

VICTORY



The ^{P.10} True Secret to SUCCESS

BY MELANIE HEMRY

Dumpster diving for aluminum cans. Up to their ears in debt. Hounded by creditors. Would there ever be any hope in sight for Larry and Pam Winters?

BELIEVE IT AND RECEIVE!

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by Kenneth Copeland

Believe It and Receive!

One of the things I most love about
Jesus is how easy He is to receive from.

When it comes to securing for us all the benefits of salvation, He did all the hard work. He did everything it took to set us free from sin, sickness, lack, fear and every other part of the curse. What's more, He did it before we ever asked Him for anything. He did it, as Romans 5:8 says, "while we were yet sinners."

I remember when this first hit me. It was back before I knew much of anything about the Bible. I'd asked Jesus into my heart, so I'd received the new birth, but I didn't think I deserved much more. Because of the way I'd messed up my life, I thought for sure that I had sinned away my opportunity to preach.

Then, I found out from the Scriptures that "Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). *Man, I qualify for that!* I thought. I also learned that "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).

Together, those two truths absolutely made me free!

I realized that the old Kenneth died the instant I was born again. He doesn't even exist anymore, and there's no record in heaven that he ever did. The Kenneth who exists now has been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. "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" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Talk about easy! I didn't have to jump through any religious hoops to get Jesus to do that for me. I didn't have to talk Him into it. He'd already done it 2,000 years ago. I just had to believe it and receive.

"Yes, Brother Copeland, I know that's how it is with the new birth. But I've already been saved. What I need now is healing, and it's a different matter."

No, it's not.

According to the Bible, both the new birth and healing are part of the great salvation Jesus provided for us. He paid the price for them at the same time. On the Cross, Isaiah 53:5 says, "He was wounded

*"He paid
the price to set us
free from sin, hell,
sickness, lack, fear
and every other
part of the
curse."*







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for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace [*shalom*—nothing missing, nothing broken] was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed” (*New King James Version*).

Quoting the last phrase of that verse the Apostle Peter put it in the past tense. “By [Jesus’] stripes ye were healed,” he said (1 Peter 2:24).

Years ago, Brother Kenneth E. Hagin was preaching about this here in Fort Worth, at Bob Nichols’ church. Gloria and I had just come in from out of town, and by the time we got to the meeting it was already underway. Just as we walked into the foyer, a woman came busting out of the sanctuary, mad as can be.

“I have been healed for 2,000 years, and I’m just now finding out about it!” she said. (She was upset with the devil and her denomination for keeping that fact from her for so long.) Then she whirled around and charged back into the service, no longer mad but excited.

She was done waiting around just hoping and praying for her healing! She had received the revelation Jesus wants us all to get—that we don’t have to talk Him into healing us anymore than we have to talk Him into saving us. Just as we did with the new birth, we can simply receive healing by faith.

“Of Course, I Will!”

If you want to see how easy Jesus intends for this to be, look at how easy He made it for people in the Gospels. Read, for instance, about the leper who came to Him. If ever there should have been a hard case it would have been that man’s. He was in horrendous shape.

Luke 5:12 says he was “full of leprosy,” which means he was at stage 4, about dead. He had running sores and rotting flesh all over his body. He smelled awful and probably hadn’t worn clean clothes in who knows how long. He was forbidden by law to even get close to people but, as Mark 1:40-42 records, he came to Jesus anyway, “implored Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, ‘If You are willing, You can make me clean.’ Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, ‘I am willing; be cleansed.’ As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed” (*NKJV*).

Sadly, multiplied millions of Christians today are still struggling with the same question this man initially had. They believe Jesus can heal them, but they wonder: *Is it His will?* Until they know the answer, they can’t have faith to be healed, because faith begins where the will of God is known.

That’s why Jesus didn’t leave us wondering! He answered the question about His will to heal once

and for all when He said to the leper, “I am willing.” Or, as one translation of the Bible puts it, “Of course, I will!”

Jesus didn’t stop there either. He did something more. He lovingly moved toward the man, who by this time had fallen on his face before Jesus, and (the way I picture it) He knelt in the dirt right next to him. He got as close to him as He could and did what the leper couldn’t imagine anyone would ever do: He touched him.

