

Weeping With Wilkerson (or These Strange Manifestations Are Not the Holy Ghost)

People will remember David Wilkerson, who was [killed in a head-on collision](#) in Tyler, Texas on Wednesday, for many different things.

Some will remember him for his books, like *The Cross and the Switchblade*, which became a best-selling phenomenon with more than 15 million copies sold in over 30 languages. Others will remember him for launching Teen Challenge, a nationwide ministry to reach out to people with life controlling habits. Still others will remember Wilkerson for his sometimes controversial prophetic words.

I will remember Wilkerson for all of that and more, but there is one particular message this general of the faith preached more than a decade ago that I believe needs to be shouted from the rooftops in these last days. (Indeed, many of Wilkerson's uncompromising messages need to be trumpeted in this hour, but a particular sermon he preached in Moscow in 2000 has weighed heavy on my heart since I first saw it a few years ago.) As was often the case with Wilkerson's sermons, it was relevant when he preached it but it grew even more relevant as time went on.

Read

Wilkerson's

Inspirational Last Words

✘ To believe when all means fail is exceedingly pleasing to God and is most acceptable. Those were the last published words of David Wilkerson, founder of World Challenge Ministries.

Charisma News first reported Wilkerson was [killed Wednesday in a car accident](#) in East Texas. But his legend will live on through the many books and sermons he delivered.

Here is the text of Wilkerson's last blog post on David Wilkerson Today. It was posted on April 27, just hours before a head on collision that took his life:

"To believe when all means fail is exceedingly pleasing to God and is most acceptable. Jesus said to Thomas, 'You have believed because you have seen, but blessed are those that do believe and have not seen' (John 20:29).

"Blessed are those who believe when there is no evidence of an answer to prayer—who trust beyond hope when all means have failed.

1,100 People Get Saved at 'Sin City' Easter Outreach

✘ More than 1,100 people found salvation in Christ in—of all places—Sin City.

The Church at South Las Vegas, a 4,000-member mega church headed by Benny Perez, organized an Easter outreach at the Thomas & Mack Center, the city's largest indoor arena. The

Thomas & Mack Center typically hosts sporting events, concerts and monster truck shows. The venue seats nearly 20,000. But on Easter Sunday it was a venue to display the love of God to the Las Vegas masses.

Perez not only planned perhaps the city's largest-ever Resurrection Day service, he also planned to give back to the Las Vegas by sponsoring a canned food drive at the event.

Dubbed "Easter at the Mack," the event certainly got the attention of the secular city. But instead of spiritual hindrances, Perez saw mostly support for his endeavor. Henderson City Councilwoman Gerri Schroder donated \$5,000 of her campaign funds to support the event.

Hindu Mecca Ripe for Soul Harvest

☒ Varanasi, India is the Mecca of Hinduism. Revered by other some other religions as well, Varanasi is the holiest of cities for Hindus.

The polluted Ganges River in Varanasi is considered to possess the power to cleanse sins and increase the chances of Hindu followers to have a good reincarnation—or to ultimately cease to exist—in the after life. Over a million people are in the city each day. Some know they have little time left and go to the river daily, praying for mercy to Hanuman, the monkey god, until they die.

Dave Stravers, president of Mission India, recently returned from the desperate city. "For most foreign, Christian visitors it's a pretty ugly experience," he says. "It really is Satan

on display.”

Many in the region are surprisingly open to the gospel, though. Stravers says that the idea of Jesus—the God who loves them—is appealing to many Hindus seeking spiritual solace, and the Church is growing daily. With that ready acceptance, however, comes extreme antagonism.

“Once the Christian workers start seeing success—people are coming to the Lord, and churches are starting, this can cause a pretty violent reaction,” explains Stravers. “We’ve had a lot of reports of persecution.”

David Wilkerson Killed in Car Crash

✘ David Wilkerson, founder of World Challenge Ministries, was killed Wednesday in a car accident in East Texas.

Charisma News spoke with Dr. Wayde Goodall, founder of WorldWide Family, who first verified the news. Goodall was with Wilkerson’s son, Gary, when he was informed of the fatal accident.

By late Wednesday night, Times Square Church in New York City announced the death of its founding pastor in a statement from Senior Pastor Carter Conlon: “Pastor David Wilkerson’s was a life fully given for the glory of God and souls of men.

