

# CHRISTIAN LIGHT PUBLICATIONS

September – October 2012

## Wheat of God

In the heart of the modern day city of Rome stands one of the bloodiest theaters ever used by mankind, the 615 foot oval known as the Roman Colosseum. Capable of seating 50,000 spectators, it hosted deadly gladiator combat, wild animal fights, and other forms of massacre at a massive scale: for the inaugural service alone, over 9,000 wild animals were gathered and killed before a roaring crowd. These brutal exhibitions began in 80 A. D. and lasted for hundreds of years.

Though denied by some people today, church history records another event held at the Colosseum: the killing of Christians. Crucified on wooden crosses, cast before wild beasts, or burned on posts, many believers sealed their life before God with a baptism of blood, a final tribute to their Lord Jesus Christ. Ignatius, bishop of Antioch and one of the more well-known martyrs of this era, taken in bonds to Rome, is thought to have died at the Colosseum. A disciple of the Apostle John, Ignatius wrote to the Roman church,

*"Allow me to become food for the wild beasts, through whose instrumentality it will be granted me to attain to God. I am the wheat of God; so let me be ground by the teeth of the wild beasts - so that I may be found to be the pure bread of Christ."*

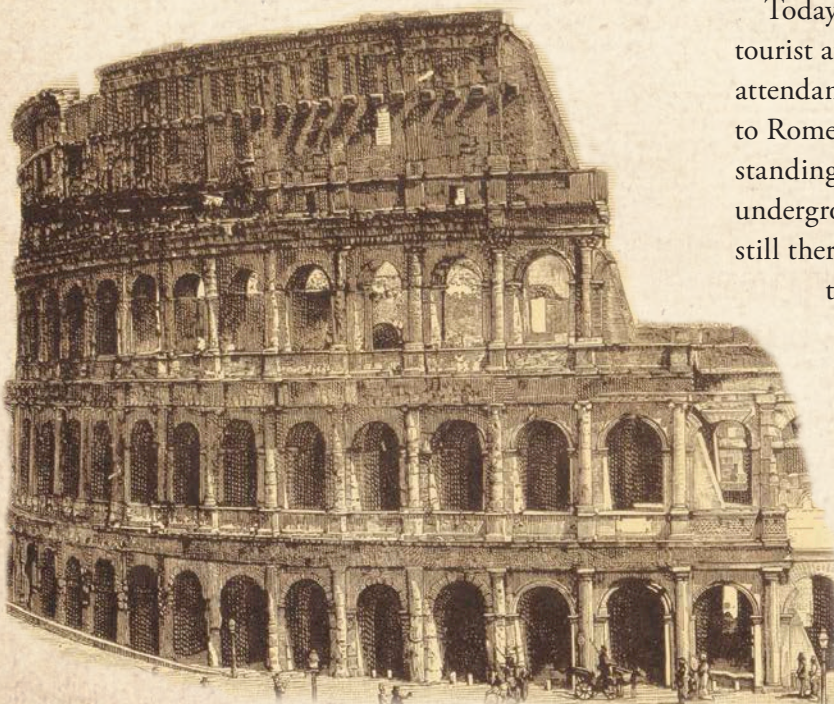
For most North American Christians, identifying with the language of Ignatius is difficult. Becoming "food for wild beasts" may sound strange, extreme, and perhaps even crude. But should it be? Should the accounts of martyrs be something that is strange, extreme, or crude to the followers of Jesus Christ?

Didn't the Author of our faith mark the path to Heaven with a cruel and bloody death? Didn't the forerunner of Jesus, the greatest man born of women, have His head served on a platter? Didn't Jesus tell Peter, a pillar of the early church, that he would die a martyr's death? Isn't martyrdom a common, accepted, and eloquent part of the Bible?

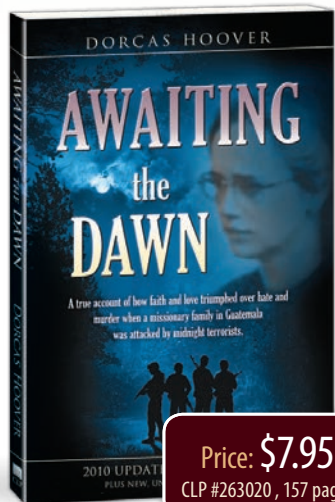
Today, the Colosseum is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Rome, boasting an annual attendance of over 4 million people. You can travel to Rome, pay \$10 to \$20, and still see much of it standing as it was centuries ago - the walls, the underground holding chambers, and the steps are still there. But one thing you will not find there are the voices of the past.

One can imagine but cannot hear the swell of the crowd and cries of the dying. But yet, the voices of the dying live on, not in the Colosseum but on the printed page.

