, many other places, you will find this word, glory.

The glory of God. And as we have our quiet time, we spoke about our quiet times this morning. As we have our quiet time, one of our greatest burdens should be to know the glory of God.

It was said of Adolf Hitler that people would walk into a study and there you would be prostrate, experiencing the glory of God. Some decades ago, the fundamental church, the Bible-believing people, swung the pendulum, afraid of extremism, and for good reason to some degree, extreme, afraid of fanaticism. They swung the pendulum into a subtle form of dead orthodox.

And everything was your theology, your Bible doctrine. And they took the whole evangelical church into the deep freeze. And it's been very slow coming out.

And we'd say, well, there's no place for feelings. We've only got to sit in church, you know, like a bunch of stiff, going through the same hymns and saying the same words that have long since had any meaning to most thinking people. You know how we need to realize that when a man experiences the glory of God, it is going to touch his feelings.

Have you ever met a man who fell in love and had no feelings? Would you introduce me to him? Have you ever met one? Have you ever met a girl that fell in love, she had no feelings? Can you imagine meeting one at her wedding? How do you feel? Blah. Why are you marrying him? God told me to. That wouldn't quite go, would it, for a girlfriend? But somehow with God, we're willing to go year after year, cold, never experiencing his glory, never knowing the inner sanctuary, never knowing the overflowing heart and the joy of praise.

I'm not saying it has to be loud. Three loud people are enough for any movement. But it's real.

It's real. The glory of God. The holiness of God.

And I tell you, you can't tell me that Isaiah didn't feel it. I'm not saying trust feelings. I'm not saying live day by day on feelings.

But as you get to know God, it will touch the very center, the very totality of your personality, including feelings. And so Isaiah fell before God, and he said, woe is me, for I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips, for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. And then there came the purging.

First, there is the fresh revelation of God. Have you read any of these books by Deverme Fromke? Some of them are on the book table. How many have read anything by Deverme Fromke? I don't know what you read.

Peanuts, I guess. This author has touched more on a God-centered ministry than any man I've read. I remember Dale Roton, way back in Maryville College, when we first met.

Some people think this work was born at Moody. It was born before we went to Moody. Dale didn't go to Moody, he went to Wheaton.

We met at Maryville, and he went to Wheaton, and I went to Moody. But I remember Dale saying, hey, there's some fellow come to town, and he's got a real message of depth. His name is Deverme Fromke.

Before he was ever known, he'd never written a book. We had Deverme Fromke speak at our conference some years ago, and I want to tell you, the Holy Spirit moved. Never forget it.

Because Deverme Fromke was a man who, through many trials, came to a deep knowledge of God. And the greatest thing that's going to lead you to deep knowledge of God is trials. Trials.

Suffering. Jesus learned obedience by the things which he suffered. Praise God for trials.

Praise God for obnoxious, difficult team members, difficult leaders, difficult vehicles. Praise God. We're trying to organize things to make things as smooth as possible.

If you knew how much that went behind the scenes, day and night, to try to make the way for you to have a good year. But no matter what we do, God's going to allow trials. Trials.

Deverme Fromke wouldn't listen to this because this is simple. Deverme Fromke, in the early days, was with the New Tribes Mission. The New Tribes Mission had many things very similar to OM, and many things very different.

Probably the main thing being, they never had some of the books that we had that made such a profound influence on this work. And so they were very zealous. And they just grabbed young people and sent them right to the mission field as full-time missionaries.

Very little training. Not a training program like we had. And they were really moving.

They were really moving. And they said, boy, let's get an airplane. Great! Think of how many can move.

And they said, well, let's get a ship. They got a ship. The thing folded up.

Tremendous problems. Then they got an airplane. I don't know which came first.

They got an airplane. They filled it with missionaries. DeBert Frompkin was involved.

Let's go, you know. Woo! World evangelism. That's a big thing.

Look at all these heathen. Look at all these lost people. Let's go.

Get in the plane. They got in the plane. They prayed.

The first plane crashed. Forty missionaries dead. Not one.

Not two. Forty. Can you imagine? Can you imagine the thralls of pain that that movement went through? Can you imagine the director? Can you imagine the people who have the vision? The people who prayed the big prayers? They were determined and they moved on.

They didn't wait. DeBert Frompkin's message was waiting on God. And they got another plane.

This time the director was in it. It crashed. They were all killed.

Do you think missionary work is a game, beloved? Do you think it's child play? Do you think it's a matter of an odd prayer here and there? A four-week conference and away we go? No. And this is why we have got to make our goal God Himself. This is why even though we're moving in OM, we cannot go any further out than we go down into the mind of God, into the heart of God.

