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# VICTORY

October 2011



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—Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

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A man with short brown hair and a friendly smile, wearing a blue and white patterned button-down shirt, is holding a dark book. He is standing in a room with warm lighting and a blurred background that includes a wooden table with a lamp and a plate.

# A Reborn Race

**THE THOUGHT** that every born-again believer can operate in the power of THE BLESSING the same way Jesus or the early apostles did, amazes many Christians. They struggle to picture themselves multiplying natural resources (like loaves and fish), healing the sick or raising the dead. Yet, in the Bible, Jesus emphatically declared that any person with simple faith in Him could do all those things and more:

BY KENNETH COPELAND

✿ “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.” (John 14:12)

✿ “And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any

thing in my name, I will do it.” (verses 13-14)

✿ “If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.” (Matthew 17:20)

❖ “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” (Mark 16:17-18)

If you believe those statements to be true, you may wonder, *Why has the Body of Christ as a whole not embraced them? Why aren't the millions of Christians who show up for church every Sunday, rocking their cities for Jesus by preaching the gospel with signs and wonders following all week long?*

I believe there's one, primary reason for it.

Most Christians don't know who they are. They have been brainwashed by the devil into believing they're “just old sinners saved by grace.” They've been convinced by religious tradition that they are nothing more than fallen human beings who have been forgiven by a loving God. As a result, they've spent their entire Christian lives identifying more with defeated Adam than with Jesus Christ, their victorious, resurrected Lord.

“But, Brother Copeland, I *am* just an old sinner who has been forgiven and saved by grace.”

No, you're not! You're either a sinner or you've been saved by grace, but you can't be both at the same time.

If you're truly a sinner, then receive Jesus as your Lord and get saved. If you're already saved, then stop thinking of yourself as the same person you were before you were born again. Get the phrase “I'm just an old sinner” out of your mind and out of your mouth because spiritual law declares that we have what we say. If you keep calling yourself a sinner, Satan will see to it that your confession comes to pass. He'll have you acting like a sinner before sundown and, unless you change what you say, he'll keep you acting that way for the rest of your life.

Don't misunderstand. I'm not saying just because you're saved, you're going to live in sinless perfection. You will miss it and sin from time to time. As you walk out the process of renewing your mind to what The WORD of God says, you'll occasionally behave in ways not consistent with who you really are. But that doesn't change the fact that as a born-again child of God, you are not, by nature, an old sinner. On the contrary, the New Testament says: “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

The phrase *new creature* doesn't refer to something old that's been refurbished. It doesn't describe a forgiven sinner who's been cleaned up a little. A *new creature* is a freshly created species of being that has never existed before; and that's what you are.

The old sinner you once were has passed away. He died the death of the cross with Jesus when you gave your life to Him. In that instant, you were re-created. You became a brand-new person in Christ. “For [God] hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (verse 21).

Notice, that verse doesn't say that God has *accounted* righteousness to us. He hasn't just given us credit for a righteousness we don't really possess. That's an Old Covenant concept.

That's what He did for people like Abraham before Jesus came to complete the work of redemption. He counted their sin debt paid on the basis of what Jesus would one day do for them. He treated them as righteous despite their fallen condition.

“Isn't that what God does for us?”

Certainly. He has canceled our sin debt as surely as He did theirs. He has recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life that we were crucified on Calvary. It shows that we died, went to hell and suffered the full penalty for our sins. Heaven has it recorded that we were raised from the dead in righteousness and seated on the throne of grace at God's right hand. On earth, we have it recorded that Jesus did those things. But, heaven has it recorded in our names because He was our substitute. Everything He did was for us.

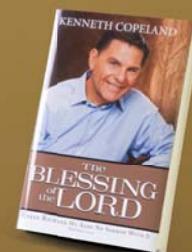
As New Testament believers, however, we have more than just a legal record of righteousness in heaven. We've actually been *made* the righteousness of God in Christ, as spotless and without sin as Jesus Himself.

To do that He had to make us *new creatures*. He couldn't take our old sin nature and make it righteous any more than we could take a beaten-up Volkswagen to the repair shop and get it back a Cadillac. Such a thing would be impossible. A Cadillac has to be manufactured. It's *made* to be a Cadillac.

The same thing is true spiritually. Truly righteous men must be created or manufactured that way. When they are born again, their old, fouled-up, sinful spirits are, by the power of Almighty God, manufactured into the spiritual equivalent of a Rolls Royce—the car of kings!

### Transformed From the Inside Out

“If I'm such a spiritual giant, then why do I still deal with so many of the same struggles I had before I was born again?” Because the part of you that was re-created is your spirit—or what the Bible calls *the inner man* or *the hidden man of the heart*. Your spirit is the real you. In the Bible, it is often



This article was adapted from Kenneth Copeland's new book, *THE BLESSING OF THE LORD Makes Rich and He Adds No Sorrow With It Proverbs 10:22*.

referred to as the *heart* because it is the core of who you are. It's the life and power center of every human being.

Although your spirit has been reborn in the image of God and is absolutely perfect, there is more to you than your spirit. You are a three-part being: You are a spirit; you have a soul; and you live in a physical body. First Thessalonians 5:23 mentions each of those parts individually: "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Notice, the spirit is listed first, then the soul, and the body last. There's a reason for this. The power of the new creation works from the inside out. It starts in your spirit. Then as your mind is renewed to what has taken place within you, your soul is changed. And, as you increasingly grasp your true identity in Christ, your thoughts, words, actions and outward circumstances reflect that identity.

Second Corinthians 3:18 describes the process best. It says that as we continue "to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, [we] are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another" (*The Amplified Bible*).

Believers who don't see in the mirror of The WORD of God who they are in Christ, can live in defeat for years, feeling as much a loser as they were before they got saved. I know because I did it. I had no idea I'd become a new creature when I was born again. Although I loved Jesus with all my heart, I experienced very little victory because I was dragging my past with me everywhere I went—and my past was a very heavy load.

As a child, I'd been told by religious people that I'd never amount to anything. They made me so mad, I wouldn't have anything to do with them or their churches. But, even so, I believed what they said. I figured if I was such a good-for-nothing, I might as well live like the devil; and that's what I did for years.

Thanks to my praying mother; my wife, Gloria; and the belated influence of my sixth-grade Sunday school teacher, Mrs. Taggart; I was born again in my 20s. But I didn't find out I'd been made the righteousness of God until five frustrating years later. At the time, I was listening to a sermon by Kenneth E. Hagin on an old, reel-to-reel tape recorder in my car. I got so excited I almost kicked a hole in the floorboard. For a guy with a past like mine to find out that old things have passed away, and all things have become new—that's good news!

Of course, it's not just good news for people like me, it's vital information every believer needs to know. All who want to operate in the fullness of THE BLESSING must understand what really happened to us when we were

saved. We need to realize that the Creator Himself—the Holy Spirit—hovered over us, planted the seed of God's WORD within us, and we were spiritually reborn.

What happened in us spiritually is much the same thing that happened in the Virgin Mary physically, when she conceived Jesus. Just as The WORD became the supernatural sperm seed in her body and brought forth Jesus into the world, The WORD of God implanted in our human spirits brings forth Jesus in us. We are born again in His likeness, "not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23).

One of the best pictures of what happens to our spirits at the new birth is found in the Genesis account of the creation of Adam, when God breathed divine life into him by saying, "Man, be in our image, after our likeness; have dominion over all the earth and everything in it." When that WORD went into Adam, he lit up with the very life of God Himself. He was Love just like God is Love. He was Light just like God is Light. Adam, like God, was a fire from the loins up and a fire from the loins down (Ezekiel 1:26-27). The very lightning of God's glory radiated out of him. If you looked at God and Adam standing together, you wouldn't be able to tell one from the other because they were both covered in the same fire.

It's thrilling just to think about it. But what's even more thrilling is the same thing happened to us when we were born again! The very Spirit of Almighty God breathed new life into us. He lit up our inner man with Himself the same way He lit up Adam in the beginning. He activated in our beings the very same words He spoke at the beginning in the Garden: "Man, be in Our image, and have dominion!"

If you could look inside yourself at your spirit right now, you'd be absolutely stunned because what you'd see is all the attributes of God. You'd see love, joy, peace, patience, resurrection power and glory. You'd realize that just as you were born naturally with the physical DNA of your parents, you have been born again with the spiritual genetics of God. Those attributes aren't yet fully developed and mature, but they are all there. Much like a baby at birth has all the physical parts—bones, organs and muscles—his parents have, but on a smaller scale, *you* already have within you everything needed to grow up and become (on the inside and outside) just like Jesus.

Your inner man is Love just as He is Love. Your spirit is ablaze with the fiery light of His glory. You are Light just as He is Light.

"Brother Copeland, surely you're exaggerating."

No, I'm not. The WORD says it very plainly. It tells us that "God is Light," and those who have been re-created in His image are light, too. The Bible says it over and over again:

❖ "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in

the Lord. Walk as children of light.” (Ephesians 5:8, *New King James Version*)

- ❖ “Ye are all the children of light...” (1 Thessalonians 5:5)
- ❖ “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” (2 Corinthians 4:6)
- ❖ “We walk in the light, as he is in the light...” (1 John 1:7)
- ❖ “...ye shine as lights in the world.” (Philippians 2:15)
- ❖ “Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.” (Romans 13:12)
- ❖ “As [Jesus!] is, so are we in this world.” (1 John 4:17)

When you start meditating on scriptures like those and let the reality of them saturate your mind, you’ll get rid of the sin-tags the devil has used to drag you down. You’ll get to the point where you’d feel as if you were using profanity if you said, “I’m just an old sinner saved by grace.” You’ll develop a righteousness consciousness instead of a sin consciousness, and that’s when you’ll really start having fun with The LORD!

Yes, you read that right. I said you’ll start having *fun* with God. That sounds almost sacrilegious to many Christians, but it’s scriptural, nonetheless. According to the Bible, God wants us to have the kind of fellowship with Him that fills us with joy. He wants us to have such confidence toward Him that, even though He is the Most Holy and the Most High, we can come into His presence and relax without one bit of self-consciousness.