“Be cleansed,” Jesus said, and the man was healed.

If you read in Matthew 8 about what Jesus did next, you’ll see He always made healing that easy for people. After ministering to the leper, He went on to His hometown of Capernaum and healed the centurion’s servant. He offered to go to the man’s house to minister to the servant personally. But the centurion, convinced he wasn’t worthy to have Jesus in his home, told Him there was no need for Him to come. “Speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed,” he said (verse 8).

And Jesus answered, “‘Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you.’ And his servant was healed that same hour” (verse 13, *NKJV*).

From there, Jesus went to Peter’s house, where “He saw his wife’s mother lying sick with a fever. So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And... when evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ‘He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses’” (verses 14-17, *NKJV*).

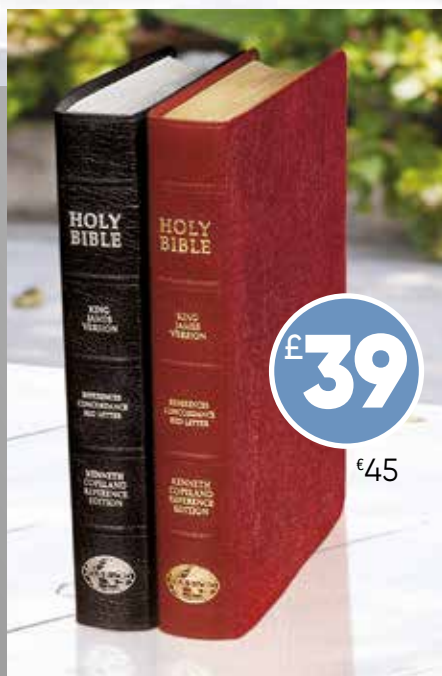
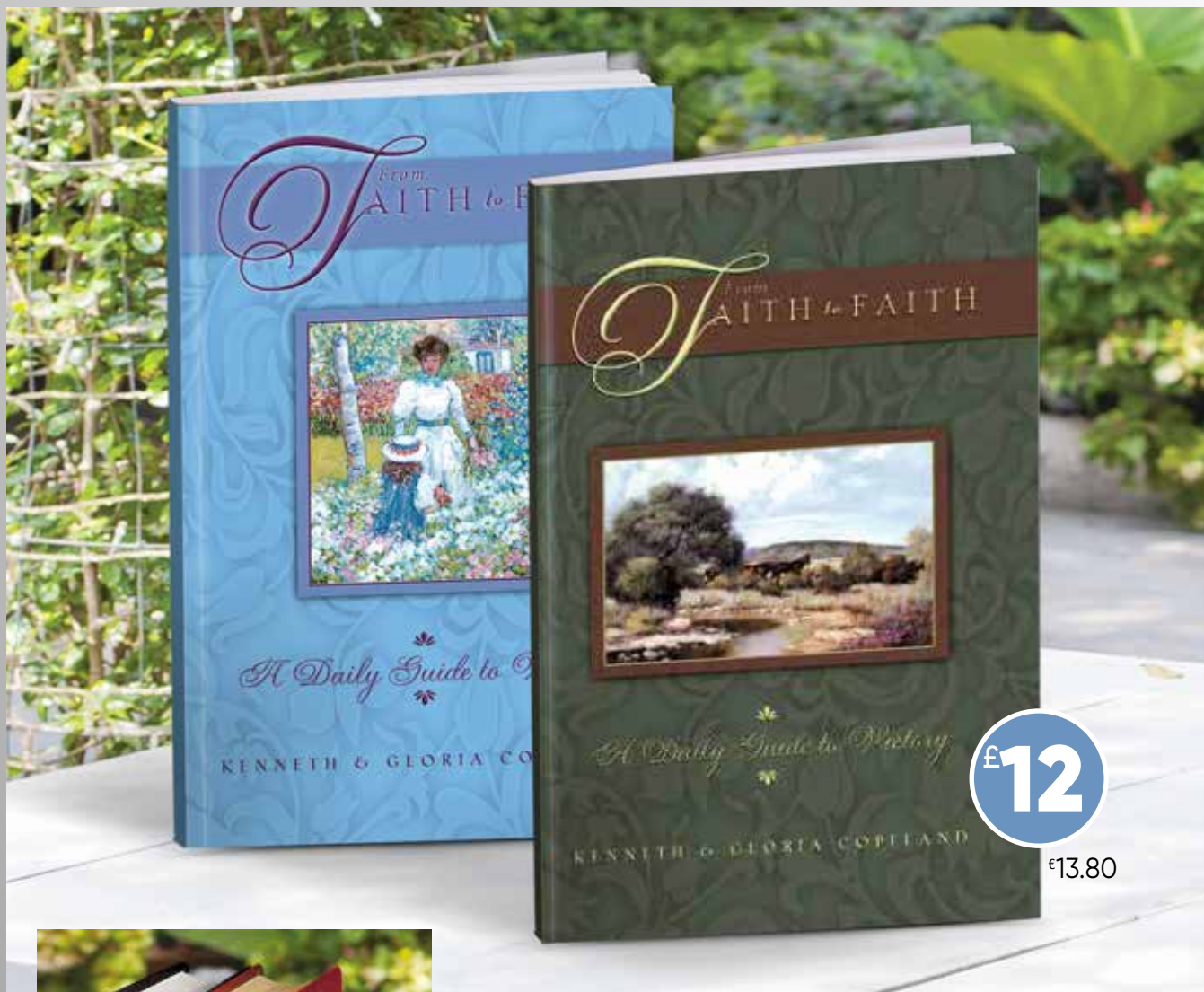
What does all this have to do with us? Everything! Hebrews 13:8 says, “Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” So He’s still as easy to receive from now as He was back then.

