



VICTORY



by
*Melanie
Henry*

For more than eight years, **Peggy Joyce Ruth** had been trapped in a life of torment, battling fearful and negative thoughts at every turn. When she heard Kenneth Copeland teach that she could use her spiritual authority to exchange those thoughts for positive and victorious ones, Peggy became...

Free from TERROR!

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**YOU CAN
LIVE A
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Above the
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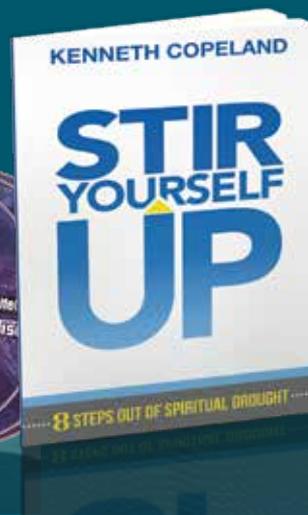
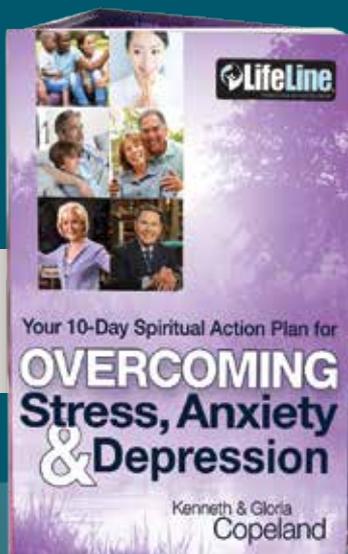
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Riding High Above the Storm

by *Kenneth Copeland*

Because you're a born-again child of Almighty God, you can rise above the circumstances of life. When dark clouds gather on the circumstantial horizon, just lock your wings upward by faith in the Name of Jesus, and take your place, seated with Him in heavenly places.



Turning the Tables on Terror

by *Melanie Henry*

For eight long years, Peggy Joyce Ruth was tormented every day. So desperate she felt like giving up, she walked outside one dark night, looked up toward heaven and made a heart cry to the Lord: "God...if You're still there, find me and bring me back."



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"God promises that if you'll keep His Word in front of you, if you'll put it first place in your life, you'll know how to prosper and succeed in all you do."

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by
Kenneth
Copeland

RIDING HIGH

above the Storm

When someone asks you how you've been doing lately, there's one response I hope you'll never give. I hope you'll never say that you're doing the best you can "under the circumstances."

As a believer, you

ought to banish that phrase from your vocabulary forever. You don't ever have to be *under* the circumstances. You don't have to just hunker down under their onslaught, like the rest of the world does, and do your best to make it through.

Because you're a born-again child of Almighty God, you can rise above them. You can get up over them as Proverbs 18:10 says: "The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." (Or, as the cross-reference in my Bible



puts it, “the righteous run into it and are lifted aloft.”)

What is it like to be lifted aloft, so that you’re above instead of under negative circumstances? It’s like being an eagle during a storm. When the winds start to howl and the clouds start to gather, he doesn’t flap around in the midst of it all, trying to fight his way through. He doesn’t hide in his nest and just try to survive. He soars upward. Without even having to work at it, he locks his wings in place and rides the wind currents higher and higher until he finds himself on top of the storm.

Then he sets up a holding pattern and relaxes. He flies around enjoying the scenery, and when the storm subsides he swoops down and goes back home.

As believers, you and I can do essentially the same thing. We can lock our spiritual wings upward by faith in the Name of The LORD and ride in victory over every storm.

This is actually one of the first things Jesus taught His disciples after His resurrection. In what we’ve come to call the Great Commission, He said: “**These signs shall follow them that**

When I ask a congregation, “What is God’s commandment to the Church?” they tell me it’s to love one another. But actually that’s just the second half of our commandment. The first part is this: Believe on Jesus’ Name!

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, emphasis mine).

Although those are thrilling words, Jesus wasn’t necessarily smiling when He said them. He wasn’t just having a sweet chat with His disciples. On the contrary, according to the previous verses, He’d just upbraided them for refusing to believe the reports that He’d been raised from the dead. He’d just chewed them out for their unbelief.

He did it lovingly, of course, but I’m sure His eyes were flashing because this was serious. He was giving His troops their marching orders; and central to those orders was this command: “Believe in My Name.”

Did the Disciples Get the Message?

Yes, they did. Acts 3 confirms it.

It tells about a time not long after the Holy Spirit was poured out on Pentecost, that Peter and John encountered a crippled man at the Temple gate. When the man looked at them expecting to receive something, Peter said to him, “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk” (verse 6). Sure enough, a sign followed

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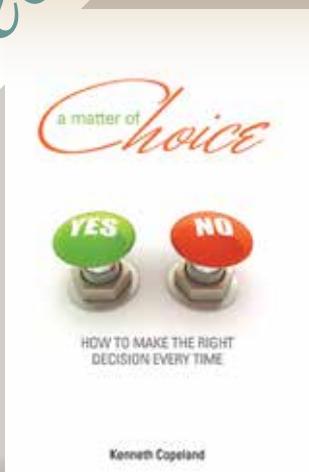


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just like Jesus said it would. As Peter took the man by the hand and lifted him up: “Immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them [Peter and John] into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God” (verses 7-8).

How did Peter and John know what to do in that situation? They remembered the upbraiding Jesus had given them. They were thinking, *I'm not going to get chewed out again over this. I've been told what to do and I'm going to do it. I'm going to believe in and use the Name of Jesus.*

Truth be told, they didn't really know anything else to do. They didn't yet have much additional revelation. They'd just been baptized in the Holy Spirit a few days. They couldn't read 1 Corinthians and study the verses about the gifts of healings and the workings of miracles because the New Testament hadn't yet been written.

At that point in their ministries, Peter and John didn't even know much about the new birth. They just knew that unless they wanted to see fire in Jesus' eyes again, they'd better use that Name!

“Yeah, but they were apostles,” someone might say. “They had a special anointing. That's why they were able to heal that man.”

No, it's not. Peter himself said so.

He told the people at the Temple, who stared at him in wonder as the former cripple leaped around praising God, “Why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness? Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes” (verses 12, 16, *New Living Translation*).

Later, when the Jewish religious leaders asked about the incident, Peter said the same thing to them.

“By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth...doth this man stand here before you whole. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be

saved” (Acts 4:10, 12).

What's more, it wasn't just Peter who attributed the man's healing to the power of Jesus' Name. John did too. In fact, in 1 John 3:23, he wrote: “This is [God's] commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another.”

Often, when I ask a congregation, “What is God's commandment to the Church?” they tell me it's to love one another. But actually that's just the second half of our commandment. The first part is this: Believe on Jesus' Name!

What's So Great About Jesus' Name?

First of all, He inherited it from Almighty God. That means it's God's own Name. It's the Name that in the Old Testament is translated *LORD* (as in Proverbs 18:10, “The name of the LORD is a strong tower”). It's the Name that was considered by the Israelites to be so powerful and holy that they revered it too much to say it and eventually the proper pronunciation was lost.

This is the most awesome, powerful Name that exists, and Jesus obtained it by inheritance. It was conferred on Him after He purged our sin through the work of redemption, when He “sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high,” and God said to Him, “Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom” (Hebrews 1:3, 8).

“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth” (Philippians 2:9-10).

Just think of it! The Name Jesus inherited, the Name God conferred on Him after His ascension to the throne of grace, is God's own divine Name. Therefore the only way to measure its greatness and grandness is by measuring the power of God Himself, and that can't be done.

God's power is immeasurable—and every bit of it is in His Name!

That's shouting ground right there, but it's not the whole story. According to Romans 8:17, you and I, as believers, are "heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ," so that Name belongs to us just as much as it belongs to Jesus. It belongs to every born-again child of God because, as the Apostle Paul said, it's the Name "of whom the whole family [of God] in heaven and earth is named" (Ephesians 3:15).

This is the reason the Church is referred to in Scripture as the bride of Christ. We've been covenanted to Him in a holy matrimony before God Almighty and, just as a bride takes the name of her husband in an earthly marriage, we've been given Jesus' Name.

Most Christians haven't fully grasped this yet. They might have a little revelation of it. They might understand that they've been authorized to use Jesus' Name at certain times to do the work of God. But that's just the tip of the iceberg. The truth is, we've not only been authorized to use His Name but we've been named after Him.

His Name is our name!

We have as much right to it as my wife, Gloria, has to the name Copeland. She doesn't have any qualms about using that name. She wields it with the same authority and confidence that I do. She can write it on a check, take it to the tellers at the bank, and they'll smile and give her every last dime in my account. Why? It's her name and her account as much as it is mine.