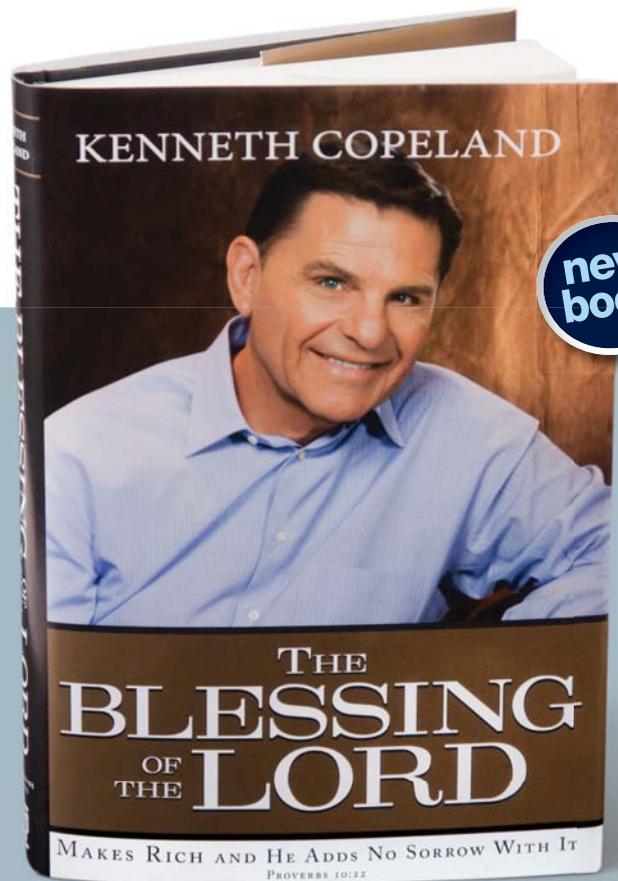
He’s not offended when we bounce into His throne room full of joy with a smile and say, “Abba, Father! Let’s have a good time together, just You and me!” On the contrary, He is thrilled.

Yet, most Christians would never dream of acting that way before God. They think that to show respect they must come to Him with an undeserving attitude and tell Him how unworthy they are to be in His presence. In reality, they’re hurting His heart because He paid an awesome price to provide the way for them to come boldly to His throne of grace. He poured out His own blood so every born-again believer could be made so perfectly righteous, they could walk into the holy of holies with no sin consciousness whatsoever.

And He has been waiting more than 2,000 years for the Church, as a whole, to do it. **VICTORY**

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(For more information, or to order your copy of *THE BLESSING OF THE LORD Makes Rich and He Adds No Sorrow With It Proverbs 10:22*, see the ad on this page.)



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“I sat under the teachings of KCM for years, going all the way back to when I was a kid. So I knew the importance of faith when I became pastor.”

# Faith to Stand

Driving into the parking lot of the massive church building at the crossroads of Interstate Highways 12 and 55 in Hammond, La., Trey Bollinger wrestled with the thoughts racing through his mind. As youth pastor of a thriving church in the heart of a growing community that had barely escaped destruction from Hurricane Katrina, he had much to be thankful for.

But this particular Sunday morning was different! With the announcement a week earlier that 30-year-old Bollinger had been appointed the new pastor of Harvest Family Church, his life had already begun to change.

As he prepared to face the congregation for the first time as its new leader, Bollinger remembers feeling “as inadequate as David must have felt when Samuel told him he was going to be king.” To go from youth pastor to pastor was taking on a *huge* responsibility. “At that point all I could think was, *Why me, Lord?*”

Trey & Joy Bollinger

# Within six months we had started more than 50 cell groups, and before long we had led thousands of young people to the Lord.

In reality, Bollinger already knew the answer.

Raised in a Christian home, he had been like most youngsters who, though their parents were determined to see them succeed, had their own ideas about life and what they wanted to do.

“My mom used to always say I was going to pastor a church some day,” said Bollinger. “But that wasn’t what I wanted. My dad was a businessman and my plan was do the same. That’s why I got a business degree.

“I grew up knowing I had a destiny—that God had big plans for me. And I was willing to take on a major project for Him, but as a teenager, I just wasn’t ready. We had a rule in our house that if you didn’t go to church you didn’t live at home. So, I *participated* in church. I believed God was real. I just wasn’t living for Him.”

## A Setup for the Good

Unlike many his age who run in circles for years before surrendering their lives to the Lord, Bollinger’s joy ride was short-lived. Looking back, he is convinced that was due, in part, to the determination of a friend to see him saved and serving God, as well as his parents’ partnership with Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

“My parents were very strong supporters of KCM,” Bollinger said. “They had lots of their books and other materials, and they always attended the Fort Worth meetings (Southwest Believers’ Convention). I spent a lot of time in the children’s and youth meetings, which is probably where my passion for working with youth actually began.

“Although I had been in church all my life, and had heard the Word, I didn’t get saved until I was 20. That’s when I had a real experience with God.”

That experience came through Bollinger’s relationship with Wallace Sibley, an energetic Christian who happened to be the brother of Bollinger’s pastor, Bray Sibley.

“This guy had a real impact on my life,” Bollinger recalled. “Although he wanted to see me saved, he was never pushy and didn’t try to force anything on me. The closest he ever came to trying to win me to the Lord was once when he told me he felt my life would be a lot better if I was serving God. I didn’t know it at the time, but he was really on a mission to get me saved.

“I once overheard him telling my brother, ‘We’ve got to win your brother to the Lord. He’s going to impact this

church in a powerful way.’”

In 2000, Bollinger spent a weekend hunting with his brother, his dad and Wallace Sibley. Bollinger says he fully expected Sibley to use that as an opportunity to talk to him about the Lord.

“We hunted and fellowshiped that entire weekend, and he never said a word,” Bollinger remembers. “That’s what I liked about him. He wasn’t a preacher-type guy. He just had a genuine desire to see people saved.”

Bollinger was so impressed with his friend, in fact, that when Sibley didn’t invite him to attend church after they returned home from their trip, Bollinger invited himself. And he was glad he did.

“There wasn’t anything special about that service, except there was this ‘thing’ on me,” Bollinger recalled. “I could almost hear an audible voice, and I knew it was for me. I knew God was ready to move in my life, and through that experience, at 20 years old, I gave my life completely over to the Lord.”

Almost immediately, Bollinger went to work for the Lord, getting plugged in to the church and focusing his attention on youth ministry. He even established a cell group in his home to minister to youth and, working along with his pastor, began establishing groups outside his home church.

“Within six months we had started more than 50 cell groups, and before long we had led thousands of young people to the Lord,” said Bollinger.

In 2002, Pastor Sibley decided to plant a satellite church in nearby Mandeville, La. Recognizing his gift for working with youth, he enlisted Bollinger’s help in working with the youth at that church.

At the time, Bollinger was dating Joy Neal, a church member from Hammond who lived in Mandeville.



Our hearts are to touch people and God has positioned us to do just that.”

“Joy grew up in a Christian home and served God from a young age,” Bollinger said. “She was already holding a youth Bible study group in her home in Mandeville when I first started going there. After a while, we were working together holding Bible studies for young women and men.”

By 2005, though still ministering in Mandeville, Bollinger had become a youth pastor at Harvest Family Church and things were moving fast. In addition to his church work, he was finishing his final semester of college, was working full time with his father’s business, and had become engaged to marry Joy.

### Developing a New Nation

Back home in Hammond, Pastor Sibley had begun to broaden the church’s involvement with young people through an aggressive youth initiative called NuNation. The name stands for “The Revolution Starts *N U*.” Soon, Bollinger was back in Hammond and working with the NuNation project.

Little did he know that venture would play a major role in his future in ministry.

“Even though he had served as pastor for over 30 years, Pastor Sibley had always had a strong anointing to minister and reach youth,” said Bollinger. That’s probably the main reason NuNation began to grow so fast.

“In our first meeting after NuNation started we had about 500 youths attend,” Bollinger said. “About 200 salvations took place on the first night. We did a second meeting about two months later with about 1,000 youth and saw another 200-300 young people give their lives to the Lord.”

In the months that followed, the youth initiative continued to grow, reaching out to other cities where similar groups were organized. With his experience, it was no wonder God chose Pastor Sibley to oversee the development of NuNation. But what He did to move Sibley into that position was unexpected.

“He was getting ready for church one Sunday morning when the Lord told him it would be his last service as pastor at Harvest,” Bollinger said Sibley told him. “He said he asked the Lord if he had done something wrong and the Lord said, *No, I have another assignment for you. It’s time you give this to another person.*”

That assignment was the shepherding of NuNation.

And the person to replace Sibley was Trey Bollinger, who took over as pastor in June 2010.

In the 16 months since becoming pastors, Trey and Joy Bollinger have worked diligently to maintain stability in the church. They are pleased that there has not been the kind of fallout some churches experience when leadership changes, but instead a steady increase in membership over

the past year. Bollinger attributes the growth to maturity and faith among the members.

“Our church has always had a strong discipleship mentality,” said Bollinger. “We had goals and targets that people were able to release their faith for, and we still believe God to attain those goals.

“I sat under the teachings of KCM for years, going all the way back to when I was a kid. So I knew the importance of faith when I became pastor. The members were exercising their faith for our goals and, as pastor, I knew I needed a lot of faith as well.”

### Receiving the Spirit of Faith

Last year, Bollinger took a major step toward seeing his faith increase after being invited to a Behind the Missions meeting KCM was holding in Orlando, Fla. Because of a busy schedule, Bollinger wasn’t sure he could attend. He prayed, and the Lord told him, *This is a divine appointment. Go there and Kenneth is going to lay hands on you and impart to you the gift of faith.*

In September, Bollinger and Joy traveled to Orlando. On the first evening of the two-day meeting, Brother Copeland spoke on the subject, *The Process of Faith in God.*

“Brother Copeland said a lot of things that night that confirmed why I needed to be there, and why I had become pastor at Harvest,” Bollinger said. “But one key thing he said was something Brother Oral Roberts once told him. Brother Roberts said, ‘People will always tell you you can’t do it.... But you do these three things and you’ll always be a success: No. 1, find out the plan of God.... No. 2, once you know the plan of God, don’t confer with flesh and blood any longer.... No. 3, get your job done at any cost.’”

“It was 11 p.m. and Brother Copeland was still preaching,” Bollinger said. “My faith could have faded at that point, but with such a strong word from God I just stood on what I knew He had told me. I knew Brother Copeland was going to pray for me. That was the only reason I went there.”

Just as the meeting was ending, a man from KCM walked over to where Bollinger stood talking with others. Directing his words at Bollinger, he said, “Brother Copeland wants to lay hands on this young man.”

Bollinger recalled the words Brother Copeland spoke as he laid hands on him: “As a prophet of God, I impart unto you the gift of faith. Money will never be a problem for you. You don’t ever have to worry about money. You have been willing, but God is putting in you the ‘to do.’”

“He didn’t lay hands on anyone else that night, just me and my wife,” Bollinger said.

“Since then I have had a faith drive in me that’s

tangible. It's a force, a momentum so powerful it sometimes keeps me up at night. And when I do sleep, I'm dreaming like never before. I have the faith to stand for anything!"