“But Brother Copeland, how do we receive healing from Jesus now that He isn’t ministering on the earth anymore?”

There are a number of ways.

First and foremost, healing can be received by simply believing God’s WORD. By taking the healing scriptures and standing on them by faith. It can also be received by following the instructions given in James 5. It says, if a believer is sick “let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up” (James 5:14-15).

Years ago, the wife of a dear friend of our family received an outstanding healing this way. She’d been diagnosed with a brain tumor and was about to have surgery. She was already in happy land from the anesthesia, but right before they wheeled her away, my friend asked if I’d anoint her with oil and pray.



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Sept. 2-4 | Columbia, S.C.

Omaha Live Victory Campaign

Oct. 28-30 | Omaha, Neb.

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Nov. 11-13 | Woodbridge, Va.

**Kenneth Copeland
is also speaking here:**
(Contact the host church for details.)

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion
Aug. 19-20 : Brooklyn Park, Minn.
lwcc.org

Healing of the Nations Motorcycle Rally
Aug. 27 : Hidden Springs, Ariz.
cofaz.org

International Faith Conference
Sept. 13-14 : Forest Park, Ill.
billwinston.org or livingwd.org

Pathpoint Fellowship Church
22nd Anniversary
Sept. 17 : Amarillo, Texas
pathpointfellowship.com

Greater Glory at Canaan Land
Nov. 5 : Autaugaville, Ala.
canaanland.com

New Year's Eve Service
Dec. 31 : Newark, Texas
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For updated event information visit:

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“
We don't have
to talk Him
into healing us
anymore than
we have to
talk Him into
saving us.
”

Afterward, we went into a room in the hospital to wait for the operation to be completed. But sooner than expected, the doctor showed up with a very concerned look on his face.

“I don't know how to explain this,” he said, “but when I went in to remove the tumor, it wasn't there. I could see the indentation where it had been, but the tumor itself was gone!”

Another way healing can be received is through the gifts of the Spirit, such as the word of knowledge, the word of wisdom, the gift of faith, the gifts of healings, and the working of miracles. Those gifts operate only as the Spirit wills though, so it's best to go ahead and develop your faith for healing by feeding on The WORD. Then, rather than having to wait and hope for the gifts to manifest, you'll be able to receive healing anytime you need it.

Time To Grow Up

It's also wise to go ahead and develop your own faith because the gifts tend to manifest most often for the benefit of unbelievers or baby Christians. More than once, I've even heard ministers say, “I wish we could get all these Pentecostal old-timers to go ahead and receive so they could get out of the healing line. Then we could pray for some other people and get some miracles!”

