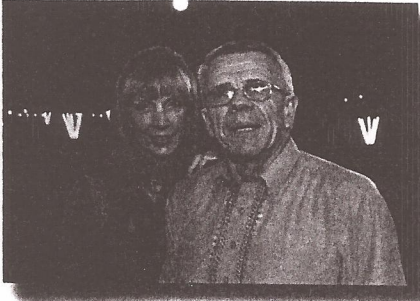


# THE LAST YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY



For at least 60 million people, this will be their last year on Earth. By far, an unbelievable majority of those people will not only die without

Christ, they will die without ever having an opportunity to receive Christ! Never before has a statement I enjoy making been as applicable as it is in today's volatile world: ***"If you cannot do all you want to do, do all you can do!"*** Christians must always remember that eternity is forever; and what they do – or do not do – will affect the eternity of many!

Earlier this year, Marilyn and I experienced a rude awakening when we pondered the hopeless impossibility of doing much to change the physical, earthly plight of most of the world's 'lost.' Yet, we can, and will, change the eternal destination of multitudes born into – and socially, economically and religiously trapped within – the only culture they have ever known.

During the recent 'Arab Spring,' masses gathered in Arab nations (and are still gathering) in search of a better way of life; one that offers life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In the early days of the uprising in Egypt, the world watched in horror as a young woman was indiscriminately shot and then left to die on the street. Similar scenarios occurred in several countries, when people sought to incorporate Western-type values into their way of life. Yet, the sad truth remains that, in nations like Egypt and Libya, where billions of dollars were spent by NATO to bring down a dictator, the same military Generals are basically still in power. Anyone willing to face reality realizes that, in most of these countries, harsher-type religious structures will probably replace the deposed dictatorships.

After pondering these situations, our minds must return to this one thought: **If we cannot change much about their earthly existence – either socially, economically, or from a human-rights standpoint –**

**we will, by the grace of God, do all we can to change the eternal destination of those we are able to reach with the glorious Gospel ... using any means we can to reach them!**

Thankfully, we are still allowed to crusade in Pakistan and our 2012 Harvest Plan crusade schedule has already been established. In addition, O'Dell Ministries will continue to conduct and finance seminars, so we can gather pastors and leaders ... then influence and train them to make Christ's 'harvest mentality' a way of life for them. In India, crusading has been seriously thwarted by religious radicals and newly enforced laws; however, by the grace of God, through seminars and other means, we will continue to raise up as many pastors and believers as possible ... who will look upon their fellow countrymen with eternity in mind.

In all that Marilyn and I do, the thought that *eternity is forever* seems to be the motivating cry that pushes us onward, and onward and onward. **Each time I hear a negative report, regarding the condition of our world politically, financially and morally, it reminds me that we need to do as much as we can, to reach as many as we can, as fast as we can, while we can!**

The verdict is still out on what the Arab Spring will produce. For those nations to become true democracies would be a wonderful miracle, but one that is very unlikely to occur. So, we rejoice knowing that, regardless of what happens within the world's agenda, our Lord has commanded us to go into this world and preach the Gospel to as many creatures as we can. He not only gave us the command – which I consider an opportunity – but He promised to be with us always, even to the ends of the world. He has also given us the tools to accomplish the job. In each crusade, Marilyn loves to challenge the people: ***"If our message about Jesus is true, and He has power to save people for eternity, there will be miracles tonight to confirm our message!"*** **Rejoice in the knowledge that, as we work together throughout 2012, we will change eternity for many!**

- By Jerry R. O'Dell