In recent months, Bollinger said, he has seen one financial miracle after another take place both in his church and in his personal life.

"Outside of normal revenue coming in to the church we have had over \$150,000 in financial miracles," he said. "God is truly meeting all our needs according to His riches in glory."

### Putting Their Hands to the Plow

The church has also seen explosive growth in the youth ministry over the last several months, Bollinger said.

"We're strategically focused on the children and youth," says Bollinger. "Malachi 4:6 says, 'And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers....' There is a generation that has done very well, but it's time for this next generation, this younger generation, to take its place.

"For so long church congregations have been made up of 40-plus-year-olds. Now, we're looking down and the fathers have turned their hearts to the children. We have to have an awakening among this younger generation because they're the new Joshuas and Calebs. They're the generation that will elect the next leaders of our country, and we have to prepare them. We've got to let them know, 'The revolution starts in you!'"

Today, Bollinger has a bold new faith for the future and He is trusting God to continue to steer him in the right direction. He is thankful for this new measure of faith God has released in his life, and for the strong support of his wife.

"Joy has such a strong faith, and has been a solid rock for me, our family and for the church," says Bollinger. "Aside from her busyness as a wife and mother she is very involved in almost everything in the church, from leading worship, to coordinating all our major events, to preaching the Word. We're very much a team, like Batman and Robin. We've committed our lives to the Lord, we've accepted this assignment from God, and we're determined to see it fulfilled.

"I wish I could take credit for what's happening in our church, but I know it's not me or any one person," says Bollinger. "God had a plan from the very beginning. I became part of that plan long ago when my parents, my brother and Wallace were praying for me, and when I was attending those KCM Superkid meetings. I just didn't know it. Thank God He didn't give up on me back then."

Every day when they look at their two daughters, 4-year-old Grace and 2-year-old Hope, Trey and Joy are reminded of God's blessing and protection over them, their family and their church congregation.

"We named our first daughter Grace as a reminder that God's favor is always with us," said Bollinger. "Hope reminds us of God's words in Jeremiah 29:11, where He said He has a good plan for us, a plan that assures us a future and a hope. We live in His favor and hope every day."

"Our hearts are to touch people and God has positioned us to do just that," said Joy.

"This is much bigger than any of us," added Trey. "But I truly believe God doesn't call the equipped—He equips the called."

Today, Trey and Joy Bollinger have put their hands to the plow. They are determined to see Harvest Family Church fulfill its mission—to see lives changed with the love of God, families and cities changed by the truth of God, and nations turned to the heart of God. **VICTORY**



## Standing Together in Faith!

Just as He did for Trey Bollinger, God has had a plan for your life since the day you were born... even before! God stood by Trey to see the plan fulfilled, leading him through the guidance and stand of faith of his parents, his pastors, his friends and KCM.

Kenneth Copeland Ministries is here to stand with you, too! God's Word reveals His plan... receive it today and get ready to see Him do some outstanding things in your life!



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DON'T  
LET THE

# Blessings SLIP AWAY

In this world

YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE.... || THOSE MAY NOT BE OUR FAVORITE WORDS IN THE BIBLE. BUT, LIKE IT OR NOT, JESUS SAID THEM. || SOME PEOPLE THINK FAITH PREACHERS DON'T BELIEVE THAT. THEY THINK WE TEACH THAT IF YOU WALK BY FAITH YOU WON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS AT ALL. BUT WE DON'T. WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THIS WORLD IS FULL OF TROUBLE. AND AS LONG AS WE LIVE IN IT, WE'RE GOING TO FACE TROUBLE TOO.

The difference, however, between us and some other folks is this: We don't stop there. We preach the rest of the story. We preach the other things Jesus said in that verse. He said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33, *New International Version*).

Glory to God! Jesus said we could have peace in the midst of the troubles of this world. He said that in Him, we could overcome it!

Ken and I know from experience

how true those words are. We've been walking with the Lord for a lot of years and we've faced some serious trouble during that time. We've faced financial trouble, sickness and disease, and challenges with our children.

We've encountered problems that, naturally speaking, we didn't know the answer to.

But you know what? We found out that if we stuck with God and trusted what He said in His Word, He'd see us through. We found out that Jesus has defeated every foe that comes against us and when we follow Him, He leads us out of trouble and into victory every time.

We found out that in Him we truly do have peace.

A few years ago, I learned that the word *peace* (which is the word *shalom* in Hebrew) literally means "to be whole, or perfectly intact with nothing missing and nothing broken." And the Bible tells us that in the Name of Jesus, we have a covenant of peace with God.

Think of it! Almighty God has made a blood covenant with us, promising to keep us whole and intact with nothing missing and nothing broken—right in the middle of this messed up, dangerous world.

## A Case of Neglect

Why then, if we have this wonderful covenant of peace, are so many Christians living defeated, broken lives? Why do so many good, born-again believers fall prey to the destructions of this world when God has promised to deliver them?



## If you'll keep the door of faith open to God and give Him time to work, He will restore what the devil has stolen from you and repair what's been broken.

I believe Hebrews 2 tells us. As heirs of this covenant of salvation, we are given some instructions:

Since all this is true, we ought to pay much closer attention than ever to the truths that we have heard, lest in any way we drift past [them] and slip away. For if the message given through angels [the Law spoken by them to Moses] was authentic and proved sure, and every violation and disobedience received an appropriate (just and adequate) penalty, how shall we escape... if we neglect and refuse to pay attention to such a great salvation [as is now offered to us, letting it drift past us forever]?... (verses 1-3, *The Amplified Bible*).

We don't have to do something terrible to find ourselves trapped in some kind of trouble with no way of escape. We don't have to be in some kind of sin and rebellion against God. All we have to do is neglect what He has done for us.

According to Webster's dictionary, the word *neglect* means "to ignore or disregard; to fail to care for or attend to sufficiently or properly; to fail to carry out through carelessness or by intention; leave undone."

It's easy to let spiritual things get away from you. Even though you may have been on fire and excited about the truths of God, they'll slip away from you if you stop paying attention to them. If you don't keep them in your eyes and in your ears, you can drift right back into unbelief.

As born-again children of God, we have a great salvation. But if we just get up in the morning, go to work, come home, eat dinner, watch television and go to bed like natural people do, we're going to suffer defeat and calamity right along with the rest of the world. If we get too busy with other things to pay proper attention to the things of God, we'll miss out on the benefits of our salvation that are available to us while we are still in the earth. There are covenant benefits here as well as hereafter!

### They're Not Automatic

Exactly what are those benefits?

If you don't know that answer, you won't be able to experience the fullness of your salvation. After all, you

can't lay hold of the things God has provided if you don't know what they are or that they belong to you.

To fully understand the benefits of your salvation, you need to continually read and study the Word of God. You're not going to walk in victory without knowing what the Word says. Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32).

A good place to begin your understanding of salvation is by learning the meaning of the word. Most believers think the word *salvation* simply means "to be saved from eternal damnation." But it means much more than that.

The word salvation refers to deliverance from all kinds of evil—both temporal and eternal. It refers to spiritual and material preservation, deliverance from the fear of danger as well as pardon, restoration, healing, wholeness, and soundness in spirit, soul and body.

It's true that when we are born again we are saved from the penalty of sin (Romans 5:9). Hallelujah, we've been delivered from hell and we're headed for heaven!

But, that's not all that's included in our covenant of salvation. It also provides a life of freedom while we're still here on earth.

It provides deliverance from the dominion of sin in this life (Romans 6:14). Thank God, we don't have to sin any more! We have been born of God and we have the power to live holy lives.

Psalms 91 tells us that God also promises to protect us from earthly dangers. It says we'll be delivered from pestilence, which includes serious sickness and disease, famine, earthquakes, and other calamities. It says we'll be protected from sudden death that comes by the weapons of men. It promises us a long, satisfying life and deliverance from every kind of trouble that comes our way.

Those are wonderful promises, but they don't operate in our lives automatically just because we're Christians. They operate under specific conditions and verses 1-2 tell us what those conditions are: "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand]. I will

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say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust!" (AMP).

### Your Abiding Place

The first condition we see there is that of abiding in the Lord or staying consistently close to Him. If you aren't consistent in your walk with the Lord, you won't consistently see the promises in Psalm 91 coming to pass for you.

That's not God's fault. He always wants to deliver you, and be merciful and kind to you. He is willing. And He has the wonderful capacity to keep up with and to bless all of us. We don't have to look Him up when we need Him because He's always with us.

But He's not like the devil who comes in and forces things on you. God won't take over and make you do things His way. He won't force His blessings on you.

He'll do everything He can to get you to turn toward Him, but He won't dominate you. He will reach out to you and wait for you to open the door of faith for Him.

How do you keep that door open? By giving God first place in your life. And you can't do that and be a lazy Christian. Over and over again, the Bible tells us we must seek God first and foremost if we want His blessing in our lives. *Seek* is a scriptural word that means "to go after with intense effort."

If you want to experience the fullness of this great salvation Jesus purchased for you, you have to exert consistent effort. Not just when it's convenient. You can't live a life of sin, neglecting the things you know to do, and then expect to turn to God when you need help.

Some people do that. They think, *God took care of me last time when I wasn't living right. So next time He'll do the same thing.*

That's a dangerous attitude.

If you keep going in rebellion and stubbornness, you'll get a hard heart. One of these days, you may find yourself unable to turn to God when you need help. Even if you can turn to Him, you may find you're under so much condemnation in your own mind and heart that your faith won't work.

"But I'm not rebelling," you might say. "I've just been too busy lately to spend time in the Word or in prayer."

Then you'd better simplify your life because you can't spend your time on other things, filling your heart and your life with natural concerns, and expect to be strong in faith when trouble comes.

"Oh, but things are going fine right now."

That may be true, but, as Jesus said, trouble is coming. When it does, it better find you doing what Psalm 91:1 says, *abiding* "under the shadow of the Almighty."

The word *abide* means "to dwell, remain fixed in a certain place." If you abide somewhere, that's where you live. I might stay at a hotel while I'm preaching a meeting, but I don't abide there. I'm just there for a few days.

In John 15:7, Jesus said, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." I've found that if I'll spend time every day in the Word of God, that Word will begin to abide in me. It will come alive in me and begin to speak to my heart continually.

I'm telling you, that's a good thing. When you run into trouble and that abiding Word of God rises up to tell you what to do, you'll be glad you weren't a lazy Christian. You'll be glad you made the Word your dwelling place.