It took me a while to understand that. But I eventually realized that spiritually, just as in the natural, there comes a time when Christians need to grow up. A time when they need to learn to believe God for themselves rather than always relying on the pastor to minister healing to them.

Too many, though, never get to that point. Instead, they just complain: “I used to get healed every time Pastor prayed for me back when I first got saved, but not anymore. Maybe Pastor has lost the anointing.”

He hasn't lost the anointing! You're just too big for him to carry you anymore. You've been born again and have heard The WORD long enough that when the devil starts trying to put sickness on you, instead of calling the pastor, you need to reach for your Bible, get the healing scriptures in your heart and in your mouth, and put the devil to flight.

“But that sounds hard, and you said Jesus is easy to receive from.”

He is, but to stop the devil from stealing what Jesus has given you, you have to “fight the good fight of faith” (1 Timothy 6:12). You have to take the sword of the Spirit, which is The WORD of God, and resist the devil until he flees from you (James 4:7).

The devil will flee from any believer who stands by faith on The WORD!

He even fled from someone I met in a meeting

by Happy Caldwell



THE POWER AND PURPOSE OF

years ago who was in a coma. When they brought him forward for prayer, he was strapped to a gurney because he was having hard seizures every five to 10 minutes. Jerry Savelle and I laid hands on him, and the seizures stopped.

Then the word of The LORD came to me. He said the man's wife was to read The WORD to him nonstop.

"When you get tired of reading," I told her, "play him the Bible on tape." (This was back in the days of reel-to-reel tapes.) "Keep the tape going even at night so he's hearing The WORD all the time."

That man never did have any more seizures after we prayed for him, but when his wife took him home, he was still in a coma. She did just as The LORD had instructed though and kept The WORD going in his room. One day, after about a week and a half of seeing no change in him, one of his wife's friends stopped by and offered to read to him while she fixed lunch.

The friend was just reading away with the man still lying on the gurney in a coma when suddenly he sat straight up. His first words still make me laugh every time I think about them: "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen!" he said.

He told us later that the entire time he was in the coma he could hear everything that was going on. "I was just trapped inside my body and I couldn't let anyone know," he said. "But the more WORD I heard, the more it got down in me, and suddenly I broke free!"

I've actually heard testimonies of unbelievers who came out of a coma having been born again. One man I heard said while he was comatose, he came so close to death his spirit left his body. When he did, he realized there was a being there helping him (probably because he had a praying mama). In his testimony, he said, "I saw heaven and I saw hell, and the being called me by name and said, 'Take your pick.'" The man chose heaven and lived to tell the story.

I'm convinced a lot of people get born again right before they die that we never hear about. Heaven is full of last-second believers!

"Brother Copeland, surely you don't think someone could live their whole life like a devil and get saved in the last second."

Yes, I do! I asked The LORD about it one time and He confirmed that He would take anyone, up to the last nanosecond.

Kenneth, he said, I'm not trying to keep people out of heaven. I'm trying to get them in!

He's the same way about healing. He's not trying to keep it from us, He's trying to get it to us. Jesus has already done the hard part. He paid the price to set us free from sin, hell, sickness, lack, fear and every other part of the curse. We simply need to believe it—and receive! 🙏



When God called our ministry to build a Christian television network in Arkansas, He said, I've asked other people to do this. You weren't My first choice.

That surprised me.

"Well, if You don't mind telling me," I asked, "what number am I?"

You're No. 7, He said. I asked six other people to do this before you, but none of them did it. You must do this.

That's the time we're at in history...the time when God is telling His people: "You must do this!" We must work to fulfill the vision God has given us. We're in the middle of a spiritual awakening, and each of us must ask, *What part will I play?*

Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." We must understand the vision God has given to each of us—and *do it*.

An Example of Vision

We have an example of this kind of faithfulness from the publisher of this magazine.

In 1979, KCM produced a brochure about its headquarters. It was titled, "The Revival Capital of the World." When I received that brochure, I wrote a message to Brother Copeland on the back of it: "You and I are going to preach the Word via satellite around the



“
A vision from God is *alive*. It's a spiritual, living thing that contains its own power.
 ”

world together.”