The Devil Can't Tell the Difference

The authority that's been invested in us as believers is beyond our wildest imaginations. Because we have God's Name, we not only have the right to speak for God, we have the right to speak by His grace *as God*. In fact, when we speak His Word by faith the devil can't tell the difference between us and God Himself.

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Sept. 17-19

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Nov. 12-14

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Brooklyn Park, Minn. : Aug. 20-21

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion 2015
Living Word Christian Center
9201 75th Ave. N. | Brooklyn Park, MN 55428
1-763-315-7000 | lwcc.org

Newark, Texas : Aug. 23

Eagle Mountain International Church
14355 Morris-Dido Road | Newark, TX 76071
1-817-252-2900 | emic.org

Johnstown, Ohio : Sept. 5-6

Faith Life Church
2407 Beech Road | Johnstown, OH 43031
1-740-964-7400 | faithlifechurch.org

Forest Park, Ill. : Sept. 14

2015 International Faith Conference
Living Word Christian Center
7600 W. Roosevelt Road | Forest Park, IL 60130
1-708-697-5000 | billwinston.org or livingwd.org

Toronto, Ontario : Sept. 25-26

Catch the Fire Toronto | Cost: \$120
272 Attwell Drive | Toronto, ON M9W 6M3
Canada | 1-416-674-8463
ctfconference.com/ctf-2015-toronto

Rossville, Ga. : Oct. 1-3

River of Life Church
377 Direct Connection Drive | Rossville, GA 30741
1-706-891-2120 | rolc.org

Riverside, Calif. : Oct. 18

My Father's House Church
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1-951-273-9689 | mfhci.org

Branson, Mo. : Oct. 28-Nov. 2

Autumn Assembly of Prayer
Oak Ridge Boys Theater
464 State Highway 248 | Branson, MO 65616
1-417-336-4877 | billyebrim.org

Terri Copeland Pearsons

Newark, Texas : Sept. 17-19

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Round Rock, Texas : July 31-Aug. 2

Abundant Faith Church | 3 Indian Meadows
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One of the ministries that you help support is **Passion for Souls International**, a UK based ministry that provides 3-day teaching seminars for pastors and leaders in regions where poverty is so great that there is a need to pay for the venue and also to feed the many delegates. The focus is to equip and strengthen those in ministry by teaching them to have faith in God's promises and encounter His fathering love and power. Ministry founder Kim

and the team around him have witnessed great change in those that attend: wounded hearts

are healed and precious callings and destinies restored. With the help of their financial supporters it is possible for

them to go into these poorer nations of Asia for which they are deeply grateful.

Earlier this year the team made mission trips to the Philippines and Nepal, reaching over 1,090 church leaders. Continuing with the call later this year Kim will head out to Malaysia on further two mission trips where they will meet and share with indigenous leadership in West Malaysia and also East Sarawak.

Their mission to Nepal was especially significant this year as it preceded the devastating earthquake throughout the country which left many without vital support including food, water and shelter. Relationships formed on the ground allowed KCM

Europe to channel much needed funds to church contacts in the area to help with disaster relief.



For Kim and his wife Jean personally, there has been great joy in being able to contribute to the spiritual development of nations, following their combined 48 years of serving Kenneth Copeland Ministries in the KCM European Office. This service began back in 1982, when their lives were transformed following their discovery of the life-changing teaching of the Word by Kenneth and Gloria. ▼

Praise God as together we are changing lives around the world from the top to the bottom and all the way around.



When he sees us coming his way, dressed in the spiritual armor described in Ephesians 6—wearing the belt of truth and breastplate of righteousness, our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, holding up the shield of faith, and looking at him through the faceplate of the helmet of salvation—the devil doesn't know who's in that armor. He just knows he's looking at God's fighting suit. So as far as he's concerned it's either the Father God Himself or His Son, The LORD Jesus Christ.

"But Brother Copeland," you might say, "God and Jesus are perfect. I'm not. Sometimes I sin or make mistakes. Won't the devil see that and realize it's just me inside that armor?"

Not if the moment you sin you immediately repent and run to the throne of grace. Jesus is always there and He's faithful and just to forgive and to cleanse you of all unrighteousness—instantly, right on the spot. There's nothing the devil can do about it, either, because your righteousness isn't based on your own perfect performance. It's a gift from your heavenly Father who sent Jesus to be made "sin for us...that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

The New Testament leaves no doubt about this. It tells us that we, as believers, qualify to wear God's armor and wield His authority not because we never miss it, but because by faith in Jesus we're *in Him*. He's the head and we're the body.

Even in a natural sense, the head and the body don't have two different identities. When I walk into a room no one ever says, "Here comes Brother Copeland and his body." No, the head and the body are one. They have the same identity and the same name.

That's how it is with us and Jesus. We're one. We have the same authority He does. We wear the same armor, and we have the same all-powerful Name!

Hebrews 2:11-14 says it this way:

For both he that sanctifieth and they

who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.... Behold I and the children which God hath given me. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.

At times, when you put on the armor of God, you may feel like it's too big for you. You may be aware that you have some growing to do spiritually before you fill it out. But that doesn't change the fact that, according to those verses, The LORD Jesus Christ has called you His brother. You're born of God just as surely as He is. You and He have the same DNA. Spiritually, you're identical twins.

It's no wonder the devil is terrified of you. It's no wonder he flees when you resist him!

You bear the Name of the One who conquered him in awesome, awful combat in the pit of hell. You bear the Name of the One who destroyed him and stripped him of his authority. The all-victorious One who, "having spoiled principalities and powers...made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:15).

Don't you ever let the devil threaten you again. Don't you ever let him keep you "under the circumstances." When dark clouds gather on the circumstantial horizon, just lock your wings upward by faith in the Name of Jesus. Take your place, seated with Him in heavenly places—"Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named" (Ephesians 1:21)—and ride high above every storm. ⑦



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points to get you there

Riding Above the Storm

You don't ever have to be *under* the circumstances. You don't have to just hunker down under their onslaught, like the rest of the world does, and do your best to make it through. You can ride in victory over every storm. Here are some points to get you there.

- 1** Take refuge in the Name of the One who is far greater than any storm. Proverbs 18:10: "The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."
- 2** Believe in that Name and use it to exercise authority over the devil. Mark 16:17: "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils...."
- 3** Remember that this is not optional, God has commanded you to do it. First John 3:23: "This is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another."
- 4** The Name Jesus inherited through His work of redemption is God's own Name and there is none greater. Philippians 2:9-10: "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth."
- 5** As a joint heir with Christ, that Name belongs to you just as surely as it belongs to Jesus. Ephesians 3:14-15: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."



Turning *the* Tables *on* Terror

Morning sunlight streamed through the window as Peggy Joyce Ruth hummed while feeding her 6-month-old daughter. Looking up, she saw her husband, Jack, standing in the doorway, his eyes pools of liquid love. Crossing the room he leaned down to kiss both his girls. :: "Have a good day." :: "You, too. We miss you already."

*by
Melanie
Henry*





The rocking chair squeaked as Peggy Joyce leaned her head back and closed her eyes. At 22, she didn't see how life could get any better. She wasn't naïve enough to think everyone had grown up in a family as wonderful as hers—or married a man as kind and loving as Jack. There had never been a cross word between them all the time they'd dated and they still held that record after 2½ years of marriage.

"Thank You, Lord," she murmured, kissing the soft fluff on the baby's head.

Planning her day, Peggy Joyce remembered the Buddhist woman who'd moved into an apartment behind them. She'd never done door-to-door witnessing, but shouldn't she at least go tell the woman about Jesus?

Later that morning, Peggy Joyce knocked on the woman's door. "Hello," she said, introducing herself. "I'm your neighbor and I'd like to tell you about Jesus."

"Come in," the woman said stepping aside. "I'll be glad to listen to what you have to say, so long as you give me equal time."

A chill rippled up the back of Peggy Joyce's neck as she stepped into the apartment. It was dark, lit only by candles and incense. Stumbling over her words, she told the woman about Jesus.

"Now it's my turn," the woman said. As soon as she spoke, darkness fell over Peggy Joyce's mind. It felt as though her brain had short-circuited, blitzing in every direction. *I've got to get out of here!*

Somehow she got out of the apartment and walked through the park, struggling without success to clear her mind and get it to focus. For the first time in her life, Peggy Joyce felt paralyzed with fear.



Jack and Peggy Joyce Ruth, 1959

Thank God that pastor had given us Kenneth Copeland's tapes!... Just when God told me to exchange my negative and fearful thoughts, Brother Copeland came along and taught me how to do it.