### Open Your Mouth and Shut the Devil Out

Look back at Psalm 91:2 and you'll see the second way to keep yourself in condition to experience the fullness of your salvation. "I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust!" (AMP)

You give God authority to act in your life by trusting Him with your heart and speaking words of faith with your mouth. Jesus taught us that principle in Mark 11:22-23 when He said, "Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

### Salvation Prayer

If you do not know

# Jesus

as your Saviour and Lord, simply pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" and "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Acts 2:21; Romans 10:9). You said my salvation would be the result of Your Holy Spirit giving me new birth by coming to live in me (John 3:5-6, 15-16; Romans 8:9-11) and that if I would ask, You would fill me with Your Spirit and give me the ability to speak with other tongues (Luke 11:13; Acts 2:4).

I take You at Your Word. I confess that Jesus is Lord. And I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. Thank You for coming into my heart, for giving me Your Holy Spirit as You have promised, and for being Lord over my life. Amen.

If you have just prayed this prayer, please contact us and let us know of your decision. We have a **free** Salvation Package we would like to send you to help you begin your new life in Jesus! Simply write and ask for offer #K0602, tick the circle on the order form that comes with this magazine or call **+44 (0)1225 787310**.

The devil knows that truth so he tries to turn it around to work in his favor. He can't come in and force things on you the way he can those who are unsaved and outside God's covenant of protection. So he has to deceive you into giving him a place with your words—speaking words of fear and doubt.

Have you ever noticed that when you feel sick the first thing you want to do is tell someone about it? If you have a problem, you want to talk about it. Somehow you think if you can say it, you'll feel better.

That's exactly what the devil wants you to do. *But don't do it!*

Instead, when trouble comes, zip your lips. Don't say anything about that situation until you're centered on the Word of God and it's in your heart in abundance.

Then when you open your mouth, you'll be able speak the Word. You'll be able to say what God says about your situation—not just to yourself and your friends, but to the situation itself.

That's right! Mark 11:23 says we speak to the mountain. That means we don't talk *about* the problem. We talk *to* the problem!

We tell it what we want it to do. We tell it to be removed according to the Word of God.

It may sound strange, but it's scriptural and it is a vital part of attending to our covenant of salvation. Remember: When we speak the Word of God, we shut the devil out and he doesn't have any place to work.

### It's Not Too Late

You might be reading this and thinking, *Gloria, all this is wonderful, but it's too late for me. I'm already in trouble. I haven't been walking with God, and there is no way out.*

If that's your situation, let me encourage you. God is good. He is merciful.

Many times I've seen people call out to Him in situations that have gone so far there seems to be no solution. It looked like it was too late for those people. But it wasn't. God still turned things around. He is kind and He is good!

If you will take your stand on the Word of God, and make a quality decision to give your life to Him, He can make a way where there seems to be no way. He'll deliver you not because of what you've done, but because of what Jesus already did for you.

I'm not saying your problems will instantly disappear. But there can be an instant change. It will start on the inside of you—in your heart. If you'll trust the Lord, you can have joy and peace on the inside even when things on the outside are challenging.

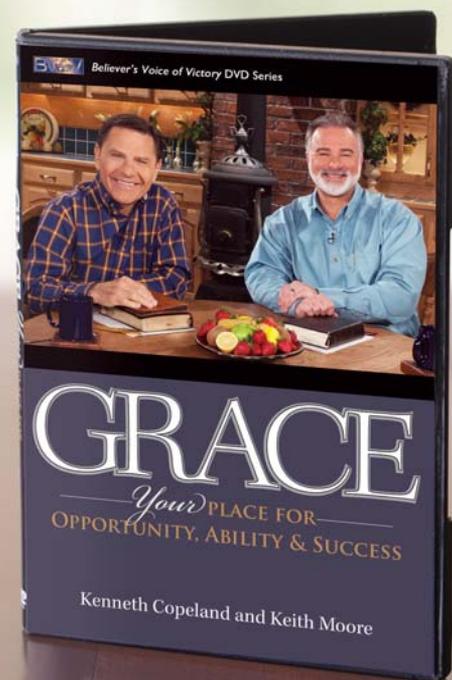
When you stick with Him, keep listening to His Word and obeying it, attending to this great covenant of salvation He has given you, day by day your life will change. If you'll keep the door of faith open to God and give Him time to work, He will restore what the devil has stolen from you and repair what's been broken. He wants you whole.

"Oh, but I'm not worthy!" you might say.

No, on your own you're not. Neither am I. But Jesus is and we are in Him. Our righteousness is in Him. He lived and died and rose again so that we could be blessed with a covenant of peace.

Don't let it slip away by neglecting it, and don't let the trouble of this world overwhelm you. Instead, take heart...He has overcome the world. And in Him we have too! **VICTORY**

# Know who you are & where you fit.



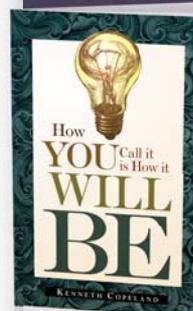
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# GoodNewsGazette

“So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.” (Galatians 3:9)



## God Is Faithful... Lesion Benign

Ten month ago I went for a physical checkup and was told I needed to have a spot removed from my left foot as it might be cancerous. I fasted and prayed and read healing scriptures from a book that was posted to me by Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. In December 2010, I had the minor lesion done on my left foot, and continued believing God that the results would be negative.

God is faithful! I received the results from the doctor and it was indeed negative. I thank God for carrying me through this period. I thank God for Kenneth Copeland Ministries. God's richest blessings on Kenneth and Gloria.

D.R. :: South Africa

## LifeLine Kit Really Is a Lifeline

I am writing to say thank you for teaching on financial blessings. At the time I purchased the *Complete Financial Breakthrough LifeLine Kit*, I was living in great fear about my finances. I couldn't see a way out of debt because I had been unemployed since March 2009. When I started reading the scriptures and declaring the prayer and confession for financial breakthrough, the fear left. Now, whenever I feel any fear about debt, I play the CD with the scriptures about prosperity to give me encouragement. I also read my Bible daily and give thanks that there is no lack in my house.

J.F. :: Ohio

## Set Free in Charlotte

We are truly thankful you came to Charlotte. It was like a cup of cool water in a dry place. Kellie, your Saturday teaching was a true revelation—I was sorry it was not timely for you to continue. We would have stayed all day. Thank you for laying hands on me and letting Jesus work a work in me. While we were with you, it suddenly dawned on me: *This is the reality*. We must see things from God's point of view.

Thank you for the revelation and realization that God is our partner. For me this came as a jolt, as I was raised to believe He was always watching and waiting to punish me if I made a mistake, and that I was on my own to try and live what He commands. I had since learned that God is good and He loves us, but somehow this was still in me. Its power was broken on April 9. We are so honored to be Partners with you, to have been parented in our spiritual upbringing and to see God's love walked out in honor and integrity here in the earth.

R. and P. :: U.S.

## Blessed, Even in a World of Turmoil

It's the greatest pleasure to share with you as a Partner how the promises of God have blessed my life during 2010, even though the world around us is in turmoil. As a kingdom citizen I have been thrilled with the teachings of KCM—learning how to tithe, pray and stand on the promises of God's Word, and release my faith.

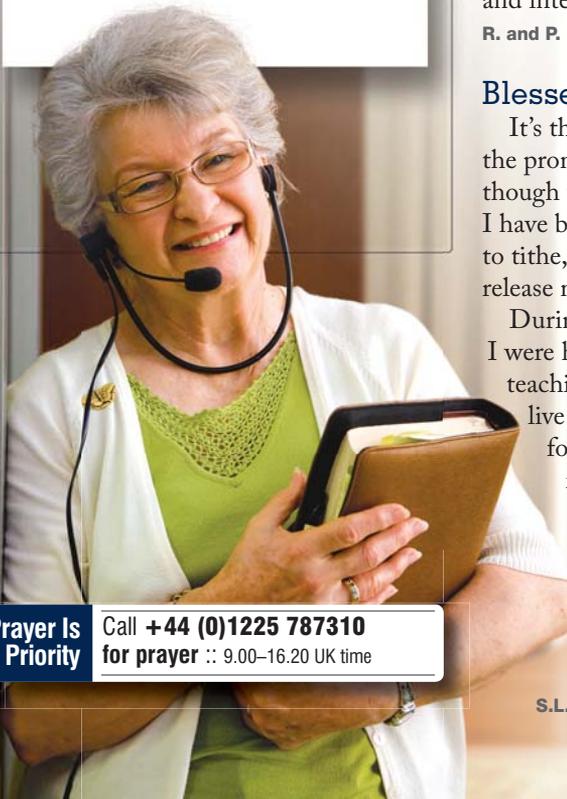
During 2009 up to the beginning of 2010, my family and I were hoping to find a new property to own. Through the teachings of your ministry I walked the area I wished to live in over and over again, releasing my faith and praying for God to provide us a new home. In January 2010, I received a call from your prayer team welcoming me as a Partner and asking if I needed prayer for anything. When I explained, he prayed and agreed for God to find us a property we could afford and cater for the five of us. Four weeks later we found that property. We now enjoy where we live and have security just as God promised in Psalm 91.

S.L. :: U.K.

## Blessed to Bless

I learned through KCM to meditate and speak the Word. I now have my own business and can help others. I went from almost losing my home to paying extra on my loan. My bank invited me to come to its anniversary celebration. My first thought was, *Wait, that's for people with money*. My second thought was, *Wait...I do have money!*

Cynthia :: Michigan



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## Delivered From Debt and Illness

I became a KCM Partner in autumn 2009. I had been a fairly ineffective Christian in many ways, but knew from the partnership DVD a friend had given me that the Word of God was so strong in Kenneth Copeland. I had to learn more. At the same time, my husband had also felt challenged to soak in the Word of God.

We purchased DVDs of the broadcast, and watched them many times and absorbed every bit of literature we could afford from KCM. We learned to have faith in God and speak His Word over every situation. We watched as thousands of pounds of debt were wiped out and God stayed the hand of the destroyer. We are now learning to speak out prosperity and blessings. We have also seen our 12-year-old healed of illness and completely off the medication she had been on for years.

We are so grateful to God for KCM. Your prayer department has been there for us and the teaching we have received has been totally God inspired. Thank you!

H.G. :: U.K.

## The Great Physician at Work

Just under two months ago I was diagnosed with a swelling on the brain that required surgery. I also received the *BVOV* newsletter about Jesus cursing the fig tree. I prayed the prayer over my brain, and in the spirit could clearly see Jesus and myself walking away smiling. The Holy Spirit told me I could ride with Him on eagles' wings through the whole situation...and that I must read the praises and promises given in the Word.

