

Editorial

Ravi Zacharias says that our present generation reads with their eyes and thinks with their emotions. How, then, do we get people to consider, weigh and draw appropriate conclusions?

Roland Allen (*The Compulsion of the Spirit*), pondering what he observed in his own Anglican Communion, asks: 'What moves us to action?'

I have long thought about how to motivate people, and reflected on what motivates me to take action. It has always seemed somewhat of a mystery. On many occasions when I have preached from my heart and mind, I hear a simple, 'Thanks for the good sermon'. Does this mean that something else will transpire in that person after the event? Maybe the significant thing is merely that people are blessed as they hear or read, and that the real change in them happens under the impulse of the Spirit. In any case, what moves you to action?

We have a list of striking articles in this edition of *Seedbed*! It presents challenges that face us and which we must meet. Read the testimony of A.B. and identify with those who are presently being persecuted for the Name of Christ. Read about 'Encountering the Lost' and the reality of spiritual warfare in ministry to Muslims. Do you agree that 'Folk Islam is the most pressing issue we face in reaching Muslims?' Don Richardson, of *Peace Child* fame, has ventured into the arena of Islam. The second half of his book tells of Islam's very determined efforts to bring increasing pressure to bear on Christianity and Western Civilization. The 'Theological Basis of Al-Qaeda' should be read through twice to grasp its import. Perhaps these and the other articles constitute a call to action. Remember Kennedy, who said, 'Evil triumphs when good men do nothing.'

With that I must bid you 'Farewell' as *Editor pro tem*. Many will have heard that Gary Corwin has been appointed AWM Missiologist and, as part of his job description, he assumes the editorship of this little magazine. Let us help Gary in this task so that *Seedbed* remains an important point of interaction and vital thinking. I will continue to be linked to *Seedbed* as one of his associates. My brief tenure has been a privilege.

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Letters to the Editor

Seedbed on CD?

I enjoyed reading Vol. 18 No.1 very much. Thanks for your work in putting it together. Are there any plans to put the archived articles on CD or on the company website? It would be great to have them indexed on CD as .pdf or even MS Word for easy access and make them available to newer colleagues. Or are they available and I don't know it? Blessings.

J.A.

Ans: Good idea. I don't think anyone has tackled what you propose. Ed.

Mohamed... the best of the prophets?

Ya Sidi Editor,

I read the last edition from cover to cover and found it interesting and stimulating. I remember an occasion in a remote village in M. It so happened one evening that the school inspector for the area and I were invited by the chief for supper. While waiting for the meal, the inspector asked me a very pointed question. 'Do you think that Mohamed was the best of the prophets?' Normally I avoid giving a direct answer, but

on this occasion I responded more directly and as follows...

It is written in the Q and in the Christian's Holy Book that Adam sinned and that he asked God for forgiveness. This is true of Noah, Moses and even Abraham, the Friend of God. On more than one occasion, the Q mentions that Mohamed the Prophet of Islam prayed that God would forgive his sins. I have found seven passages in the Q where Mohamed was conscious of sin. But nowhere is it recorded either in the Christian's Book or in the Q that Jesus ever sinned or asked God to forgive him.

All other prophets and apostles were conscious of sins and failures. That is why they repented and turned to God for forgiveness. And without God's grace and forgiveness, not one of them could enter into God's Paradise. Only Jesus never asked God for forgiveness because he pleased God in everything he said and did. This is one reason why we believe Jesus was unique and different from all the other prophets and apostles.

After a period of silence, the inspector replied. 'I see. You believe that Jesus is the best of all the prophets.'

Bill