—Peggy Joyce

AUGUST

		Old Testament	New Testament
Sat	1	Job 12-13	Rev. 5
Sun	2	Job 14-15	Rev. 6
Mon	3	Job 16-17	Rev. 7
Tue	4	Job 18-19	Rev. 8
Wed	5	Job 20-21	Rev. 9
Thu	6	Job 22-24	Rev. 10-11
Fri	7	Job 25-26	Rev. 12
Sat	8	Job 27-28	Rev. 13
Sun	9	Job 29-30	Rev. 14
Mon	10	Job 31-32	Rev. 15
Tue	11	Job 33-34	Rev. 16
Wed	12	Job 35-36	Rev. 17
Thu	13	Job 37-39	Rev. 18-19
Fri	14	Job 40-41	Rev. 20
Sat	15	Job 42; Prov. 1	Rev. 21
Sun	16	Prov. 2-3	Rev. 22 Psalms
Mon	17	Prov. 4-5	Ps. 1
Tue	18	Prov. 6-7	Ps. 2
Wed	19	Prov. 8-9	Ps. 3
Thu	20	Prov. 10-12	Ps. 4-5
Fri	21	Prov. 13-14	Ps. 6
Sat	22	Prov. 15-16	Ps. 7
Sun	23	Prov. 17-18	Ps. 8
Mon	24	Prov. 19-20	Ps. 9
Tue	25	Prov. 21-22	Ps. 10
Wed	26	Prov. 23-24	Ps. 11
Thu	27	Prov. 25-27	Ps. 12-13
Fri	28	Prov. 28-29	Ps. 14
Sat	29	Prov. 30-31	Ps. 15
Sun	30	Eccl. 1-2	Ps. 16
Mon	31	Eccl. 3-4	Ps. 17

Down Into Darkness

"I felt as though I was going crazy standing in that woman's apartment and I don't remember a single word she said," Peggy Joyce recalls. "There was no history of mental illness in our family and I hoped that my mind would just snap back to normal, but it didn't. I tried to hide from Jack what was happening to me and made an appointment with our pastor. He listened to my story but had no explanation for what I was experiencing. He simply told me to stay busy.

"I took him at his word and stayed very busy, but it didn't help. A week later, I called to make another appointment with him. I was told he'd already left for the day, but I lived close to the church and saw him slip out the back door a while later. He looked in every direction and then ran for his car. I was devastated. If a pastor couldn't help me, what hope did I have? I loved the Lord and knew my salvation was real, but doubts bombarded me. I wondered if I was in the wrong religion.

"My muddled mind came up with a plan. I would go to the library and read about all the religions, disproving them until only Christianity was left. I must have been acting strange because after one of my trips the librarian called Jack and told him something was wrong with me. He told me not to go back. I didn't, but every time I visited my mother I hid an encyclopedia in the diaper bag. I got so bad that I couldn't be left alone. Each morning before work, Jack took our daughter and me to stay with my mother. She did all she knew to do, but nothing helped."

After months passed with no improvement, Jack located a Christian psychiatrist in Fort Worth, Texas. He counseled with Peggy Joyce for quite a

while before suggesting shock treatments. Grasping at straws, they agreed. The shock treatments caused her to lose her short-term memory. When her memory returned she was as tormented as ever.

Desperate Times

For two more years the nightmare dragged on as Peggy Joyce gave birth to a son. Depression and fear continued to plague her. Now at his wits' end, Jack took her back to the psychiatrist and said, "Look, I don't care how much it costs—I'll pay you. Just get her well."

"No one knows the cause of mental illness so all we can do is treat the symptoms," the doctor explained. "She'll be on antidepressants the rest of her life and she may end up institutionalized."

For the first time, Jack felt panic rise in him. He'd put his faith in doctors and they had no answers. Thinking about the situation night and day, he finally came to the only conclusion he could live with. He'd married her for better or for worse. The first few years had been better than his wildest imagination; this was worse. His goal was to take care of her for the rest of her life and keep her out of an institution.

For eight long years, Peggy Joyce was tormented every day. So desperate she felt like giving up, she walked outside one dark night, looked up toward heaven and made a heart cry to the Lord.

"God, I've searched for You everywhere I know to search. If You're still there, find me and bring me back."

The Light of the Lord

Two days later, Jack announced that he was going to New Orleans for a business seminar. Peggy Joyce couldn't

be left alone so she went with him. The first night on the road they stayed with Jack's best friend from high school and his wife.

"We have so much to tell you!" the couple said. "We've received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit!"

Jack and Peggy Joyce sat up half the night listening and asking questions. For the first time in eight years, Peggy Joyce felt excited.

The next night they stayed with Peggy's cousin. As soon as they arrived, his wife began telling them about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. It was all Jack and Peggy Joyce could talk about during their drive the next day. When they got to New Orleans they found a Christian bookstore and bought a couple of books on the subject.

"I hadn't read anything for pleasure in eight years," Peggy Joyce remembers. "But we were so excited that we read all night and then Jack got up and went to the seminar. As soon as we finished our books, we bought more. Before the end of the week, both of us had received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

"The moment I received the Holy Spirit, I was free!" Peggy said. "As soon as I got home I flushed all my medications. I realized that everything we'd done, until the night I cried to God from my heart, had been mental. For the next two years I walked around in a bubble of peace. I was so happy, I wept for joy! Life with Jack was like living a honeymoon."

Then, one day those same old fears returned.

"We knew a little bit about the Holy Spirit, but nothing about spiritual warfare," said Peggy. "The torment was worse than it had been before. I ran to the medicine cabinet frantically throwing old bottles of medicine around looking for an antidepressant. There was nothing. I felt myself falling into a pit. I felt so crazy that I forgot those two years of peace."

Setting the Captives Free

Someone suggested Peggy Joyce go see a pastor who dealt in deliverance.

"I won't be a demon chaser!" Jack declared.

But as the torment got worse, he finally said, "I'll try anything."

The pastor exercised his spiritual authority to break the power of oppression over Peggy Joyce, and all the fear and confusion left.

Back in her right mind, Peggy Joyce listened as the pastor told them how she could stay free. He sent them home with stacks of teaching tapes by Kenneth Copeland and some other ministers. The two devoured the tapes and then asked for more.

Peggy Joyce spent the next several months with her Bible and a notebook as the Lord taught her about spiritual warfare. She realized that the enemy kept ensnaring her because she hadn't known how to take her thoughts captive, and because she hadn't made a firm decision to make God's Word her final authority.

"Before I went into that woman's apartment, I'd never been a fearful or negative person," Peggy Joyce says. "But from that day forward I'd been bombarded with fearful, negative and confused thoughts. My mind had been cluttered with harassing spirits, doubts and fears—day and night!"

Directing her to meditate on 2 Corinthians 10:5—"*Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ*" (New King James Version)—the Lord told Peggy Joyce to exchange every fearful and negative thought that came to her mind with His Word.

"Thank God that pastor had given us Kenneth Copeland's tapes!" she said. "We'd never even heard of him. Just when God told me to exchange my negative and fearful thoughts, Brother Copeland came along and taught me how to do it. I also learned from him about the authority of the believer and how to resist the devil. He was the first person I ever heard teach that God was good. I remember getting down on my knees and

“
We are preparing for the largest, most unusual gathering of souls into the kingdom of God in the history of mankind, and we are preparing the message that will explode throughout this earth and cause men to come to the foot of that Cross and come to the glory of His resurrection and walk in the kingdom of God, kings and priests along with their King and their Priest,' thus saith The LORD.

—Kenneth Copeland*

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thanking God for deliverance. I knew God was using Brother Copeland to help me.”

Maintaining the Victory

“Jack and I couldn’t wait to get the magazine every month. We listened to him on audio tapes and went to the Southwest Believers’ Conventions in Fort Worth. As I learned to live by faith and take my thoughts captive, the roller-coaster ride I’d been on stopped. I’d gotten free through another man’s authority, but Brother Copeland helped me learn how to maintain that victory.”

For 10 long years, from 1962 to 1972, Peggy Joyce had been in torment. In 1976, God called Jack and her to start a church in Brownwood, Texas. During the 30 years they were pastors at Living Word, Peggy Joyce taught every Wednesday night, helping other captives find freedom.

In 2000, God directed her to write a book, *Psalm 91: God’s Umbrella of Protection*. The book was being published when terrorists attacked the Twin Towers and the Pentagon, Sept. 11, 2001. Since then, she has published eight books, most of them on Psalm 91 and many of them telling her testimony. Today over two million copies of her books are in print worldwide.

Answering the phone at home one day, Peggy Joyce heard static on the line as a man shouted to be heard. “We don’t have enough of your books to go around!” he said. “We need more!”

He was a soldier fighting in Iraq. Delighted, Peggy Joyce arranged to have cases of books sent to the soldiers on the front line. As a grandmother and an apparently mild-mannered saint, these days she’s a little bit like the Clark Kent/Superman character. No longer afraid, Peggy Joyce Ruth is turning the tables on terror. ❶



YOUR VOICE. YOUR VICTORY. YOUR MINISTRY.

