



Pastor Bob Hoekstra  
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## INTERNATIONAL PRISON MINISTRY

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Founders:  
Chaplain Ray & Leola Hoekstra

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Dear Friends of IPM,

What a blessing it is to share God's truth with fellow believers. God's desire is to perfect our Christian walk as we grow in knowing Him. Our appreciation gift book for this month is *How to be Perfect*, by Andrew Murray. It is one of the outstanding biblical edification books that the Lord allows us to send regularly to believing inmates who write us, desiring to grow in their Christian walk.

No doubt we have all heard this statement: "nobody is perfect." This fully agrees with the word of God. *"As it is written: There is none righteous, no, not one . . . for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:10, 23). Multitudes of inmates have become personally (even painfully) convinced of these truths. Amazingly, God's word declares that there is a way for imperfect sinners to be perfected by God Himself. *"The LORD will perfect that which concerns me"* (Psalm 138:8).

This perfecting process begins with the gift of salvation through faith in Christ, which provides for us a perfect standing before God in heaven above. *"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him . . . and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith"* (2 Corinthians 5:21 and Philippians 3:9). When humble, repentant sinners put their faith in Jesus,

(over please)

they thereby stand before the Heavenly Father in the perfect righteousness of Christ.

God's perfecting process reaches a glorious conclusion when we believers eventually see the Lord face to face.

*"Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is"* (1 John 3:2). When we see the Lord in glory above, we shall be changed into the full likeness of Jesus, the perfect Son of God.

Meanwhile, during our life here on earth below, the Lord wants to be perfecting us -- developing in our daily Christian walk increasing measures of godliness and Christlikeness. For this we fully need the work of the Lord. *"Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?"* (Galatians 3:3). Growth in godliness is not a self-improvement project. It requires the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. So, we want to be prayerfully seeking the Lord Himself in His word day after day.

Rejoicing Together in the Perfecting Work of Our God,

*Dini Hoekstra*

Dini Hoekstra

(for all of our "Chaplain Ray Family" and the IPM Team)

P.S. Our appreciation book for this month is *How To Be Perfect* by Andrew Murray.



**"Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?" (Galatians 3:3).**

**The Lord desires prisoners to prayerfully seek the Lord Himself in His Word daily.**



# LETTERS FROM PRISONERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED BIBLES, EDIFICATION BOOKS, OR INMATE TESTIMONIALS FROM IPM

(See reverse side where a sample book is highlighted.)  
The book is available to you as a free appreciation gift upon request.)

## IPM Is Honoring Earthly Fathers This Month While Praising Our Father God

Gregory H. from a Maryland Prison and is an earthly father writes: "I am writing you today to let you know how very much I enjoyed reading your book, *Passport to Heaven*, that you sent. I highlighted about a third of it in order to send it to my daughter. I am trying to encourage her to grow closer to our Lord. Actually, I have two daughters I am sending Scriptures and books. They are slowly but surely becoming more interested in the Lord. I was and still am a single father. Though I took my children to church and taught them about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, by the time they were around nine and ten years old, I worked too many hours and began my alcoholic relapse. Unfortunately as I went down so did our church life. That is why I pray and share with them my relationship with Jesus. Please send me another book for my other daughter. God bless you."

## "Chastening"

The chastening of a Righteous God has brought me to my knees.  
A world of woe, a sea of grief, and of harsh realities.  
But to understand why, I needed just one sentence:  
For Godly Sorrow Worketh Repentance.  
And the Mighty Hand of God won't always just Lift us up—  
Perhaps part of His plan may be that we sip from sorrow's cup.  
Like gold tried in the fire impurities are burned away—  
And our trials can lift us higher.  
We are shaped and then baked like clay.  
Can the vessel say to the potter "Why do you pound me this way?"

So though life seems to pound us, and every trial confound us—  
The love of God still surrounds us as we struggle along our way.  
But don't be dismayed nor surprised when disobeyed He will  
Chastise like a wayward son by a loving father.

If He didn't love us, then He wouldn't bother.  
Until, like the Prodigal child, with a kiss and a smile—  
He will welcome us back. Kill the fatted calf on our behalf  
And provide what we lack.

So when it seems that we have fallen and once again we have  
landed hard—That is the time we should be calling and  
reaching for the Hand of God.