He was greatly loved and he will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with the family and we as a church body are committed to standing with them at this time of sorrow.”

The Wilkerson family issued a statement after midnight on the

World Challenge web site: “We appreciate your prayers and our hearts are sorrowful, yet we rejoice at the joy of knowing David Wilkerson spent his life well. More information will be coming soon. Thank you for your prayers,” the statement said.

U.S.-Mexico Border Prayer Initiative Making Impact

✘ The Cinco de Mayo Border Prayer Initiative started nearly two weeks ago—and the prayer answers are already rolling in.

Sponsored by the [Hispanic Prayer Network](#), the Cinco de Mayo Initiative is on a mission to raise up prayer, intercession and fasting for the Mexico-U.S. border and to bring awareness to the alarming issues facing both nations, including violence, murder, trafficking, smuggling, kidnapping, and drug cartels.

Prayer is a high priority for the border. A day before the initiative kicked off, news headlines read “Mexican Mass Grave Complex Reveals 88 Bodies.” The result of a drug deal gone bad, the grave complex was just about 165 kilometers from the border. Other recent headlines include “Mexico’s Drug Cartels Have a New Target: CHILDREN.”

'Purging Your House' Flying Off Big Box Retailer Shelves

✘ With divorce rates among Christians at least mirroring the national average—and with family values increasingly undermined by secular society—it's no wonder Perry Stone's latest book is flying off the shelves of big box retailers and traditional bookstores alike.

In only two months, the best-selling author's new book *Purging Your House and Pruning Your Family Tree* has sold more than 100,000 copies, including 40,000 at a leading big box retailer.

The book offers methods and strategies the devil uses to launch his attacks against families—and equips readers to purge their home and their blood line from demonic activity and hindrances that breed conflict, dissatisfaction and disillusionment.

"This book must have touched a nerve because we never expected it to take off so quickly," says Steve Strang, publisher of *Charisma* magazine and owner of Charisma House, which published the book. "With so many family problems and so much spiritual warfare in society, people are looking for answers."

In *Purging Your House and Pruning Your Family Tree*, Stone outlines how Satan selects his victims from an early age, how to remove accursed things from your house, how to prevent Satan's return to your home, the reason 3 a.m. taps into the spirit world, why we battle atmospheric warfare, and how to change it.

Trump Still Not Satisfied With Obama's Birth Certificate

✘ The controversy over President Obama's birth certificate shouldn't be an issue in the 2012 election. That's because the President has finally produced the long form certificate that so-called "birthers" have so long demanded.

And guess who's taking credit? Possible 2012 presidential hopeful Donald Trump.

"I am really honored, frankly, to have played such a big role in hopefully, hopefully, getting rid of this issue," Trump told reporters after exiting his helicopter in New Hampshire, according to the Associated Press. (See video below.)

Book Suggests God Wears Sneakers

✘ If the Message translation of the Bible isn't modern enough for you, check out *God Wears Sneakers*.

No, it's not a new translation of the Bible, per se. In fact, the author uses the King James Version of the Bible with its centuries old language. But author Judith Webster works to help readers with modern lifestyles and modern troubles tap into classic scriptures that release the wisdom and power they need.

"Who better to tell us how to relax than God, who cares for a

family of 6 billion children?" Webster asks. "His words are an attempt to guide His children through life, from making meals from scratch—as scripture describes the manna He created for the Israelites—to turning the other cheek as Jesus did."

God Wears Sneakers uses Bible verses to create a roadmap for living a good life while caring for the world. As Webster sees it, that means refusing to worship other gods, like money and power.

Ethiopian Muslims Beat Evangelist to Death

✘ Four Ethiopian Muslims beat a Christian evangelist to death and assaulted his pregnant wife last week in Worabe, an area of Ethiopia that is 97 percent Muslim.

In a premeditated operation, the alleged murderers lured evangelist Abraham Abera from his Kale Hiwot Church at 9:30 p.m. by urging him to visit a sick friend. Abera left with the men, only to be beaten with rods. When his wife, Birtukan, saw the attack she ran into the fray to try to help her husband. That's when they turned and attacked her.

According to a report from International Christian Concern (ICC), Abera died at the scene of the crime. Birtukan was left for dead with a severe head injury. She was discovered and taken to the hospital, where she eventually regained consciousness. Though Birtukan suffer injuries to her mid-section, the unborn baby survived.