GoodNewsGazette

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 4:6-7, New King James Version*

For Protection—Plead the Blood!

I thank the Lord and your ministry for the wonderful teaching I receive from the *BVOV* TV programs. I love listening to Gloria and Billy Brim. They did a teaching about the protection of the blood of Jesus—how to plead the blood and stay safe. After seeing it, I started praying that way and also asked the Holy Spirit to prompt me when I need to pray it for protection. Recently during my prayer time in the morning, I felt that prompting and pleaded the blood of Jesus for protection. As I was driving to work a little later that morning, I was crossing a light, when suddenly I saw two pedestrians on the crosswalk in front of me running on the red light. I hadn't seen them because of a car on my left. I hit the brakes immediately, and even though naturally I was too close to stop on time, the car stopped where they were supposed to be. In the last moment, they pulled to the side and I didn't hit them. It was the protection of God's angels and His faithfulness to His Word. Without your teaching, I wouldn't have known how to pray to avoid that situation! Praise God for His wonderful care for His children!

Vesselka K. | California

A Vision Miracle

I was in Auckland recently for an appointment with my eye specialist. I knew there were problems with a growth over the back of the left eye, and foggy vision. I have had macular surgery on the right eye and was told about macular deterioration at the time. However, on the second visit and after the examination, my surgeon amazed

me. He said, “There is now no growth (membrane) covering the back of the left eye and your right eye has no signs at all of macular degeneration!” This was a miracle, and he knew it. You can imagine my gratitude and joy that our Lord had answered prayers. I can go back to music again and do so much more. What a wonderful Saviour!

G.H. | New Zealand

Still Going Strong at 81!

I wrote to you requesting prayer as I was going for a medical checkup. I was under treatment for a heart ailment that I have had for a few years. Thanks for your prayers—I have received an excellent report and have been completely healed. Prior to this, I had been taking psychiatric treatments for over 30 years. Praise God, a brain scan showed that I am perfectly normal and all medication has been stopped. Now I am 81 years old and living the most blessed life. Thank you to your ministry for the *BVOV* magazine and Partner Letter which I receive monthly.

It is adhering to these teachings and confessions, and standing on the Word, that have enabled me to lead this blessed life. I am composing poems now, and using them to the praise of God's glory. I have even commenced writing a book. God bless your wonderful ministry!

P.A.C.S. | Sri Lanka

The Word Has Become Real

Thank you for your CD ministry. I play your teachings traveling to and from work. God has used Kenneth Copeland Ministries in my life. I've been a Christian for over 40 years and only in the past six years has His Word become real to me. Keep teaching us the Word. *Dave L. | Canada*

India & Sri Lanka

Healed of Cancer

Praise God! Thank you for your prayers. I am healed of cancer. The reports are normal. *P.S.R. | India*

God Is Healing Through the Broadcast

I am from India. In 2014, while watching the *BVOV* broadcast, Jeremy Pearsons and Keith Moore were ministering. They called out the condition of a 4-year-old child—my grandson whom we were all praying for. God ministered to me through them.

Today, while I was going through their other broadcasts, they called out the healings of asthma, pain behind the eyes and inflammation. Thanks be unto God, He is healing through His anointed ministers for people who need prayer. Thank God for His goodness.

M.R. | India



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Esther D.,
prayer
minister

Our Chinese website reaches
2.2 billion
 Chinese-speaking people.



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.

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If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. We have a **Free Gift** to help you begin your new life in Jesus!

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order the day after. 'Sowing and reaping really works,' he declared.

"What an encouragement that is to us," said Aw. "Though our beginning seems small, yet our latter end will increase abundantly as we continue to seek God's wisdom for new ways to take the gospel message into Chinese-speaking communities."

Although the launch of the Chinese Facebook and Twitter gives the ministry the opportunity to connect with Chinese-speaking communities on these social networks, KCM Asia is currently not able to connect with them in China through these networks. Earlier this year, KCM Asia launched its first China Social Media via TenCent Weibo (t.qq.com/KCMAsia) and Sina Weibo (weibo.com/KCMAsia). In 2016, the ministry expects to begin airing the *BVOV* broadcast,



with subtitles, on China Youku (Youtube).

"We have great expectancy that we will connect with the vast majority of Chinese-speaking believers, and to partner together to take the gospel to Chinese-speaking communities worldwide, declaring that Jesus Is Lord," Aw said. ⑦

MINISTRY UPDATE:

kcmasia.org.sg

KCM Asia

"Preaching the gospel—from the top of the world to the bottom and all the way around." That's been the mission of Kenneth Copeland Ministries since it began more than 45 years ago. And today, we're continuing to see that mission fulfilled on every available voice and through every ministry outreach—including our international offices.

A year ago this month, KCM Asia reached a milestone when it began ministering to Chinese-speaking communities around the world through various forms of social media, including Facebook, Twitter and a brand-new website at kcmasia.org.sg. Today, the ministry is expecting greater growth through its outreach, as people avail themselves of these new resources.

"We're very excited about what's happened over the past year, and how so many people are being blessed," said Ben Aw, managing director of KCM Asia. "Because of the faithful prayers and continued support of our Partners and Friends, we are now taking the gospel to the world—in a Chinese voice! These new avenues of social media are creating a greater door of ministry and influence into the Chinese-speaking communities around the world."

Much like kcm.org, the Chinese site offers a variety of teachings

in a Real Help section, as well as encouraging articles from the latest *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazines. Viewers can also watch short video teachings by Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, and others, with subtitles, as well as subscribe to have daily devotions from the inspiring devotional, *From Faith to Faith*, delivered directly to them by email.

"This is a totally digital site, and we are working continuously to increase the resources available to help our Partners and Friends stay strongly rooted and grounded in the Word of God," said Aw.

Testimonies continue to pour in from throughout the region from people whose lives have been changed because of the availability of the Word of God through KCM Asia. Aw shared one particular testimony, in which a Christian Chinese translator, who had been hired by KCM to do translation, was so moved by what he heard that he became the ministry's first Chinese Partner.

"During the beta launch of the Chinese website," Aw said, "we received an encouraging testimony from one of our Partners. He testified that while he was helping us review our website, considering that as part of his significant seed sown for his personal Internet e-product business, he received his first



Never Too BUSY FOR THE WORD

“I’m just too busy!” :: That’s the No. 1 reason believers give for failing to spend time in the Word of God. Homemakers run from one chore to the next, taking care of their families’ pressing needs. Businesspeople rush out the door early every morning and fall into bed exhausted at night. :: Our schedules are so packed, the demands on our lives are so heavy, that it just doesn’t seem we have time to give much attention to the Word.

by Gloria Copeland

But the truth is, we don’t have time *not* to!

I can tell you, both from the Word of God and from personal experience, that the more hectic your life becomes, the more desperately you need to make the Word the No. 1 priority in your life. When you get truly busy, you don’t have time to fail. You need

to just move quickly from one success to the next.

“But Gloria, is that possible?”

Certainly, and you’ll find the key to it in Joshua 1:8. It says: “This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night,

God promises that if you'll keep His Word in front of you, if you'll put it first place in your life, you'll know how to prosper and succeed in all you do.

that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

God promises that if you'll keep His Word in front of you, if you'll put it first place in your life, you'll know how to prosper and succeed in all you do. Do you realize what a timesaver that would be?

Just think about how much time it takes to correct a mistake. Think how much time you might spend in a lawyer's office trying to straighten out a legal problem. Or how much time you might spend sitting in the doctor's office because you're sick—not to mention the hospital.

If you'll put the Word first, you can save yourself all that wasted time. Instead of having to redo things, the wisdom of the Word can enable you to do them right the *first* time. It can keep you out of the lawyer's office by guiding you around those legal problems. It can keep you out of the doctor's office by providing you with divine health.

Proverbs 4:7-8 says it this way: "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting

get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her."

30 Remarkable Days

I saw that scripture proven out in my own life many years ago. It was back in 1967 when Ken was a student at Oral Roberts University. We had just moved to Tulsa. Nearly everything we had was still in boxes. Our children were small so they required almost constant attention.

It was a tremendously busy time for me. Yet, in the midst of it all, I heard Oral Roberts tell how the Lord instructed him during the early days of his ministry to read the Gospels and the book of Acts four times in 30 days. And I felt impressed of the Lord to do the same thing.

Naturally speaking, it didn't look like a good time for me to commit to spending so many hours in the Word, but I knew God had instructed me to do it. I warned Ken, "Now if I take on this commitment, I may not be able to cook. I may not be able to do the ironing or unpack all these boxes. I'll just have to put the Word of God first and let the other things wait."

Ken said that was fine with him. So in spite of the fact that I generally like to get things done quickly, I reconciled myself to putting my other work off for 30 days.