This is why we remain a training movement. This is why this year one of the most important things is your prayer life, your study program, your time with God, your study of the attributes of God. Waiting on Him.

And DeBert Frompkin, in a way I can never explain it, shared how through the suffering the whole new tribe's mission went through a tremendous purging and a great working of the Spirit of God. And today, in the miracle working power of God, it is a great mission. They emphasize training before going to the field more than almost any mission in the world.

They have one of the most radical intensive boot camps that you'd ever want to get in. Similar to our intensive training program on the ship, a little bit tougher. They got a great army of missionaries all over the world.

A little more strict in doctrine than perhaps many of you could take. But a very good work. DeBert Frompkin left, I don't know when he left that work.

And through it, he's become one of the most profound men I've ever met with. We need depth, don't we? Depth of character. We need a deep knowledge of the holiness of God.

And you can fool us. You can jump in the train here and go down in the Soho and buy yourself some porn and come back. You can fool us.

We have people do that. You can't fool a holy God. And every year we have men on OM who pretend.

Every year we have girls on OM who pretend. You can't fool God. He is holy, He hates sin, and He will judge sin.

And I pray if there's any who have sin that's not been dealt with severely by the power of the Holy Spirit as it was in the life of Isaiah, that tonight you may let it be dealt with. And allow the purging, and allow the

breaking, and the repentance, and then the sending. Holiness of God, moral purity, ethical purity.

And every other aspect. And then of course it was after this purging and this cleansing, after this experience with God in depth, that Isaiah was able to say, Lord, here am I, send me. I'm going to give an invitation tonight.

I usually do it only once in the whole month. My invitation is to come, even as Isaiah did, for a fresh, deeper knowledge of God. And to say with it, to come together, Lord, here am I, send me.

I'm not talking anymore about the year program. You're already in that. I'm not talking about the two-year program.

I'm talking right now in these remaining few minutes about making your life 100% for God's service. And saying tonight you are willing, you're more than willing, you're going. Unless God stops you, shows you something else, you're willing to go as Isaiah, to go as Hudson Taylor, to go as C.T. Studd, to go as Judson, to go as David Brainerd, to go as Henry Martin, to go as William Carey, to go as Amy Carmichael, to go as thousands of others before us for a life of missionary service.

A life, a sent one. Your time in OM will be training. It'll be preparation.

But your commitment will be life. Anywhere, whatever the cost. Some of you know very well God has been dealing with you about this for a long time.

And tonight you need the opportunity to make a public profession. First, you want to know God at any cost. You want to know God.

You know it won't be easy. You know your own problems, your own hang-ups, your own emotion, but you want to know God. And second, you're willing to go.

You're willing to say, Lord, here am I. Send me India, South America, with OM, outside of OM. That God will work out. You're willing, more than ever before, to say, here am I. Send me.

Irrevocable commitment is one of the greatest needs in the church today. Too many of us are going on for God and we've got little bridges. And you know, we're going on and the bridges are there, but we're all ready to go back over the bridge.

Oh, oh, we've got boats. You've all heard my story when Cortez went into Mexico. It's a true story from history.

When he got his men on Mexico shore, they looked back at the boats and they were all aflame. They looked at him. What have you done? He said, men, in this army, there is no turning back.

We are to conquer or we are to die. Are there any like that tonight for Jesus Christ? To conquer? To evangelize the world? Or to die? Paul said, for me to live is Christ. To die is gain.

Praise God for the few. Keith, John, Nelly, a few others who are from our ranks are in the grandstands. They will take their place.

Nelly Kitchicoff sat in this meeting last year. I think it was in the summer campaign when I was speaking along similar lines and challenged young people to go anywhere at any cost. She gave me a note at the

end of the meeting.

I carried it in my wallet. I had it in my wallet the day she died in that automobile accident. And I looked at that little note in my wallet again.

And she said, George, I have a Mongolian background. And tonight, I'm going to tell you I've said to God I'm willing to go to Mongolia for Jesus Christ. What about you? Could you write a note tonight and say, George, for Jesus, I'm willing to go anywhere for you.

Not a year, not two years. My life. My life.

The holiness of God, the sovereignty of God, the creative power of God, the love of God, the mercy of God, His omnipotence, His omnipresence, all this is the foundation. And on that foundation, we can go. In that strength, nothing can stop us.

No matter how weak we may feel in ourselves. Hear Him out. Send me.

Will you make that commitment? Let us wait upon Him. But it's His will. Whatever the cost.

Wherever it be. India, Muslim world, Europe, an office. Wherever it be.

Send me for life. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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