When I saw the surgeon, I told him I was a Christian and that I trusted in the Lord and in him also. He said God had sent me to the right place—I was thrilled and encouraged. But when the doctor said he would operate in four days, I told him I had no more private cover and no money for surgery. He told me not to be concerned—and he put me on his NHS list to operate as soon as possible. Days later, I had the operation and in those days I had peace—no worry or fear—I was riding on eagles' wings. Two hours after I came round in recovery, I was on the ward, sitting up having coffee and biscuits. My heart was bursting with praise and thanksgiving to God.

On the ward I prayed for other patients. My second night, a nurse came in going around the beds singing in the spirit...we spent nearly an hour talking about Jesus. She told me she sings over her patients every night. Four days later I was home with no pain or headache! I felt like I was in a bubble of love and that the favor of the Lord was upon me.

I am so built up and encouraged by *BVOV* and the letters from Gloria and Ken. Everything within me shouts yes when I read them and they have helped me so much during this time. Praise the Lord, all is well.

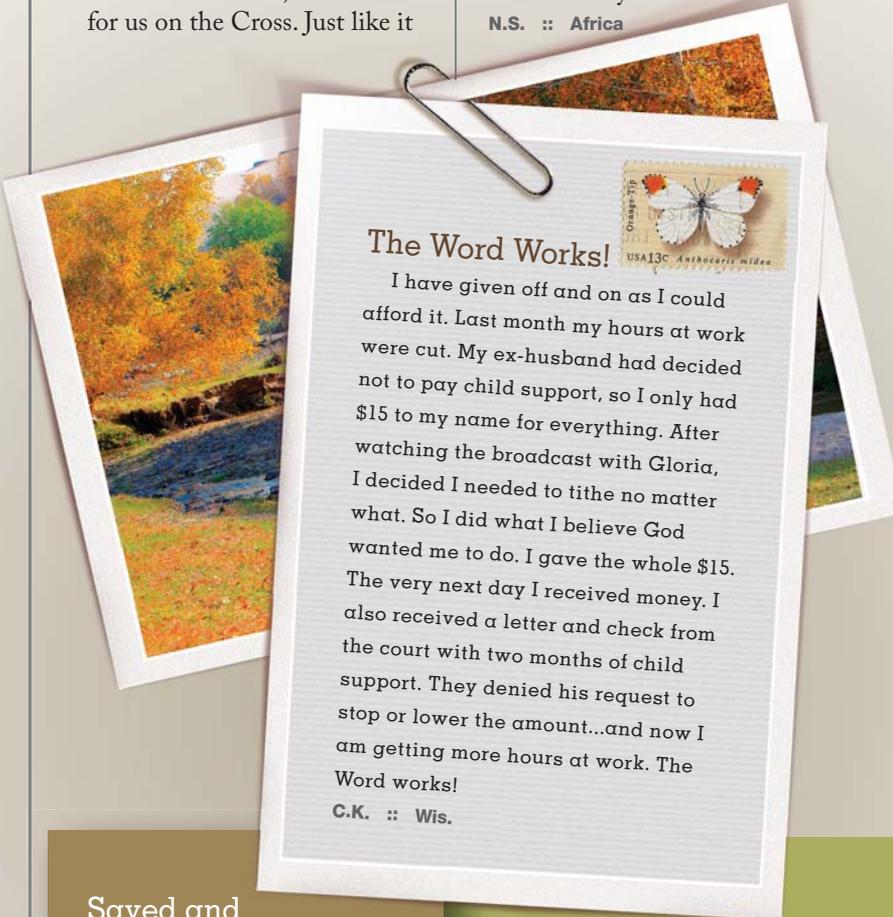
P.R. :: U.K.

## When I Grow Up, I Want to Be Your Partner

I have always watched your program every Sunday. You are the best pastors in the world. My mother is your Partner and when I grow up I also want to be your Partner. I go to Sunday school, I am 10 years old. I believe in the Lord our God, who died for us on the Cross. Just like it

says in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (*New King James Version*). Thank you for reading my letter. All my love.

N.S. :: Africa



### The Word Works!

I have given off and on as I could afford it. Last month my hours at work were cut. My ex-husband had decided not to pay child support, so I only had \$15 to my name for everything. After watching the broadcast with Gloria, I decided I needed to tithe no matter what. So I did what I believe God wanted me to do. I gave the whole \$15. The very next day I received money. I also received a letter and check from the court with two months of child support. They denied his request to stop or lower the amount...and now I am getting more hours at work. The Word works!

C.K. :: Wis.

## Saved and Rededicated

I'm a KCM Partner. Thank you for praying for my daughter and granddaughter—one got saved and the other one rededicated her life to God.

Betty Gordon :: Martinsville, Va.

## Our Homes Undamaged

Beverly took authority, in Jesus' Name, over the storm and nothing at our home nor any of our family members were touched. Several houses down the road from our son's home were damaged but not his. Praise God for His faithfulness to His Word.

Carl and Beverly Mathews  
Rolla, Mo.

## Your Letters Are Encouraging

I'm an inmate who is encouraged by the letters I receive from KCM. It's such a blessing every time I receive one—it brightens my day and has helped put the past behind me.

J.B. :: Utah

## Immediate Answer to Prayer

Thank you for your prayers. God has been so good. I prayed for employment and immediately the phone rang with someone offering me a job. Thank you so much. Everything is going to be All Right. I believe it.

Mrs. P. :: Canada



Have the pressures of living drained you dry? Don't despair. You'll find all the refreshing and power you need right there inside you, once you discover...



# LIFEFORCES

Your Inside Answer to Outside Pressure

The pressure is on. There's no question about it. We have more to do these days—and less time to do it in—than ever before.

Things, both in the natural world and in the world of the

spirit, are moving at a rapid-fire pace. It's exhilarating—and it also can be draining. In fact, if you don't learn how to handle the pressure, it can drain you completely dry.

I know because at one time in my life I let it happen to

From the *BVOV* Archives:

This classic teaching originally appeared in June 1992.

BY KENNETH COPELAND



# The real strength for living, the force that

literally keeps the body alive, comes from the spirit man. Your body has to have strength and life from your spirit being or it can't function.

me. I felt like I was the most tired man in the world back then. I was so tired that no amount of rest would help. I went to bed tired and I woke up tired. Every bone in my body ached. At times, Gloria had to physically help me out of bed.

I felt much like the Apostle Paul must have felt when he wrote in 2 Corinthians 1:8: "For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble...that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life."

At that time in his ministry, Paul was under so much pressure he despaired of life. That's what I did too. I got to the point where I wasn't even fighting to live anymore. I went to God and said, "I've had all this I can stand. I just want to come on home now."

What causes that kind of devastating fatigue? It took me a long time to find out, but when I did, I realized it was really very simple. My life force was being drained out. I was giving out more spiritual strength than I was putting back into myself. As a result, I developed a spiritual deficit that very nearly killed me.

Let me give you a word of warning. Don't believe the old adage that says what you don't know won't hurt you. God's Word says just the opposite. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge..." (Hosea 4:6). In the spirit realm, what you don't know can kill you.

## Guard Your Generator

Most people don't know, for example, where their life force resides. They don't know their spirits are the generators that provide energy for everything they do. So they fail to take care of those generators. They overload them and neglect them until they "burn out."

Let me illustrate. Say you have a 100-watt generator and you start plugging 10-watt bulbs into the circuit that generator supplies. You can put in 10 bulbs and they'll all burn brightly. Your generator will be running at full capacity, pulling all the load it's made to pull.

When you put the 11th bulb on line, the whole string will dim a little. If you put in a 12th bulb, they'll dim a little more. Put in 13 and you'll see smoke coming out of that generator. It will burn out because it's not equipped to produce 130 watts.

What happens then? All the lights go out. Not just the three extras you put in—all of them go out. The overload knocks out the whole string.

That's what is happening to many dedicated believers today. They're so busy ministering, so busy working *for* God, instead of *with* God, they're overloading their spiritual generators. They're putting out more than they're putting in.

Proverbs 4:23 warns us against such careless treatment of our spirits. It says, "Keep thy heart [or spirit] with all diligence; for out of it are the issues [or forces] of life." Most people don't understand the importance of obeying that verse. They think if they eat right and rest and exercise, they'll have all the strength they need. But they're wrong. The real strength for living, the force that literally keeps the body alive, comes from the spirit man.

Your body has to have strength and life from your spirit being or it can't function. When your spirit is strong, you can sleep a few hours, eat a good healthy meal, work out a little and you're ready to go again. But when your spirit is weak it doesn't matter how many hours you sleep or how many vegetables you eat, you just can't seem to get on top of things.

## The Answer Is Inside

When you're suffering from that kind of weakness, you need to follow Paul's example. He wrote, "Though our outward man perish, yet *the inward man is renewed day by day*" (2 Corinthians 4:16). In spite of all the pressure Paul was under, in spite of the fact that he had despaired of life, he found the strength not just to go on, but to go on in victory.

Where did he find that strength? In his inward man! In his own reborn spirit!

It doesn't matter how tired you are. It doesn't matter how depressed you feel. It doesn't even matter if you feel like you've been dragged through a knothole backward and you're so stressed out you can't take one more step. The answer to your situation is not "out there" somewhere. The answer is inside you.

Look again at what Paul said in 2 Corinthians 1:8-9 about his predicament: "We were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life: but we had the sentence of death in ourselves..." If you'll look up the Greek word translated *sentence* in that last phrase, you'll find the better translation is the word *answer*.

Now, actually a sentence is an answer. When someone robs a bank and they're sentenced to 10 years in prison, that 10 years is the legal answer to their crime. Keep that in mind when you read these verses and you'll realize how truly powerful they are.

“We were pressed out of measure...insomuch that we despaired even of life: but we had the sentence [or answer] of death in ourselves.”

When the pressure is so great it's about to kill you, where do you look for the answer? Inside your own reborn, Holy Ghost-filled spirit!

Your deliverance is inside you because that's where the Holy Spirit is. Your help is inside you because that's where your Helper is. The joy, the strength, the love...everything you've been looking for is right there inside your spirit.

### Fast and Feast

“Oh, but Brother Copeland, my spirit hasn't been in very good shape lately. I've been too tired to read my Bible or go to church. All I've had the energy to do is

lie around and watch television.” Well then, you're in trouble.

To get out of that trouble, start feeding the man of faith on the inside of you. Set aside some of the physical food you've been chewing on and sink your spiritual teeth into The Word of God.

Take a day or two to fast your body and feast your spirit!

Fasting helps give your spirit man a rest. All the physical operations of the body drain energy from the spirit. You have many involuntary physical functions, for example, that go to work every time you eat a meal. Those functions take a toll on the spirit. They drain your generator. When you fast, you give your spirit a break.