After figuring out how many pages I had to read to accomplish my goal, I set aside three specific times during the day to read. I got up at 5:30 in the morning and read until everyone else woke up. Then, at noon when I put the children to sleep I read again as long as I could. And at night, after the dishes were done and the kids were in bed, I finished my daily quota.

The very first day, something miraculous happened. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, even though I had already spent hours in the Word, I had finished all my work for that day. The second day went equally as well. By the end of the first week, I had done everything I needed to do. I even got caught up on my ironing and antiqued four pieces of furniture from start to finish—all in one week! And I did it all while spending almost four to five hours a day in the Word!

How did that happen? I did what Proverbs 4:8 said

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Fix your mind on the Word of God every day. Apply it to yourself, personally. Allow the Holy Spirit to make it a reality in your heart.

to do. I exalted wisdom (God's Word) and it exalted me.

I've never forgotten that lesson. It still holds true in my life today. When I find myself getting bogged down in the affairs of life and running out of time to get things done, I say to myself, "Gloria, you haven't been spending time in the Word like you should or you wouldn't be in this situation." Then I resolve right then to make a change—to set aside less important things and put the Word first once again in my day.

You see, deciding to put the Word first isn't something you do just one time. It's a decision you have to make every day.

If you're like most people I know, you're shaking your head right now, wondering how on earth you can squeeze more time for the Word into your already jampacked schedule. You probably can't.

So don't wait until you can fit the Word into your schedule. Start building your schedule around the Word. Take authority over your time. Make a commitment to God and say, "I'm going to put Your Word first place in my life. I know if I do that by faith, everything else will fall in line."

If you think that sounds hard, you're right. At times, it will be. Satan will do his best to stop you from keeping that commitment. He'll do anything he can to interfere with your time in the Word.

That's no surprise, really. After all, he knows it's the Word that will make you free from him. He'll lose his dominion over you if you put it first place in your life. So he'd rather have you do anything other than that!

It's true. He'd rather have you take potato salad to a bereaved widow or work at the church bazaar. He'd rather you book your calendar solid with "good works" than have you open your Bible.

How Much Is Enough?

"OK," you say. "I'm determined to spend time in the Word of God every day. But how much time is enough?"

Spend as much time as it takes to get the Word inside you in *abundance*. I can tell you right now, that doesn't mean just pulling a scripture out of the "Promise Box" once a day. To have abundance means to have more of something than you can see any way to use.

When you have the Word of God in abundance, you have more of it inside you than anything else! You're so full of the Word that when trouble comes the Word is the first thing out of your mouth.

To lay hold of that kind of abundance, you need to do what Joshua 1:8 said. You need to "meditate the Word." To meditate means to fix your mind. So fix your mind on the Word of God every day. Apply it to yourself, personally. Allow the Holy Spirit to make it a reality in your heart.

Carefully ponder how the Word you've read applies to your life. Ask yourself, "What does this Word from God say to me? What does it mean in my life? How can it change my situation?" Then place yourself in agreement with what God says about you in that Word. Make up your mind that you are who God says you are. You can do what God says you can do. And you can have what He says you can have. Put yourself in agreement with Him, then receive it.

A Word to the Wise

I've been telling people to spend time in the Word for years now. Almost everywhere I preach, no matter what topic I'm talking about, it seems I always get back to the importance of putting the Word first place in your life. You may have heard me say it a

hundred times. But you know, hearing it isn't enough. It's *doing* it that will put you over.

Jesus taught us that principle in Matthew 7. There He told about two men. Both of them had heard the Word, yet Jesus said one of the men was foolish and the other wise. What made the difference between the two?



The wise man acted on what he heard and the foolish man didn't.

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat

upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it (verses 24-27).

You may know full well that you need to spend time in the Word. But unless you act on that knowledge, it won't do you any good when the storms of life come.

So take action! Begin now to set aside time for the Word each day. Begin now making it the No. 1 priority on your schedule. Don't wait until you're faced with some terrible situation or some storm of life to do it.

Have you ever tried to build a house in a storm? Ken has been through

several hurricanes and he has seen the wind blow so hard that coconuts shot through the air like cannonballs. Just think about some poor fellow out there trying to build his house with the wind blowing 120 mph!

Don't do that. Don't wait until you're desperate to make time for the Word. Make the decision and start today.

Then when the storms of life come against your house, you'll be sitting inside in front of the fireplace just rocking and praising God. You'll be rejoicing that you didn't let the devil talk you into being too busy for the Word. ♡

CONNECT YOUR FAITH TO MOVE MOUNTAINS

SPEAKER TONY SHEARD
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES, KCM EUROPE

PLUS SPECIAL VIDEO MESSAGE FROM
KENNETH COPELAND AND JERRY SAVELLE

Kenneth Copeland Ministries Europe are holding their second regional meeting for 2015 at Hebron Christian Faith Church, Coventry. This will be led by a team from KCM's European office in Bath.

Come and enjoy God's presence during an evening of worship, KCM faith teaching and ministry. Don't miss this opportunity to connect and press into all that God has provided in this Year of the Open Door and Liberty.


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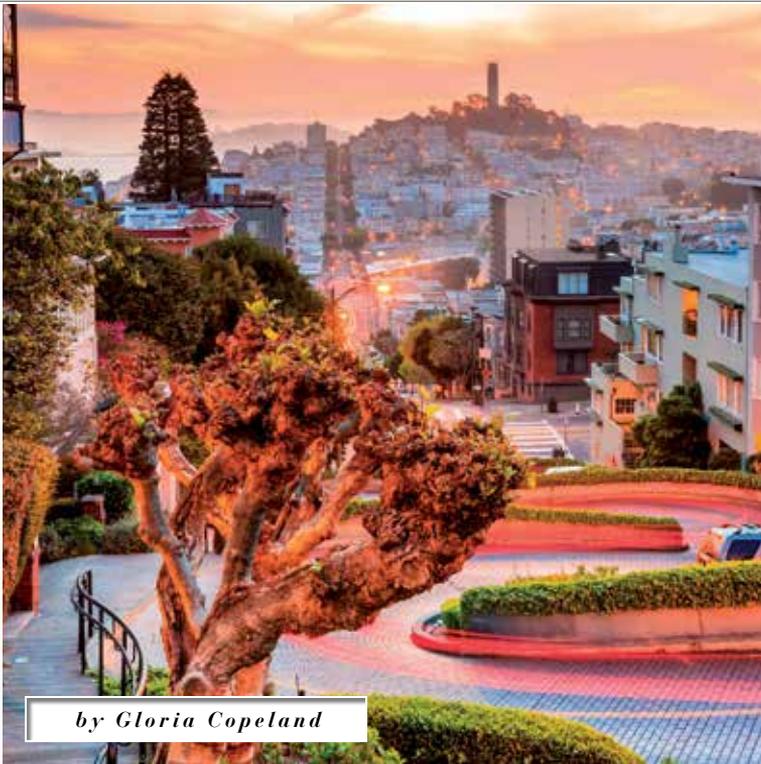
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by Gloria Copeland

Receive Your Healing

You can make the decision to live in divine health right now, in the same way you made the decision to accept Jesus as Savior. First, you must decide to be well. Then, believe you receive health and healing in your body.

heart that God raised Him from the dead. From this moment, my body is saved, healed, made whole and delivered.”

Stand Fast

Now, resist the temptation to be sick just like you resist the temptation to sin. That may sound too simple, but it works because the Word says, “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

Satan is the source of sickness. When he attempts to put sickness on your body, refuse it in the Name of Jesus because it is against the will of God for you to be sick. As soon as you have the slightest thought Satan is trying to put sickness on you, turn to 1 Peter 2:24 and read aloud what Jesus has done for you: “Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.” Receive it in faith and thank God that by Jesus’

Just as salvation is offered to “whosoever” will accept it (John 3:16), so is healing offered to whosoever will believe it is available to them.

The Greek word *sozo*, translated “saved” in Romans 10:9, is the same Greek word translated “healed” in the Gospels. In Mark 5:23, Jairus said to Jesus, “My little daughter

lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed [sozo]; and she shall live.” To the woman with the issue of blood, Jesus said, “Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole [sozo]” (Matthew 9:22).

When Jesus was raised from the dead, He purchased soundness for your spirit,

soul *and* body. You have been made whole.

Right now, by faith, confess Jesus as your Healer in the same way that you made Him Lord over your life. Make Jesus Lord over your body according to Romans 10:10 which says, “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Make this your confession: “According to the Word of God, I confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord. I confess Him now as my Healer. I make Him Lord over my body. I believe in my



Steadfastly and patiently know that God’s Word *does not fail*. Refuse to be moved by what you see, and be moved only by the Word....

Hear and receive My Word and the years of your life will be many!