That was over 40 years ago. And guess what? KCM *is* The Revival Capital of the World[®]. It's coming to pass; I see it so clearly. More and more, people are being touched by the Spirit of God at The Revival Capital of the World. They're taking the blessing they experience and bringing it back home.

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland and their entire ministry have held fast to the Word of Faith for over 50 years. They've been criticized, maligned and lied about, but they've held to the assignment and the vision God gave Kenneth all those years ago. They stuck with it, and now they're on the cusp of seeing that assignment and vision fulfilled. Theirs is an example for us all...an example of vision.

Vision Carries Power

When you buy a toy at a department store, if batteries are required, somewhere printed on the box will be the words, “Batteries included,” or “Batteries not included.” If batteries are included, then the manufacturer has provided the power to operate that toy.

Well, I've got good news for you: A vision from God comes with batteries included. It comes with its own God-ordained power to bring it to pass. We see this outlined in Habakkuk 2:1-3:

I will stand upon my watch [*or your sphere of influence*], and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reprov'd. And the LORD answered me, and said, **Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry** (explanation and emphasis added).

Read those bolded verses again. The truth in them is still as real today as it was in Habakkuk's day. A vision from God is *alive*. It's a spiritual, living thing that contains its own power.

If you've received a vision from the Lord, now is not the time to give up. Don't become weary in well-doing. Don't let the devil lie to you and tell you your vision isn't important. Don't let age or passing years, or even partial success, convince you that you can sit back and coast through the rest of your life. If the Lord has given you a vision, you're *called* to see it fulfilled to completion.

Vision Is Redemptive

How do you know if the vision you've received is from God? The easiest way is to ask yourself this simple question: *Is it a redemptive revelation?* In other words, is it *others*-focused or *me*-focused? A vision from the Lord will always be others-focused.

We can see an example of this in Acts 26, when the Apostle Paul stood in front of King Agrippa and shared how Jesus had appeared to him on the road to Damascus. Jesus told Paul:

But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me (verses 16-18).

The vision God gave Paul was to become a light and a witness. Even today, God raises up men and women with vision to impact others. It's clear when a vision is present because of its redemptive effects on people.

Vision vs. Ambition

Vision changes people, and we need leaders who understand that. Being called a leader is not necessarily a compliment if you're not a visionary leader. Vision never leaves things the way they are. Instead, it moves you to change things for the better.

About 35 years ago, I had a young pastor stop by my office. He had recently taken over a church in the city. He told me he was going to build the biggest church in Little Rock. He was a wonderful teacher, and I had the privilege of hearing him teach on the radio. A couple years later he came back to see me and said, “I'm leaving this church. I'm going across



the river to start another church.”

“You can’t do that,” I said. “You’ll split the church. It’ll hurt the people.”

He did it anyway, and it didn’t go well. After a lot of heartache and financial problems, he left town. Neither of the two churches he pastored exist today. Both were destroyed. Yes, he had ambition, but he didn’t have vision. What’s the difference? Vision guides, ambition drives. One is God-ordained, the other is man-designed, and only one is effective in the long run.

Vision Has Purpose

In Genesis 37:5, Joseph dreamed about the leadership role he would play in his family. When he told it to his brothers, they hated him because, as the youngest, his leadership wasn’t obvious.

Joseph didn’t learn his lesson about keeping the vision quiet. In verse 8, his brothers reacted to his dreams: “And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.”

Because Joseph’s vision was from God, it came to pass despite his brothers’ concerns. The Bible records how Joseph was sold into slavery, imprisoned, and eventually released and elevated to the second in command of Egypt. When a famine hit the region, he was in a position to save his entire family from starvation.

In Genesis 45:1-2, he came face to face with the brothers who had sold him into slavery. “Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren. And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.”

In verses 5-7, he said to his brothers, “Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life. For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.”

There was a threefold purpose for Joseph’s dream and vision. The first purpose was to preserve life. The second was to preserve a remnant. The third was to “save your lives by a great deliverance.”

In verse 10, Joseph told his father, his brothers and their families that they would live in “the land

of Goshen.” It was a special place where everything prospered. Their cattle prospered. They prospered. They were where they were supposed to be, all because Joseph fulfilled the vision...a vision of purpose.