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Price: \$7.95  
CLP #263020, 157 pages

## AWAITING THE DAWN

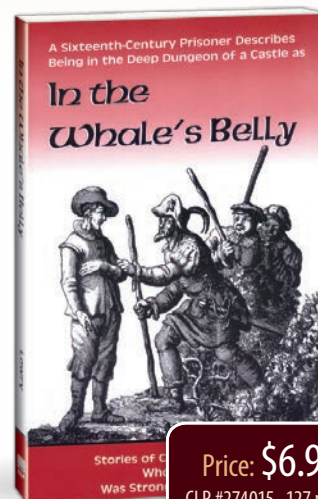
*Dorcas Hoover*

*Awaiting the Dawn* is a true account of how faith and love triumphed over hate and murder when a missionary family in Guatemala was attacked by midnight terrorists. Now with a 2010 family update and additional, previously unpublished, photos.

## IN THE WHALE'S BELLY

*James Lowry*

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Price: \$6.95  
CLP #274015, 127 pages

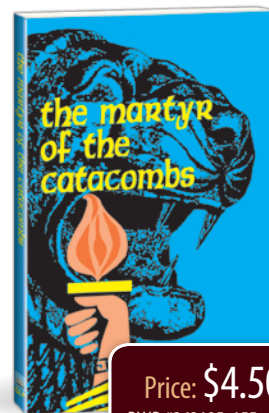
## MARTYRS MIRROR

*Thielman J. Van Braght*

The true accounts of Christians baptized upon confession of faith who died for their faith from the time of Christ to A.D. 1660.



Price: \$37.00  
HP #274020, 1141 pages



Price: \$4.50  
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## THE MARTYR OF THE CATACOMBS

*Anonymous*

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NEW



Price: \$4.95  
CLP #264725, 84 pages

## GOD'S MIRACLE — A FOREST

*Rebecca Newsinger*

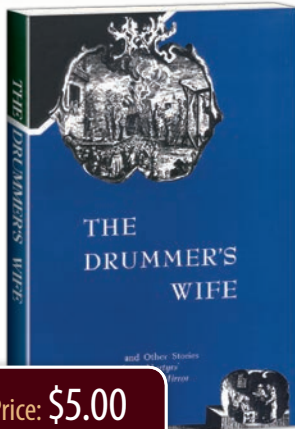
A walk with Grandpa through the beautiful forest reveals God's miracle of life in trees, plants, animals, bugs, and worms. Follow two children as they explore creation and learn about the Creator. Very simple text for small children with beautiful pencil drawings on every page.

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Foreign: 22%



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**THE DRUMMER'S WIFE***Joseph Stoll*

During the Reformation, Anabaptists were persecuted by both Catholics and Protestants. In spite of the fires kindled to burn the Anabaptists, the Reformation spread. After years of persecution, Theilman J. van Braght gathered the martyr stories together. This book contains twelve stories from *Martyrs Mirror* retold in modern, more readable English.

Price: **\$5.00**  
PWP #263530, 251 pages

By reading their last letters, such as those from Ignatius, we feel their passion. By reading their biographies, we understand their triumph and God's faithfulness. And by doing that, we become more in touch with Jesus, and more prepared for our own challenges in the future.

In this issue of our newsletter, we feature several books about the persecution and overcoming faith of Christians. Their stories are ones that need to be remembered. May they nourish our souls today, as Ignatius prayed that they would in his letter. ■

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## Financial Report

June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012

Sales of Publications	35,780,552
Completed Inventory on hand for sale	2,674,316
Accts Receivable due from customers	196,955
Accounts Payable due to vendors	105,118
Checking account balance	200,864
Cost of <i>Just For You</i> distribution free	75,561
Production and Office Equipment in use	\$1,110,887
Depreciated value due to use	(918,344)
Present value of our equipment	\$192,543



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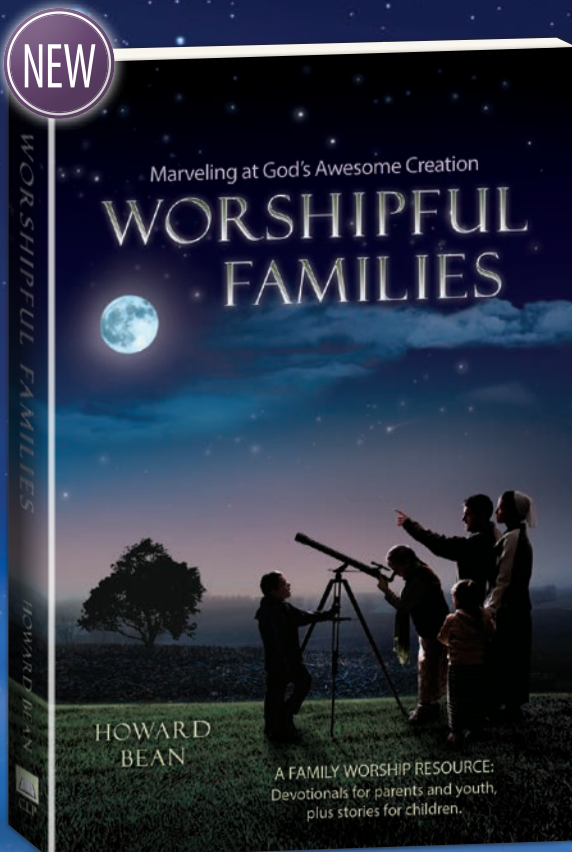
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## WORSHIPFUL FAMILIES

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