Proverbs 4:10

stripes you were healed.

The Bible tells us: “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free” (Galatians 5:1). With His Name, His Word, His Spirit and Jesus as your Healer, you can enjoy divine health. That’s liberty and freedom!

To get results, you must believe that you receive your healing *when you pray*—not after you are well. You are to be like Abraham, who “considered not his own body,” but instead considered what God said (Romans 4:19-20).

The symptoms of sickness may continue to linger after you believe you receive. But this is the time you must hold fast to a fearless confession of the Word. “Do not, therefore, fling away your fearless confidence, for it carries a great and glorious compensation of reward. For you have need of steadfast patience and endurance, so that you may perform and fully accomplish the will of God, and thus receive and carry away [and enjoy to the full] what is promised” (Hebrews 10:35-36, *The Amplified Bible*).

Do not allow your fearless confidence in God’s Word to be snatched away from you by Satan. You’re walking by faith and not by sight.

Agree With the Word

E.W. Kenyon teaches that there are three witnesses in receiving healing: the Word, the pain or sickness, and you.

You are the deciding factor. If you join your confession with the pain, you are crossing the Word that says you are healed. If you align your confession with God’s Word, you will have to cross the pain.

The Bible teaches that by two witnesses a thing is established. You make the choice. Agree with the pain, and sickness will rule. But dare to agree with the Word, and healing will be established. The circumstances will follow your action and confession.

Steadfastly and patiently know that God’s Word *does not fail*. Refuse to be moved by what you see, and be moved only by the Word and by your confession of Jesus as Healer. The Word will change what you see.

Satan will try to tell you that you are not saved. Or his symptoms of pain or sickness will suggest you are not healed. Don’t fall for his lies. Instead, stand fast in the knowledge of God’s Word, and believe you have received.

Get in Position to Receive

God’s mercy goes forth in accordance with His covenant, the Word. Because He has bound Himself by His Word, He can move freely only toward those who put themselves in a *position* to receive. Acting on the Word puts you in this position.

Jesus told the nobleman whose son was at the point of

death, “. . . thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.” The Bible says that the boy *began* to amend *at the same hour* (John 4:46-53).

When you believe that you receive healing, you may be healed instantly or you may have to act on the covenant of healing, even though your body does not *feel* healed. One thing you do know: When you believe that you receive, healing begins to take place in your body. God cannot keep His covenant without healing you—if you have met the conditions of that covenant.

You are learning to be moved by the Word, instead of by what you see or feel. This is how faith operates. You are becoming the faith man or woman you have yearned to be.

Your faith gets stronger as you use it to act on God’s Word.

As you learn to stand against Satan and his symptoms, you will find it continues to become easier. But there is no formula that will work effectively unless you continually exert the force of faith through feeding on the Word.

If you will continually feed on God’s Word, you will come to the place where you simply go to 1 Peter 2:24, enforce the Word that you *were* healed, thank God for His Word of healing, and go on about your business. Make the decision to be well. Believe you receive! 🕊

If you need healing in your body, look up the following verses and read them aloud daily. Refuse to give in to doubt and unbelief. And remember, God’s Word works!

Ex. 15:26

Ex. 23:25

Deut. 7:14-15

Deut. 30:19-20

1 Kgs. 8:56

Ps. 91:9-10, 14-16

Ps. 103:1-5

Ps. 107:19-21

Ps. 118:17

Prov. 4:20-24

Isa. 41:10

Isa. 53:4-5

Jer. 1:12

Jer. 30:17

Joel 3:10

Nah. 1:9

Matt. 8:2-3, 16-17

Matt. 18:18-19

Matt. 21:21

Mark 11:22-24

Mark 16:14-18

Rom. 4:16-21

Rom. 8:2, 11

2 Cor. 10:3-5

Gal. 3:13-14, 29

Eph. 6:10-17

Phil. 2:13

Phil. 4:6-7

2 Tim. 1:7

Heb. 10:23, 35-36

Heb. 11:11

Heb. 13:8

Jas. 5:14-16

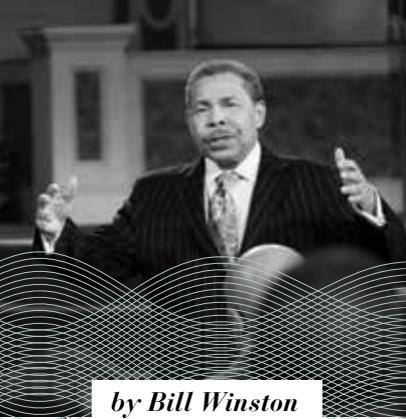
1 Pet. 2:24

1 Jn. 3:21-22

1 Jn. 5:14-15

3 Jn. 2

Rev. 12:11



by Bill Winston

No More Toil

The revelation of entering into God's rest is flowing strongly in the Body of Christ today, and things are happening because of it.

***God is saying,
No more
toil—rest in
the blessing.***

We are seeing people all over the world get hold of God's rest. As they rest, ceasing from their own toil, they hear the Word of the Lord more clearly, take hold of it by faith, and receive His promises in all areas of life.



As their pastor, I'm thrilled to deliver such a powerful revelation to my congregation and to know that through them and their testimonies, the revelation is going beyond the walls of our church. It is going to the nations of the world and people are seeing God establish His kingdom in the earth.

Back to the Beginning

Every revelation of God's master plan is connected to His original purpose for earth and for His man.

Looking back to the beginning, before the foundation of the earth, we can see what He's always had in His heart for mankind. That's when He laid out His entire plan. The plan, from start to finish, was in Him before time began.

When God began time, He did His work in six days. Then, as Genesis 2:2 tells us, "On the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made."

In six days God



created heaven and earth, stars and planets. He called every kind of fish out of the sea and all kinds of plants and animals out of the earth. But when He got to Adam, the first man—the first one of you and me—He called us out of Himself. Adam is the exact duplicate of God, made in His image.

God and Adam functioned in this earth not as two but as one. And God blessed Adam and said to him, “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth” (Genesis 1:28).

With that blessing, God’s work was complete! He was finished and He rested.

The Rest of the Plan

God took a spot on earth He called Eden and created a garden. His plan was that as Adam lived forever in the blessing God had commanded, the Garden would take over the whole earth. All He asked Adam to do was to plant heaven in the earth...just step out there and flourish in the blessing!

God’s blessing was powerful enough to do it! He had already provided everything to make it happen. All Adam had to do was rest in the blessing. The energy to

live in the blessing was in God’s union with Adam. The supply of all Adam’s needs and desires was in that union, but Adam let himself be talked right out of the blessing.

Adam chose to satisfy his needs his way, and suddenly he and Eve were out there “going it alone.” They put themselves in a position to operate in the earth apart from God’s plan—apart from the blessing of God. In Genesis 3:17 God declared to Adam, “...the ground is under a curse because of you; in sorrow and toil shall you eat [of the fruits] of it all the days of your life” (*The Amplified Bible*). The word *toil* means “to work; to exert strength with pain or fatigue in body or mind.” What an inheritance Adam left us.

Our ancestors lost a lot with that decision, and next to our eternal life, our rest in God was one of the most important things they gave up. But, God did not give up!

God may have rested on the seventh day of Creation, but His plan continued! Man may have quit on God, but God was determined from before the foundation of the earth that this would be the place where His blessing would rest—the whole earth would be His Garden, and His man would be both the deliverer and recipient of His plan.

For hundreds of years after Adam, God was continually on the

lookout for a man who would receive all He had to give him, including rest in the earth. Along the way He often spoke through His prophets about His plan—that His people would one day receive the fullness of the blessing and establish the earth as God’s Garden.

Some caught God’s vision and connected with Him. God revealed His plan to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and David, and they all lived in the plan for a season. Then, either they or their descendants would get off course and God’s people would end up back in a wilderness of one form or another.

Generations later, God spoke through the prophet Isaiah about what He had envisioned for the earth and its people. He said, “Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

about His plan to bring them to their place of rest and no more toil.

The Day Is Here

The prophet Ezekiel spoke on behalf of the Lord to His people, looking forward to the days of His unfolding plan.

Thus saith the Lord God; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded. And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by. And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited. Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the Lord build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the

God said let there be...and there was.

It’s all His plan, it’s all His Word, and it’s all His doing!

We’re at Rest—No More Toil!

As His people get on board with Him, walking in His plan, taking hold of His Word, and allowing Him to do what He says, we are at rest—no more toil!

“So, does that mean we just sit around and do nothing?” someone may ask.

No, but what the Lord calls us to do, we can do without *toil*...the toil that Adam worked under. We do the good work of God He created us for in Christ Jesus, resting in Him and apart from the kind of *toil* that brings pain to body and mind (see Ephesians 2:10).