He will lead us through the fire. He will lead us through the  
flood—by the Hand of the Messiah, once we learn to plead the  
Blood. Glory be to God.

*Sent in by Gary F., Florida Prison*

*"By freely sharing that which has been laid upon my heart by the Holy Spirit, it enables me to take part in the Great Commission while still behind the razor wire. It is not my location, but my position in Christ which enables me to do so. I pray that God continues to pour out abundant blessing." Gary F.*

Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail

**God has a loving and gracious heart for prisoners (Isaiah 61:1).**

At the request of many, contributions to IPM can also be made online at  
**[www.chaplainray.com](http://www.chaplainray.com)**

It is the policy of I.P.M. to use each gift as it is designated by the donor. If any project is completed, any surplus will be used where it is needed most.

Dear Dini Hoekstra, My gift to help prisoners realize how God is making them more Christlike as they seek Him.

- Use this gift for *Bibles For Prisoners*.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- "*Library of LifeChanging Books*" for Prisoners.... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Support for Prison Ministry in Russia & India.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Use My Offering *Where Needed Most*.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**HERE IS ANOTHER OF THE OUTSTANDING BOOKS THAT OUR  
MINISTRY PARTNERS HELP US DISTRIBUTE TO PRISONERS**

(A copy of this book is available to you as a gift by requesting it in the box below.)

**GOD WANTS TO PERFECT YOUR LIFE!**

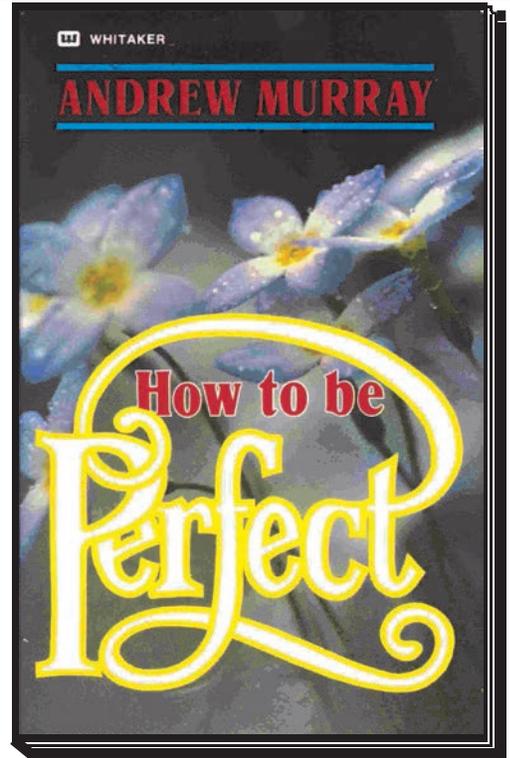
*“For the God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye suffered a while, shall Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”* 1 Peter 5:10-11

*“In God alone is perfection. In Him is all perfection. And all perfection comes from Him. When we consider the wondrous perfection there is in the sun, in the laws it obeys, and in the blessings it dispenses, and remember that it owes all to the will of the Creator, we acknowledge that its perfection is from God.*

*“Learn to know this God. Worship and adore Him here, until your faith is filled with assurance. God will perfectly prepare you for all that He would have you do or be; only wait upon Him. God shall Himself perfect you.*

*“Let us be perfect in our surrender to Him in obedience and trust. Let deep dependence on Him, let faith in Him, let a patient waiting, having our expectation from Him alone, be the spirit of our daily life. It is God Himself who must give it. Let us count on Him for nothing less than to be perfected in love and to have God abiding in us. This is what He longs to do for us.”*

*“I thank You, O my Father, for the blessed prospect Your Word holds out of being perfected in love here on earth; for the power and light of the Holy spirit that sheds abroad Your love in our hearts, and makes it all a reality. ‘The Lord will perfect that which concerns me’ (Psalm 138:8). To Him be the glory. Amen.”*



**God Is Perfecting His Saints in  
These Times!**

Our appreciation gift to you will encourage your heart and mind to seek Jesus more and more.

Every prisoner who asks for a Bible and book is seeking the only answer to their broken lives. Thank you for caring and sharing. God will use every gift in a mighty way to build His kingdom and bless you.

*Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail*

Yes, Please Send Gift Book

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