That's why it's good every once in a while to fast a few meals and just be quiet. Don't do anything. Don't put any pressure on. Just be still. Go get back in bed and turn your tapes on, read your Bible for a few hours and sip a little fruit juice.

Shut down all the physical functions you can and feed on The Word. You don't even *have* to pray. Just be still for a while and know that God is God. Let The Word rejuvenate your spirit man. When you do pray during that time, pray in the spirit. Relax in God's presence.

There's an old religious cliché that used to be especially popular among ministers. “We're just going to burn ourselves out for God,” they'd say. That's not what God wants. That's what the devil wants! He would love to see you just work yourself until you burn out and die. He'd kick up his heels at your funeral!

Don't give him that opportunity. Take the time to feed your inner man so you won't burn out. Keep feeding your spirit until you increase your strength. Burn brighter and stronger every year.

Be transformed from glory to glory by “beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18). Increase the wattage of your spiritual generator by spending time focusing on the Lord. Take your focus off the things of the world and look at Him. Begin to work with Him instead of just for Him.

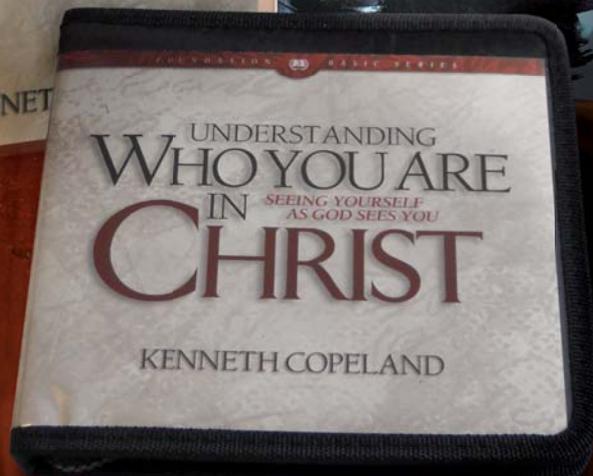
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## Not Just in Heaven—in You!

Where must you look to see Jesus? First, in The Word. And second, in your own spirit.

That second place is where most of us have trouble. We can see Jesus as great and magnificent in The Word of God. We can envision Him sitting grandly in heaven at the right hand of the Father. But we haven't developed our ability to see Him living inside us.

You must have that ability to survive the pressure in these last days. You'll need to be able to see Jesus within you just as clearly as you can see Him in The Word. You'll have to know—not just with your brain but with every fiber of your being—that He who is within you is greater than he that is in the world.

Never forget this: Once you truly see that the very Spirit and power of Jesus resides on the inside of you, nothing—no amount of debt, no disease, no problem of *any* kind—will be able to defeat you. When your inner image of the Jesus who lives in you becomes bigger than your image of the problems around you, you'll conquer any challenge the devil brings your way.

So get to work on that inner image. Begin to look inside yourself and say: "I am the righteousness of God. I have fellowship with my heavenly Father. I do walk with Him hand in hand and Jesus Christ is my blood brother. Through Him, I have an eternal blood covenant with Almighty God."

I know you're facing needs. I know you're facing difficulties. But I also know that 2 Peter 1:3 says God has already given you all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Jesus. Once you develop that inner knowledge of Him, those needs will be met and those difficulties overcome.

The answer to everything is inside you right now. Everything you'll ever need is in your spirit. All the money... all the health...all the strength...all the wisdom...all of it is in you because that's where Jesus is!

"We have this treasure in earthen vessels," Paul says, "that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (2 Corinthians 4:7).

## Pressure?...What Pressure?

I'm not telling you there won't be trouble on the outside. Certainly there will be trouble. As a matter of fact, Paul said he was troubled by circumstances on every side...but on the inside he was not distressed.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed" (verses 8-9).

Paul fixed his attention, not on external circumstances,

but on his inner man because that's where the excellency of God's power is. "We're perplexed," he said. That Greek word *perplexed* means "to be cornered by the circumstances." "But we're not in despair." In other words, even when it looks like there's no way out, I can find a way out if I look on the inside.

"Persecuted, but not forsaken." If I'm persecuted on the outside, how do I know God hasn't forsaken me? Because when I look on the inside, I can see Jesus saying, "I'll never leave you nor forsake you, even to the ends of the earth."

Perplexed...persecuted...cast down. There's no doubt about it, Paul was under more pressure than most of us today will ever experience. But he handled it...and so can you if you'll do these three things:

**1:** Remember where the pressure is coming from. (The outside!) And remember where your life force comes from. (The inside!)

**2:** Stop running on a spiritual deficit. Take time to feed your inner man with The Word of God. Fast your body if necessary and feast your spirit on The Word so your inner man can get stronger more quickly.

**3:** Focus on Jesus inside you until your inner picture of Him is bigger than the outside situations you're facing.

If you'll build up your spirit man in those three ways, when pressure comes it won't affect you like it used to. Problems that once knocked you flat won't even bother you anymore.

Think about it. A 5-foot, 140-pound bully who scared you silly when you were in second grade couldn't even make you blink now that you're 6 feet tall. You've grown. You're stronger now. That second-grade bully isn't a threat anymore.

That's what happened to Paul. He grew! He kept feeding on The Word until the image of Jesus within him grew bigger than the pressures around him. He grew up so much that just a few years after he wrote about being "pressed out of measure, so that we despaired even of life," he wrote "...I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:11, 13).

Don't let the bullies get you down. Just keep feeding your spirit man on The Word. Get strong on the inside. One of these days, when the circumstances are putting the squeeze on you and someone asks how you handle the pressure, you'll look at them with surprise and say, "Pressure?...What pressure?" **VICTORY**

# KCM UKRAINE

THE WORD  
WORKS AROUND  
THE WORLD!

NO DOUBT, TIMES ARE DIFFICULT IN EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD. BUT WITHOUT A DOUBT, GOD IS WORKING THE POWER OF HIS WORD IN THE NATIONS! HE IS SAVING, HEALING, DELIVERING, PROSPERING PEOPLE THE WORLD OVER. KCM'S PARTNERS AND FRIENDS ARE RECEIVING ALL GOD IS DOING, AND LIFTING THEIR VOICES EVERY DAY—WHEREVER THEY LIVE—DECLARING *JESUS IS LORD!* TO THEIR PARTS OF THE WORLD!

And in Eastern Europe, the faithful Partners and Friends of KCM Ukraine have even increased their giving in these hard economic times. Their faithfulness is bringing change to the countless lives around the world while they continue to receive all God has for them, trusting in the power of the Word to work in their lives.

### Investing the Word Into Partners

KCM began our ministry to the Russian-language people in 1995, with the opening of an office in Minsk, Belarus. In 1998, this ministry office relocated to L'viv, Ukraine, and subsequently two office buildings have been built to fully serve Partners in Eastern Europe and around the world.

Until 2004, KCM U.S. financially supported the entire ministry in Ukraine, investing as God directed in people in this part of the world. Since that time, with a tremendous increase in Partners and Friends and their faithful sowing of seed, the office has become self-supporting.

KCM Ukraine Director Volodymyr Kolesnyk and the entire Ukraine team are committed to investing their prayer, time and whatever God directs them to do to continue to get His Word into the hearts and lives of the people.

"We are in a constant search for ways to better serve our Partners and Friends," says Kolesnyk. "It includes a whole variety of things—from controlling operational expenses and being better stewards of the money entrusted to us, to embracing new technologies that keep us on the cutting

edge and allow us to reach new people in different areas and walks of life."

KCM Ukraine has played a major role in developing new churches all over the former USSR, and now those people who have "grown up" on KCM materials continue to plant new churches. The Word is working—just as Jesus said it would when we go into all the world, preach the gospel and make disciples in every nation (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15-20).

Today KCM Ukraine serves almost 26,000 Russian-speaking Partners and Friends around the world—304 of those are prison inmates. In 2000, we began mailing the Russian-language version of the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine every other month. Since October 2010, we have been mailing it to households in 58 different countries every month and each month, *BVOV* subscriptions increase by 350.

In February 2005, KCM Ukraine launched our Russian-language website [kcm.org.ua](http://kcm.org.ua) to give people fast and unhindered access to partnership benefits. Now Russian-speaking people all over the world can receive the good news about all God has provided for them, read *BVOV* and subscribe online, use Bible-study tools, participate in the Partner community, access the television broadcast and see the KCM product listing...all in one place...all in their own language!

In cooperation with KCM U.S., the Ukraine ministry office is the center for the television broadcast of *BVOV* in Russian, reaching potentially tens of millions of people in Eastern Europe and beyond.



—KCM Ukraine Director Volodymyr Kolesnyk

The KCM Ukraine family of Partners and Friends is a wonderful example of Kenneth Copeland's declaration that 'the Word works when it is put to work.'

26,000



Russian-speaking Partners and Friends

L'viv, Ukraine

## The Word Works to Change Lives

KCM Ukraine's investments into Russian-speaking people have made a tremendous difference in the lives of those we have touched.

Kolesnyk reports, "Partnership with KCM is definitely something special in the lives of people who connected with Brother Copeland through the *BVOV* broadcast. Partnership brings huge changes into the lives of people, gives them a sense of belonging and value. Many of our Partners testify that they don't know how their situations would have turned out had they not been with KCM. We never ask for money, making partnership with KCM a unique experience for those who want to know the heart of God and be part of the great move of the Spirit in these last days."

## Putting the Word to Work Through Partnership

KCM Ukraine and our Partners and Friends are connected with other Partners in ministry, expanding the impact of the working Word of God.

We financially support Bethlehem Christian Orphanage in Ukraine. Most recently we have helped with their building and installed a new heating system. Each year we pay expenses for the children to have a three-week vacation in Crimea at the Black Sea...an opportunity for them to improve their health through outdoor activities.

And, we could never report on the ever-increasing work of God's Word through KCM Ukraine without honoring Rick Renner Ministries and the Good News Association of Pastors and Churches.

Rick Renner Ministries is a strategic Partner ministry in this part of the world, constantly providing priceless support in distributing the *BVOV* broadcast throughout the former Soviet Union. The Good News Association always helps us in scheduling Partner meetings and pastors' conferences throughout the region.

Through partnership with other ministries, KCM Ukraine has been able to fulfill our ongoing goal of bringing our own Partners and Friends together to get to know one

Stories of changed lives come daily to the KCM Ukraine staff who give God all the praise and glory!

