

**“An irresistible call to action for building a better world”**

Dr. Geoff Tunnicliffe, International Director, World Evangelical Alliance

**Contributing writers in  
*The Better Hour:***

***Lessons from William  
Wilberforce:***

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David Blankenhorn,  
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**Chuck Stetson**

is a Managing Director of PEI Funds, a private equity firm based in New York. He is a graduate of Yale University and Columbia University's Graduate School of Business and has written articles for the *Harvard Business Review*, *Pratt's Guide to Venture Capital*, and *The Journal of Corporate Strategy*. He created the *Doubleday Pocket Bible Guide* and his book *The British Abolitionists and Their Influence* is due to be released in early 2008. Mr. Stetson is also the Chairman of the Bible Literacy Project and co-author of the acclaimed public school textbook, *The Bible and Its Influence*.

**Foreword by  
Rick Warren**

CREATING THE  
**BETTER HOUR**

LESSONS FROM WILLIAM WILBERFORCE

Edited by  
Chuck Stetson



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## Not your ordinary study book, *Creating the Better Hour: Lessons from William Wilberforce* demands a

great deal of the reader. Not only do the words of the book's contributors give an overview of the life of this great Christian Parliamentarian and abolitionist, they also shows how Wilberforce is a model for engaging culture today.

Beginning with the life and the great persuasive techniques of Wilberforce and his Clapham Circle colleagues, the book then turns to the unfinished business of human oppression and slavery to show that much work still needs to be done. Finally, the book shows how people today are emulating Wilberforce to bring about cultural change.

Chapters in the book have an Extended Observation that entices the individual reader or the groups using the book into transforming reflections and conversations. The gatherings are specifically designed to help them become a force for good in today's culture and to commit to a life on behalf of others.

This book shows much more than a Wilberforce who two hundred years ago worked to stop the transatlantic slave trade. It shows a spirit alive and active in all people whose faith compels their tireless efforts to create the better hour.

### What others are saying...

Wilberforce's commitment to the transformation of culture was accomplished by his steadfast determination. He was able in an extraordinary way to connect his position as a politician with the ethical principles that derived from his deep faith. This book outlines a way that we can all use our time and talents to the same end.

– **Jean Bethke Elshtain**, *Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics, University of Chicago Divinity School*

This book will be of great benefit to your church community. It builds on the legacy of William Wilberforce, whose character, faith, courage and leadership are a wonderfully relevant example for today's world. It provides no ordinary Bible study. Instead, it makes an irresistible call to action for building a better world.

– **Geoff Tunnicliffe**, *International Director of the World Evangelical Alliance*

It is my sincere hope that our next generation will be able to build on the example of William Wilberforce in this book as they work to right wrong and build better communities.

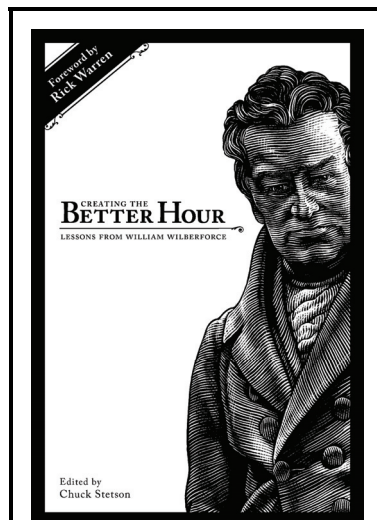
– **Floyd Flake**, *President of Wilberforce University, former Congressman and Senior Pastor, Greater Allen Cathedral, New York*

William Wilberforce led the great moral struggle against the slave trade with passion born of conviction. Today, as in Wilberforce's time, we are faced with the need for social reform and moral renewal.

– **Robert P. George**, *McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Princeton University*

Leadership and character are essential for engaging the culture and making a better world. William Wilberforce and his Clapham colleagues show the way, engaging and working with others, but never compromising principle.

– **J. Stanley Oakes**, *President, The King's College, New York*



**This book, for release in October 2007**, is the companion study guide for the forthcoming documentary film entitled *THE BETTER HOUR: The Legacy of William Wilberforce*, which is targeted for DVD and national public television in early 2008. The one-hour documentary shot in high definition recounts the character, faith and leadership of British Parliamentarian William Wilberforce and his heroic 20-year fight for the 1807 abolition of the transatlantic slave trade. Film is sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation and The Wilberforce Project.

**The Better Hour Gatherings:**  
A resource tool for engaging friendship to make a better community and world, in the spirit of Wilberforce's Clapham circle.

**School publication for history and social studies curriculum:**  
*The British Abolitionists and Their Influence*

**THE BETTER HOUR Contest for High School Students:**  
Help spread the word that teens can win a \$10,000 first prize (up to \$40,000 total prizes) for their leadership in community service projects.

All info at [www.thebetterhour.com](http://www.thebetterhour.com)