We get out there in our communities and in the world, resting in the blessing—declaring His Word and completing His plan to reveal His Garden wherever we are!

PEOPLE ARE BECOMING CURIOUS AS THEY WATCH US RECEIVE SUCH GREAT RESULTS WITHOUT TOIL, SEEING WHAT THE LORD IS DOING. THEY ARE ASKING, “HOW IS THIS HAPPENING?”

For the Lord shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody” (Isaiah 51:2-3).

God has always planned to make the whole earth like the Garden of Eden—a place for His man to flourish in His rest. Through the faith of Abraham, a portion of the earth actually was delivered and turned into a garden of the Lord for his descendants. Abraham received that land, called it his own, and fulfilled God’s planned relationship between man and earth in his land.

As Abraham’s family history unfolded, his descendants abandoned their land and their blessing, and took generations of their family into bondage. But God never gave up. He never stopped talking to His people

Lord have spoken it, and I will do it (Ezekiel 36:33-36).

Well, here we are—in *that day!* We are in the greatest day of His plan! By the precious blood of His Son, Jesus, God *has* cleansed us of our iniquities. He *has* delivered to the Body of Christ the blessing Jesus regained for us! Glory to God!

And now we are getting in on all that means to us, His people—His children. He is causing us to dwell in our cities and build the wastelands in them. Our desolate lands and desolate people are being replanted and are flourishing again as He intended for the Garden of Eden. And as Ezekiel 33:36 declares, the people around us who don’t know Him will see clearly *He is the One doing it all!*

Can you see it? It’s just like in the beginning—just like the original Garden. He said it and He is doing it!

Jesus demonstrated time and again the kind of work God intends us to do. Peter had “toiled all night” to catch fish, but when he heard the word of Jesus, he just threw out the net and took what may have been the biggest haul of his life (Luke 5:1-7). That’s how our work for the Lord should be.

More than once, thousands of people sat down to hear Jesus preach and decided to stay for lunch. The disciples began to *toil* (be pained in their minds) about how they would feed the multitudes. Jesus picked up a piece of bread, thanking God for it, and gave some to each of them. He said, “Here, do this, get out there among the people, break the bread and pass it out.” No toil, just follow the example. That’s how it should be for us.

And we’re seeing it happen. We’re getting out there in our communities and in the world, resting

Commander Kellie's Corner

Speak the truth
in love



in the blessing as we go. We are being planted in the world as visible signs of the Garden, recouping and recovering all that was lost. We see the desolate places and hopeless situations, hear what God has to say about them, and follow the example. No toil. Just completing His plan to reveal His Garden wherever we are!

And here's the best part—people are becoming curious as they watch us receive such great results without toil, seeing what the Lord is doing. They are asking, "How is this happening?"

And isn't that *God's real plan?*

"Be fruitful and multiply," He said. Replenish the earth. He's talking here about people reproducing people.

The time has come for His people to truly *be* His people—for the Church to *be* the Church. People all over the world are waiting to see something in our lives they can't see in their own. God has planted deep inside all people the desire to see the Garden of Eden in their lives. They want rest.

As we progress in the *rest* of God and work without *toil* alongside Him, people will be lined up to get into our churches. The healing in our churches—the prosperity, the joy, the peace, the rest—will draw them.

They will come through the doors of our churches...and even through the doors of our homes, our businesses, our schools...wherever God's people are at rest in Him. They will step through the doors in wonder and amazement to be part of heaven on earth...to be part of God's plan for His man in the earth...the plan that will let *them* rest in Him and receive the life of God with *no more toil!* 📌

About

Bill Winston is founder and pastor of Living Word Christian Center, an 18,000-member church located in Forest Park, Ill. He is also the founder and chairman of The Joseph Center® for Business Development. For more information or ministry materials go to bwm.org.

Hey, Superkid! I have something different on my mind this month. Let's see if you can guess what it is. Here are some clues:

- It's a very frustrating activity
- Even though people can come closer together while engaging in this, often it drives them further apart
- People think they are showing great wisdom while doing this, but they are often making fools of themselves.

What is it?

Arguing.

We all do it. Some of us are experts at it, because we've been doing it since we were little! Let's break down the idea of arguing, and see if it is a helpful thing to do.

Why is arguing such a temptation? The biggest reason is we want others to agree with our opinion on something. Our real desire is for agreement, but instead we focus more on, "YOU need to agree with ME!"

Think about how arguments progress. I say, "The sky is blue." You say, "No, it's gray." The more we disagree, the more I argue my viewpoint, which can cause you to want to argue yours. By me arguing, I'm really causing you to defend your point. The results: We both end up holding on to our opinions rather than coming into agreement.

Actually, it's crazy that we even bother to argue. People don't often change their minds because

of an argument.

Superkid, it comes down to this: Arguing really comes from our own selfish desire to win—to be the one who is RIGHT. When we understand this, we can make some powerful decisions about whether or not we will be known as argumentative or just confidently truthful.

My dad used to say to me, "Kellie you would argue with a stump." Although I just wanted him to understand what I was saying, because I was argumentative that's not what came across. It's easy to slip into a place where you argue about everything, no matter what someone says.

One day I had a freedom idea. I decided it didn't matter if people agreed with me. I decided I could tell someone what I thought in a calm way, without caring whether they agreed or not. I thought, *It's really none of my business what someone else thinks.*

This was like "Kellie's Freedom Day!"

But the real change has been in MY heart. I am more filled with love and peace than ever before. Why? Because I decided that walking in love is more important than winning an argument, or having someone agree with me.

The more I put my opinions in the Lord's hands, the more right I really am, and the more useful I am to Jesus. Romans 14:1, *New Living Translation*, talks about this very thing: "Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong." Later in that chapter it says we are accountable to God, and what's really important is that we live in such a way that we help each other and not cause others to fail.

Your Superkid mission this month is to put this into practice. Decide to put a stop to your automatic argument reflex! This doesn't mean you can't express your opinions. Just learn to speak the truth in love. Tell others what you think without being responsible for whether or not they agree! Stop BEFORE expressing your opinion and ask yourself: Why do I want them to know what I think? Am I just wanting to disagree, or do I really have a different opinion?

Often we get in what I call "automatic negative response mode." No matter what someone says, we have a different opinion. Practice having a positive response to others. Who knows, you might learn something new, experience something exciting or enjoy a whole new adventure when you just smile and say, "Sounds great!"

The real bonus is what this change in attitude will do for your relationship with God. When you tear down those automatic arguments you'll find that you are more open to His voice. And when that happens, well, you know what I always say—stay tuned! 📌

About

Kellie Copeland Swisher is an outreach minister at Kenneth Copeland Ministries and developer of the Superkid Academy curriculum. Through her ministry and as "Commander Kellie," she fulfills the mission of drawing people of all ages into a personal, growing and powerful relationship with Jesus Christ.

Holy & Free

by
Gloria
Copeland

I never thought I'd have to say this, but in recent years it seems like holiness has gotten a bit of a bad reputation.

It's been so misunderstood that people often get nervous at the very mention of it. Not just unbelievers, but even some Christians have gotten the mistaken impression that somehow holiness hurts. They've come to think of it as a kind of religious legalism that will put them in bondage and keep them from enjoying life.

As a result of such misconceptions, holiness isn't a very popular topic these days—which is too bad because the Bible talks about it a lot. Not just the Old Testament but also the New Testament says things like this again and again to us as believers: “[Live] as children of obedience [to God]; do not conform yourselves to the evil desires [that governed you] in your former ignorance [when you did not know the requirements of the Gospel]. But as the One Who called you is holy, you yourselves also be holy in all your conduct





and manner of living. For it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:14-16, *The Amplified Bible*).

Clearly, as far as God is concerned, holiness is an important issue. He isn't OK with us just floating through life doing the same kinds of things unbelievers do. He doesn't want us running around acting just any old way, as if our lives are our own.

Our lives aren't our own. We belong to our heavenly Father who is the God of this universe. He has redeemed us for Himself with the precious

family. It's what He wanted in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve.

In the beginning, when He created them in His image, they had no sin in them so there was nothing to separate them from Him. He could come down to fellowship with them in the cool of the day and they could talk with Him face to face. They could be comfortable with Him and enjoy His presence.

Just think about what fun they must have had together! All their conversations would have been happy ones because

came along and lied to them. He told Eve God didn't have their best interest at heart, that He was withholding something good from them. She believed the lie and she and Adam disobeyed God. The instant they did, they died spiritually just like God had said they would.

What's more, they lost their covering of light. Until they sinned they'd been clothed in God's radiant glory. But when that glory departed they realized they were naked. They thought, *What happened to my covering here?*

I REMEMBER WHEN EVEN NON-CHRISTIANS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SEXUAL PERVERSION WAS WRONG AND HARMFUL.

blood of Jesus. He has claimed us as His sons and daughters. We're part of His family and He wants us to act like it. He wants us to be holy just like He is.