Just several years ago I was on drugs. My life was total ruin, and I didn't see a way out. I was flipping through the channels on TV and had constantly run into the *BVOV* broadcast. It attracted my attention as Brother Copeland was preaching the Word. But he was doing it differently from what I would expect. Since I had nothing to do, I began to watch *BVOV* on a regular basis just to make fun of Brother Copeland. I would laugh at him as he was preaching, and call him crazy. Today I'm saved, delivered from drugs and totally healed. My life is completely restored and for four years I've been a Partner with Kenneth Copeland, helping him to reach people like I used to be just a few years ago.

N.N. :: Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine

I had been a Partner with KCM for a while when I faced a great challenge. In an accident, my knee was broken in several places. Bones were fractured and doctors gave me no chances to come back to normal life, telling me I would never be able to walk on my own. During that difficult time, we contacted KCM Ukraine and asked for prayer. We also received encouragement through a Partner Letter and other materials sent to us from KCM. Sometimes I wanted to quit partnership because of the pain I was going through, but your ministry was constantly by my side and never left us. Today my knee is totally healed by the power of God. I'm walking normally and very grateful to KCM for your constant support.

N.K. :: Berdychev, Ukraine

another, and to meet the KCM staff members who love and serve them so faithfully.

Throughout the years, Kenneth and Gloria have met with Partners throughout the region in victory campaigns, Partner meetings and pastors' conferences.

Since 2009, KCM Ukraine has conducted seven regional Partner meetings across Ukraine, with more to come! Our Partners have been very grateful for these opportunities to have rich fellowship with other Partners and the KCM staff. Videoclips of ministry updates and activities give Partners a clear picture of how their participation is making a difference around the world.

Most recently, in 2010 we held a Partner Conference in Dnepropetrovsk with Pastors George and Terri Pearsons of Eagle Mountain International Church, Fort Worth, Texas. About 10 percent of our total number of Partners (including 35 pastors) attended the conference...coming from all over Eastern Europe—even from Israel. The conference was a wonderful time of fellowship, sharing the Word and corporate prayer with the Pearsons.

We are now planning more regional Partner meetings—going to old and new places, expecting to see many familiar faces, and meeting our new Partners.

"Regional Partner meetings will bring us to a new level of outreach to Partners and Friends in this part of the world," says Kolesnyk, "meeting our need of fellowship with one another and demonstrating the importance of their role in what KCM is doing around the world."

Kolesnyk shares his heart for the future of KCM Ukraine: "I want to see our Partners and Friends experience the anointing that is on this ministry in their own personal lives to bring them from victory to victory. I want to see and hear the message preached on every available voice in this part of the world. Nothing is more precious than the testimonies of the people whose lives have been changed and healed by the power of God. We and our Partners are honored and privileged to be part of all God is working through His Word—here and around the world!" **VICTORY**

# The Place of God's Glory and Power



Amazing things are happening before our very eyes!

Important things that fulfill biblical prophecy in regard to the Jews, the nations and the Church, which let us know Jesus is coming soon! | That's why it is important to pay close attention to how the nations are interacting with Israel. Almost every day, somewhere in the world, events are taking place that are crucial to God's plan. As we keep our eyes and ears open to what's going on around us, we see that it is time for the Church to fulfill her vital role in it all.

God's revealed plan for Israel is that in the last days He will gather the Jews back home, establishing them in their Promised Land. God's revealed plan for the Church is that she be a Glorious Church (Ephesians 5:27). Satan sees that his time is short, and he is working with great wrath against both plans (Revelation 12:12).

Now is the time for the Church to move into what God has planned for her in these days. His plan is for the Church to be the place of His glory. The glory of God is the presence of God manifest. The Church is to be filled with the power of His presence and to manifest that glorious power to the world. The world will have the opportunity to see Christ manifest through His Body. The Rapture will be the catching away of the Glorious Church.

## Under Attack

I recently had a very detailed dream about the war the devil has waged against the Church. The Lord brought to my remembrance attacks that had been made against the Body of Christ in diverse areas of the world—attacks on the underground church, attacks on youth organizations, attacks on families, attacks on ministries of all kinds. The attacks, which came from every source imaginable, were aimed at stealing, killing and destroying everything in their paths.

My dream started out being one about the power of "tongues" going all over the world, and the Lord connected it to the part about the attacks. When I awoke, the Holy Spirit spoke immediately and authoritatively to me:

*The weapons of your warfare are not carnal but they are*



*mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. He that speaks in an unknown tongue speaks not unto men but unto God; for no man understands him, howbeit in the spirit he speaks mysteries. (See 2 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Corinthians 14:2.)*

The dream ended with the Lord speaking to me: *The attack is against your power. If Satan is afraid of your power, your power is the way out. Jesus said, "You shall receive power after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you."*

What was the initial evidence of the *power* that the Holy Spirit brought to the Church on the day of Pentecost? They spoke with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:4).

As I lay there, continuing to process this dream in my heart, I realized, *If the attack is against our power then we are to increase the use of our power.* I knew immediately that I was to increase my praying in tongues.

I meditated on that dream for days and presented it to people I depend on for spiritual discernment for them to judge. They all told me it seemed to them it was of God.

## The Power of the Tongue Changes Things

In these last days, people ask, "How do we pray about Israel? How do we pray for the world? How do we pray for our nation? How do we pray about this and that situation?" The best way is to pray in tongues.

The Lord recently expanded my understanding of the power of the tongue—the power of words. I dug deeper into the Hebrew language about *words*. I knew that the

Hebrew word *devar* was most often translated as *word*. And I knew that it can also be translated as *thing*, or *matter*. But I saw more light when I discovered its root is a verb meaning *to arrange*.

God created man a unique being—a speaking spirit. God gave man the unique gift of intelligent speech, and that intelligent speech contains the power both to create and to arrange things. We arrange things when we speak. We arrange our lives, and we arrange the atmosphere around us—at home, our place of work, everywhere.

Neurologists have proven that the speech center in the brain drives and controls all the other systems in the body. In other words: *Your body's systems respond to what you say.*

In Genesis 11:6-9, the Bible states that at the tower of Babel all men had a common language. Through unity of language they could accomplish whatever they purposed to do. God said, “Now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.” They were planning to build a tower to reach heaven, but He confused their language and put a stop to their power to bring this “thing” into reality.

From the tower of Babel until the day of Pentecost, mankind could not speak in a unified language. But when the Lord sent the Holy Spirit into the lives of believers in Jerusalem, and they were all filled with the Spirit and spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance—once again men could speak in unity.

The Holy Spirit gave them words that spoke “the wonderful works of God” (Acts 2:11). That day God showed up and His presence in the power of those words changed the lives of 3,000 people. The Church was born into the earth! From that day on, the power of praying in tongues has changed things for people. As the young Church came together in unity, and spoke in agreement by the power of the Spirit, God showed up. People were saved, healed and delivered from every kind of oppression and attack of the enemy.

Nothing will be impossible for the Church when we speak in tongues because we are speaking the mysteries of God. Satan doesn't like it, and may orchestrate attacks against us, but he can't succeed if he tries to attack our unified speaking—our power.

### The Place of Power and the Glory of God

In my dream I had seen the power of the Word—the power of praying in tongues—going around the world, and with it was the glory of God. Since He gave me the dream, the Lord has made something very clear to me: *It is time for the glory of the Lord to be manifest in the Church of the Living God.* Not next year; not some other time. Now!

And it's happening in many places around the world—in places where Christians who are hungry for the presence

and glory of God are gathering in unity, like on the day of Pentecost.

In Europe, for instance, there is a group of Christians who, for one year, gathered and prayed for the glory of God to manifest—walking in love and unity and believing God. They knew their unity would be important to how they prayed. I was in a meeting with them when the glory of God appeared like a mist, and healings and miracles happened. Some I saw, some I heard about—all miracles!

And similar reports are coming from around the world.

People are hungry for God! They are praying in tongues, gathering in unity and expecting His glory to show up in their midst. The attacks of the enemy are being put down and his works are being destroyed. People's lives are being changed by the presence of His glory!

The world is waiting for God to show up in their circumstances.

The main message the Lord has given me to preach has been “The Glorious Church.” And I have preached hundreds of times and even written books about God's desire to reveal His glory in and through the Church. I continue to study and preach *the glory* and rejoice every time I see Him show up.

In these days, God has instructed me to teach the revelation of His glory from Paul's epistle to the Ephesians—a letter about our unity in Christ. It's a clear picture of what God's Glorious Church looks like.

### The Glorious Church

Today, God's plan and purpose for the Church is as crucial as it has ever been in its history. Since the day the Church was born into the earth, we have always been the people who have held the mighty weapons of spiritual warfare described in Ephesians.

The hour is come for the Glorious Church to come forth and take her place, and that will happen when we are in unity and speaking the same things by the power of the Spirit.

The Church is the place where God reveals Himself! The Church is the place God has built to unveil Himself to the world. It is the place where God lives in Christ. It is the place where God appears and changes lives. The Church is the place God created where He shows Himself and makes Himself known. The Church is the place of miracles!

Now is the time and we are the people. We are the Church—the place God created to make visible His glory and His power! **VICTORY**

Billye Brim is president and founder of Billye Brim Ministries aka Prayer Mountain in the Ozarks. For ministry materials and information write the ministry at P.O. Box 40, Branson, MO 65615; or call 417-336-4877. In Canada, write to Billye Brim Ministries, P.O. Box 20085, Kelowna, BC V1Y 9H2; or call 877-868-8470. Visit her website at [billyebrim.org](http://billyebrim.org).

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## Washington D.C. Victory Campaign: November 10-12

Hylton Memorial Chapel | 14640 Potomac Mills Road | Woodbridge, VA 22192

## Branson Victory Campaign: March 8-10

Faith Life Church | 3701 W. Highway 76 | Branson, MO 65616-3559

## Living Victory Faith Conference West Coast: April 13-14

Hilton Anaheim | 777 W. Convention Way | Anaheim, CA 92802

## Europe Victory Campaign: May 10-12

Excel Arena | One Western Gateway | Royal Victoria Dock | London E16 1XL

## Living Victory Faith Conference Pacific Rim: June 15-16

Word of Life Church | 544 Queen St. | Honolulu, HI 96813

## Southwest Believers’ Convention: July 2-7

Fort Worth Convention Center | 1201 Houston St. | Fort Worth, TX 76102

## Great Lakes Victory Campaign: August 9-11

U.S. Cellular Arena | 400 W. Kilbourn Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53203

## Living Victory Faith Conference East Coast: September 14-15

Hilton Orlando | 6001 Destination Parkway | Orlando, FL 32819

## Word Explosion: October 11-13

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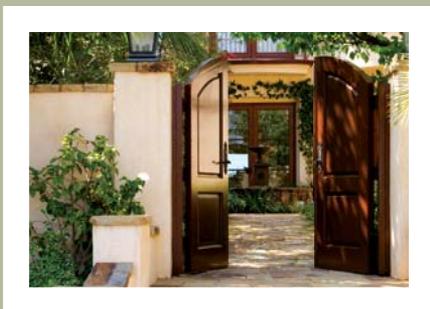


BY GLORIA  
COPELAND

# Taking Refuge

## IN THE SECRET PLACE

Ever since Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, this world has been a dangerous place.



