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Dear Friend,

I am at my desk with my old, almost worn out Bible that has been with me in many a battle. It is pockmarked from the raindrops when I preached out of doors in Siberia. The leather covers are torn by time, and are separating from the binding.

I am turning its pages as I prepare the funeral service for my brother-in-law, John. He, like my Bible, endured many storms, and for many souls was the only Scripture they ever read. He was a good man, faithful to God, softly spoken, a consistent Christian.

"We are the only Bible the careless world will read. We are the sinners' Gospel, we are the scoffers' creed." - Annie Johnson, Flint, 1866

I was John's best man at his marriage to my sister Patricia. Now I am closing out his earthly pilgrimage with words from my old Bible.

I will tell the people that John will be with Christ in Paradise. I will say this not because it sounds good and is appropriate. I will say it because it is true. It is true because John trusted in Jesus only for salvation, and his life so full of goodness, testified to that faith. He read and studied his Bible everyday, and when he could no longer read, he asked Jane his daughter to let him listen to the spoken Word on her ipad.

The human race, every one of us, is on a journey that ends in death. "It is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment." (Hebrews 9:27) And whether we come up in the resurrection of the righteous or the resurrection of the damned, depends upon our relationship with Christ. If I truly believe in the Savior, I will be saved; if I close my heart to Jesus, I will be lost.

That unassailable truth is the reason we preach on, to save as many as possible. The notion that people are saved if they live up to the light they have, without Christ, is the devil's myth. Yet it is believed by so many who occupy pulpits and pews. It is a comforting delusion.

We preach on, in good times and bad times because without Christ we are lost.

We preach on because "There is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

We preach on, in Siberia, Russia, China, India, Ukraine, America and Colombia because people are saved when they come to know Christ.

What drove Paul on?
What drove John Wesley on?
What drove H.M.S. Richards on?
What drove Billy Graham on?
What drove Billy Sunday on?
What drove the missionaries on?

It is the truth that Christ has given us our marching orders, and we have been commissioned to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (See Matt. 28:19)

It is a matter of life and death. It drives ME on.

Please be my soul-winning partner as we make plans to proclaim God's Gospel in Catholic Colombia. We have the challenge of raising a million dollars for citywide evangelism in Bogota where eight million souls live. How much is a soul worth?

Please write to me today, and help us set that city on fire for Christ and His Truth.

May God bless, comfort, and strengthen you at this time.

With a thousand thanks.

Yours in the Blessed Hope,

John Carter

The Carter Report, Inc.

P.S. When you send your gift for evangelism, please request my DVD, "Abounding Grace." Please quote this DVD number: LW1209*.

*All gifts to this ministry are tax-deductible as defined by U.S. Treasury regulations. The fair market value of the DVD is \$15.00 and all tax-deductible receipts will be in accordance with U.S. Treasury regulations. The DVD is a gift to you, but according to the tax-laws of the IRS is not tax-deductible. The market value is \$15.00 and your receipt will reflect the tax requirements of the IRS.

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