Why is that so important to Him?

Because He loves to fellowship with us.

I got a revelation of this a few years ago when Billye Brim and I were doing some television broadcasts together. We were talking about holiness and she explained that in Hebrew the word translated *holy* means “to set apart, to take something out and put it in a different place.” As I thought about that, I realized the reason God cares so much about our holiness is because He wants us to be with Him.

He wants us to be set apart in the place where He is so we can be together. So He can manifest Himself in our lives and we can walk with Him and talk with Him and hear His voice. That's what God has always wanted to do with His

they had no problems to discuss. They didn't have to talk to God about not having enough money to buy food, or about their crops drying up because of a drought. They didn't have to ask Him for something they needed and didn't have. Because the Garden of Eden was perfect they could just fellowship with God and enjoy His goodness.

They could have continued that fellowship without interruption forever. All they had to do was keep the one command God had given them about not eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. “If you eat its fruit,” He'd warned Adam, “you are sure to die” (Genesis 2:17, *New Living Translation*).

God didn't say that because He was a mean dictator. He didn't say it to deprive them of something fun. He said it so they could stay connected with Him, be BLESSED and continue to live in light and life in the Garden. But the devil

Think about how alarming that must have been for Adam and Eve. Suddenly they're looking around and realizing that birds have feathers to protect them, cows have hide and fish have scales but they—the highest beings in God's creation—were completely exposed and unprotected. Why? Because they'd lost their garments of light.

No longer holy, they'd sinned and fallen “short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

No Matter What the Devil Says, Sin Is Not Cool

Of course, you know as well as I do that wasn't the end of the story. Even after Adam and Eve sinned and separated themselves from God, even after they threw away His BLESSING and opened the door for the curse to come on the earth and on all mankind, God didn't give up on His dream of having a family. He didn't just shrug His shoulders

We can't change what we know is right just because the world says we should. If we do we'll be in trouble because the world is crazy. They're deceived.

and let the whole human race be carried away captive forever into the slavery of sin.

Instead, He sent Jesus to purchase our freedom. As Galatians 3:13-14 says: "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

This is good news! As believers, you and I are the redeemed! We don't belong to the devil anymore. We aren't under the curse of sin so we don't have to live like we are. We can be holy like our heavenly Father is holy. We can live and act like God.

Living like He does is the opposite of being in bondage—it's freedom. It's a joy and privilege. Why don't Christians always see it that way?

Because, just like in the Garden of Eden, the devil has lied to us about it. He's used the voice of the world to tell us that every lifestyle is all right. That it's cool and fun to cater to the lusts of the flesh, and there aren't really any negative consequences to it.

It seems to me the closer we get to the end of the age the more the world believes such lies and the more acceptable sin becomes to society. I remember the days when adultery was considered a serious thing, not just in the church but in the community. I remember when even non-Christians acknowledged that sexual perversion was wrong and harmful. But today people actually applaud it.

Every time you turn on the television it seems like the media is pushing the envelope of sin, glorifying something that's immoral or ungodly. They try to make it look good or like it's no big deal, but it is a big deal because although what's socially acceptable may change, the truth doesn't change. And Romans 6:23 is STILL the truth: "The wages of sin is death."

People in the world, for the most part anyway, don't know that. They haven't read the Word, so they think sin is normal. But we, as believers, know better and we're called by God to act like it. As Philippians 2:15, AMP, says, we're called to live as "innocent and uncontaminated, children of God without blemish (faultless, unrebukable) in the midst of a crooked and wicked

generation...as bright lights (stars or beacons shining out clearly) in the [dark] world."

The World Is Crazy

"But Gloria," you might say, "if we live differently than unsaved people, won't it make them uncomfortable? If we stick to what the Bible says, won't they accuse us of being intolerant and unloving?"

Most likely. But we can't let that bother us. We just have to keep on being sweet and kind to them, and remind ourselves that although we love everyone and want to help them, we have to stand on what God says. We can't change what we know is right just because the world says we should. If we do we'll be in trouble because the world is crazy. They're deceived. They're following the wrong god and trapped in a lifestyle of sin.

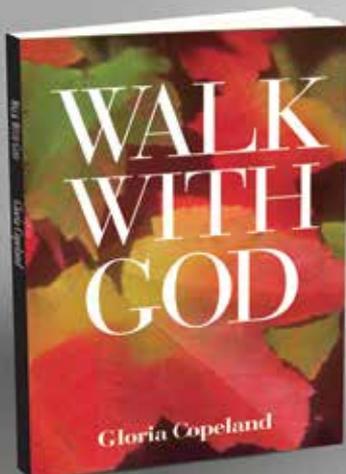
As Christians we've been delivered from that trap. We've been set apart from sin. It no longer has dominion over us because Jesus has "secured a complete redemption (an everlasting release for us)" (Hebrews 9:12, AMP). He shed His own blood to cleanse our conscience from dead works so we can "serve the living God" (verse 14, *New King James Version*). "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

We're not under the devil's thumb anymore. We don't have to do what he says. We have the nature of our heavenly Father and He has set us free to walk and talk and act like Him!

To do that, however, we have to be diligent to yield to our spirit and not to our flesh. We have to seek the Lord daily in His Word and retrain our minds to think like He thinks and not like the world. Otherwise we'll be overtaken by the darkness around us. I don't mean we'll lose our salvation and we won't go

God has a work for you to do on earth.

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to heaven when we die, but we'll find ourselves getting trapped in the devil's snares while we're here on earth.

Don't let that happen to you! Instead, follow the instructions in the New Testament:

"Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:2).

"...[put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion; and be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude], and put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, [Godlike] in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:22-24, AMP).

You're Not Like Everyone Else

If living like that makes you seem peculiar from the world's point of view that's just fine. In fact, it's exactly as it should be. As a Christian you're not like everyone else in the world. You're part of "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar

people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

During the television broadcast I referred to earlier, Billye Brim explained that people who were part of the priesthood in the Old Testament actually were peculiar, in that they didn't do everything other people did. For instance, the High Priest couldn't go to anyone's funeral even if the person who died was a member of his immediate family.

Under the Old Covenant, physical death represented sin and the spiritual death that results from it. The High Priest had to stay away from it so he could go into the Holy of Holies and make atonement for the people. In other words, the High Priest had to live a separated life so God's power could manifest through him on behalf of the nation.

That's what God wants us as believers to do, too. He wants us to separate ourselves from sin unto Him so that He can manifest Himself through us on behalf of the world around us—the world that He loves dearly, the world Jesus shed His blood to save.

God wants that world! He wants

everyone in it. That's why He says in Mark 16:15, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." He doesn't want anyone to be left out. He wants the Word of His salvation to be preached to all people—the good, the bad and the ugly—because Jesus gave His life for them all. He paid the ultimate price so that every one of us could be born again and restored to the Father's family.

Just think, Jesus didn't shrink back from anything God asked Him to do for mankind. When God asked Him to go to the Cross and bear the sin of all humanity so that whoever believed on Him could be "made holy" (Hebrews 10:10, NLT), He did it. He said, "You have given me a body to offer.... 'I have come to do your will, O God—as it is written about me in the Scriptures'" (verses 5, 7, NLT).

As His disciples, we're to have that same beautiful attitude of obedience toward our Father. We're to say just like Jesus did, "Lord, here I am. I want to do what's written in Your Book. I want to obey what the Bible says and do things Your way and not the world's way. I want to be holy just as You are holy."

That attitude doesn't put us in bondage. It makes us truly free. ♣

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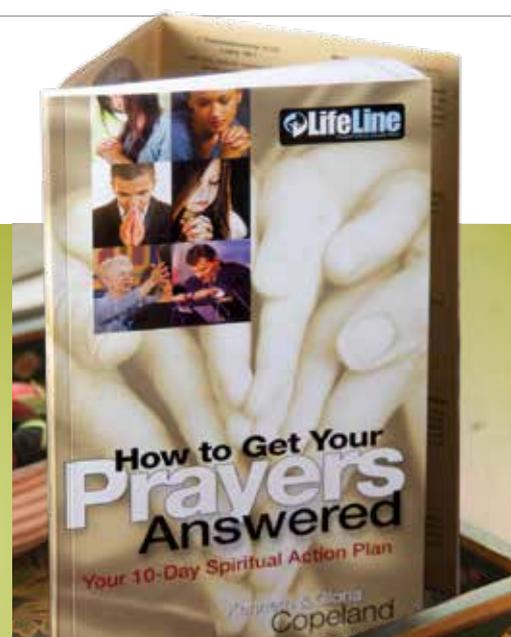
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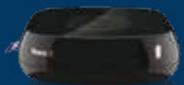
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