But these days, it seems more dangerous than ever. People in our generation are facing threats that just a few decades ago were unthinkable.

I remember when the reality of that really dawned on me. It was a few days after the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, 2001. People everywhere were unnerved, wondering what might happen next. Ken and I were preaching in a meeting in England at the time and one morning I picked up one of the British newspapers. Right there on the front page was an article about the threat of biological warfare. It listed all the different plagues and diseases that could be used by terrorists as weapons to bring destruction on whole cities and nations. It described the various symptoms of those plagues. It told you how you'd feel if certain germs invaded your body and how long it would take you to die.

It was an extremely unedifying article!

Back then, the idea of people actually manufacturing plagues was new to me. I'd heard, of course, how diseases like the bubonic and black plagues have,

*When we trust God as our refuge, we walk  
around enclosed by the Spirit of the living,  
Almighty God!*



throughout history, devastated great portions of the earth's population. But I could hardly believe that anyone would actually start such pandemics on purpose. As if we don't have enough problems in the world already!

But to tell you the truth, I didn't spend one moment worrying about it, because my next thought was this: Thank God for the 91st Psalm!

The protection God promises in that Psalm applies just as much to man-made plagues as it does to any other kind. It will prevail against any weapon of mass destruction the devil can come up with. It can keep us secure no matter how crazy this world becomes.

"Oh, Gloria, do you really believe that?" someone might ask.

I most certainly do. I believe every word God says in Psalm 91 (and the rest of the Bible too, for that matter). I believe with all my heart that if I dwell "in the secret place of the most High [and] shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty," if "I say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust," then *surely*—absolutely, for sure, without a doubt—"He shall deliver [me] from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence" (Psalm 91:1-3).

What exactly is the snare of the fowler? It's any trap, hazard or harm that Satan might throw in our path.

What's a noisome pestilence? It's any damaging or deadly sickness, disease, plague or substance that has ever existed in the past or will ever exist in the future.

When you think about it, just those two phrases offer us all the protection we'll ever need. They cover every kind of danger we could possibly encounter. But even so, Psalm 91 doesn't stop there.

It goes on to tell us that when we're under God's protection, we will "not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day" (verse 5). We don't have to lie awake at night worrying about what might be lurking out there in the darkness, we can sleep in peace. If we or our loved ones are serving in the military, we don't have to be afraid of arrows or bullets or missiles or grenades or IEDs. We don't have to fret about natural disasters like fires, earthquakes, tornados, tsunamis, storms, or any other kind of "destruction and sudden death that surprise and lay waste at noonday" (verse 6, *The Amplified Bible*).

As massive and destructive as such things might be, God can get us through them all in perfect safety. He can surround us with His power so that, as verse 7 says, even if "a thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."

Insurance companies like to claim they can keep you covered. But, really, the best they can do is help you pick up the pieces financially after the damage has been done. God does far more for us than that. He covers us in advance and stops the destruction before it reaches us. He surrounds us with His power so that we escape even the most threatening situations unharmed.

As Psalm 91:4 says, "His truth and His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler" (*AMP*). The word *shield* in Hebrew refers to an apparatus that protects you from the front and on both sides. The word *buckler* refers to armor that covers a soldier from all angles. Hebrew scholars say that when you have a buckler you are protected from the north, south, east and west, above and beneath.

If you think that kind of protection sounds too good to be true, all you have to do is keep reading and you'll see that Psalm 91 promises it again and again. It says, for example, that "because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling" (verses 9-10).

The word *refuge* means "a tent or a covering." It's something that encloses you. Think of it! When we trust God as our refuge, we walk around enclosed by the Spirit of the living, Almighty God!

We're like the children of Israel just before their Exodus from Egypt. People around them were dying by the multitudes from plagues. People's financial fortunes were being devastated by disaster. Catastrophes were happening on all sides. But God shielded the Israelites so completely that when He brought them out of Egypt, they had an abundance of "silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes" (Psalm 105:37).

### It's Still Happening Today

Right after the attack on 9/11, our ministry offices received many testimonies from people who'd experienced that kind of divine protection. Many who worked in or

near the Twin Towers reported that the Lord spoke to their hearts in advance and told them not to go in. Because they obeyed, they weren't there that day.

One man who did go to work was standing in front of one of the buildings when the first plane hit. He saw that it was on fire and wanted to go in and help people but the Holy Spirit warned him not to do it. *Go to the subway tunnel instead*, He said. After a brief hesitation, the man heeded the Lord's instructions and ducked into the nearby tunnel. Just as he did, an explosion blew out the front door of the Tower—right where he'd been standing a minute before.

Another believer who was there when the Towers fell reported that in the midst of all the chaos he simply started running toward home. He said that as he ran he felt like he was being carried along in a protective bubble. The air around him was so full of smoke, ash and filth from the explosions that he could hardly see where he was going. Yet when he got home, there wasn't a single spot of dirt on his white shirt. It was still pristine.

Why? Because he was covered in the armor of the Lord! He was enclosed in the refuge of the Most High!

These days, more than ever, we all need that kind of supernatural protection. But here's what we must remember. According to Psalm 91, it's only guaranteed to those who dwell in the secret place of the Most High and abide under the shadow of the Almighty. *To dwell or abide* means "to stay somewhere, to remain or live there."

The secret-place dweller is the person who lives close to God. He doesn't serve God for a few days and then go back into the world and live like the devil. He doesn't expect God to chase him around with His shadow while he ignores the Word and says, "I think I'll go here and do this. I know it's not right but I want to do it anyway."

No, as 1 John 3:24 says, the abider is the person who keeps God's commandments. God's shadow is over the obedient. It's over the person who lives his life according to the Word. If you're obeying, you're abiding.

"But what if I haven't been obeying?" you might ask.

Don't panic. Just repent and receive God's forgiveness for whatever isn't right in your life. Say, "Father, I know this thing isn't pleasing to You. Forgive me for it. I'm turning away from it right now."

God is wonderfully merciful. He won't berate and criticize you for what you've done wrong. On the contrary, 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse

us from all unrighteousness."

This isn't religion, it's reality: The closer we walk with God, the better our lives become. The more we do what He tells us to do (and we can study the Bible so we know what we're supposed to do), the more of God's blessings we enjoy and the less sickness and disease and harm we experience.

It's up to us how we live. If we want to live free, we can do it by believing and obeying God's Word. If we choose not to do that but to live like the world, we'll have to take our knocks with the world—and the world has a lot of hard knocks. Personally, I'd rather avoid them. I'd rather live under the shadow of the Almighty and be blessed.

### Give the Word Some Serious Attention

"But walking with God is hard!" someone might say. "I don't know that much about Him."

Then, get a Bible and find out about Him. If you already have a Bible but you haven't had time for it, make time. After all, the Bible is the most important thing in your life! It's God's Word. It tells you what He's promised. If you don't know what God has said, you can't believe and receive all the good things He's provided for you.

"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). So give God's Word some serious attention! Do more than just glance at it now and then. Get it in your heart. Keep it before your eyes and in your ears until it comes alive in you.

Jesus said, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7). The Word that abides in us is the Word that talks to us. It's the Word that's alive in our hearts. The abiding Word enlightens us as we go about our daily lives. It guides us in times of decision. It instructs us in times of crisis.

The more we sensitize our hearts to God's voice by meditating on His written Word, the easier it is for us to pick up on the promptings of His Spirit. If we're on our way to a place where danger awaits us, we'll be able to hear the inner warning like many believers did on 9/11, *Don't go there today*.

Not only will the Word that abides in us help us hear the Lord, it will change what we say. According to Matthew 12:34, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Faith talks! Unbelief talks! Fear talks!

If we fill our hearts with God's Word of protection, we won't say what the rest of the world is saying. We

won't rattle on about how scared we are of all the dangerous stuff that's going on around us these days. We'll do just the opposite. We'll be like the man in Psalm 91 and "say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust" (verse 2).

What we say is vital. Jesus left no doubt about it. He taught us that "whosoever shall say...and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith" (Mark 11:23). You can do what you want, but I decided a long time ago that I like to live in peace so I'm going to talk peace. I like to live in blessing so I'm going to talk blessing. I like to live under God's protection so I'm going to talk protection.

God's part is to bring those things to pass, my part is to say them—and I'm determined to do my part because Psalm 91 assures me that as I do, *He will give his angels charge over me, to keep me in all my ways. They shall bear me up in their hands, lest I dash my foot against a stone* (Psalm 91:11-12).

Actually, I believe that's what happened to the man who ran home through the chaos in the streets without soiling his white shirt as the Towers fell Sept. 11. The angels of God surrounded him. They lifted him up in their hands and kept him covered until he got home.

"Gloria, do you think God would do that for me?"

Of course, He would.

God is a good Father! Just like a good earthly father wants to protect his precious children, God wants to protect you. He doesn't want you to suffer harm. He doesn't want you to die young. He wants to deliver you from all evil and fulfill the full number of your days.

God loves you...and if you'll simply set your heart on Him, He will gladly say about you what He said about the secret-place abider in Psalm 91:14-16: "Because he hath

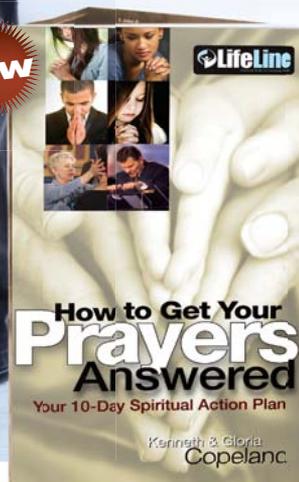
set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation." **VICTORY**

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# OCTOBER

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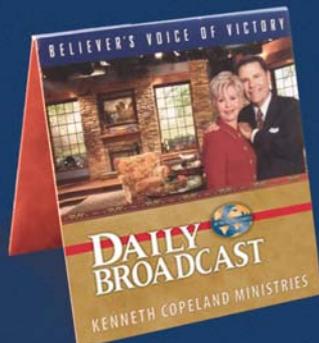
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**Sunday, Oct. 23**  
**Big Things Happen When You Walk in Love**  
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**Sunday, Oct. 30**  
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