Am I in the Place of God?

Later, Joseph told his family: “Fear not: for am I in the place of God?” (Genesis 50:19). Joseph knew he was exactly where he was supposed to be.

Some people interpret Joseph’s life erroneously. They take the statement Joseph made in the next verse and twist it: “But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive” (verse 20).

They read it like this: “You thought evil against

“VISION GUIDES, AMBITION DRIVES.”

One is God-ordained, the other is man-designed.”

me; but God meant *the evil* unto good.”

That interpretation is out of line with God’s DNA. He has no evil in Him, and He doesn’t use the devil to bring you anywhere.

God spoke to me about this verse. He said, *You want to understand this correctly? Define it, and it’ll all work.*

So let’s look at *it* correctly: “Ye thought evil against me; but God meant it—the vision—unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”

God didn’t have anything to do with evil. He didn’t have anything to do with them selling Joseph. God didn’t have anything to do with Potiphar’s house and Potiphar’s wife trying to rape Joseph. He didn’t have anything to do with him going to prison. God meant the dream—the vision—for good.

What’s Your Vision?

So let me ask you: Do you have a vision from God? A vision that orients the activity in your life? A vision that moves you? If so, then it has the distinct purpose to preserve life and change things for the better. It’s sure to be bigger than you are, and that’s OK. The vision will always be for His glory, and whatever vision He has given you will come with the power to do it.

You must do it! 



Happy Caldwell is founder and pastor emeritus of Agape Church in Little Rock, Ark. He is also president and founder, along with his wife, Jeanne, of the Victory Television Network® in Little Rock. For ministry materials or more information, go to vntv.com.





by
*Melanie
Hemry*

The True Secret to Success

THE STENCH EMANATING FROM THE DUMPSTER CREPT LIKE A FOG INTO EVERY PORE OF LARRY AND PAM WINTERS' BODIES. THE SUN OVER RALEIGH, N.C., HAD BAKED IT THERE. IT FILLED THEIR NOSTRILS, COATED THEIR HAIR AND EMBEDDED ITSELF IN THEIR CLOTHES.

Taking a deep breath and holding it, Larry hoisted himself over the side and into the dumpster. He tossed out aluminum cans to Pam, who dropped them into the bag she carried.

Each week, in addition to their other jobs, they scoured the city for cans. Dumpsters behind bars, they'd learned, were rich with them. On weekends, they picked them up at golf tournaments and other events.

Larry and Pam had met at the car wash where they both worked. Pam had been the cashier. Larry took the cars through the wash. Once they'd married, even their combined income hadn't been enough to keep up with their bills.

The rent on their 900-square-foot house was only \$225 per month. Yet they were three months behind in making the payments. They had plenty of debt, but no money. No heat. The water had been turned

off...again. They didn't own a car.

Pam wiped the sweat from her brow.

They'd heard about a business opportunity and started a direct selling business. It wasn't doing too well. A lot of work for little to no return.

However, during a convention, everyone had been asked to attend a meeting where they would share the real secret of success. Anxious to hear it, Larry and Pam had attended. The secret to success, they'd learned, was living for Jesus.

They each answered an altar call and gave their lives to Him. Larry had wept all afternoon. The next day, he arrived at work still crying.

"What's wrong with you?" his boss asked.

"I got born again yesterday," he said.

His boss muttered something like, "You're nuts!" before walking away.

That had been four years ago. Now,



looking nuttier than ever, here Larry and Pam were...dumpster diving.

Neither had any illusions that selling aluminum cans would pay the rent. That money was for something much more important. It was their lifeline to a better life. An investment in their future.

Larry carried the bags filled with aluminum cans to the car Pam's mother had loaned them. The 1977 Ford Mustang II had been wrecked. The frame was so twisted the hood wouldn't shut right. If they drove over 55 mph, it vibrated so hard it couldn't be controlled. Once it had been silver. Now it was faded to gray and rust.

As if they needed another challenge, back at home Larry and Pam heard their 1-year-old daughter, Tara, screaming in pain. Her temperature was 104 degrees. By the time they got her to the hospital, it was 105.

"Your daughter has spinal meningitis," the pediatrician explained.

They spent a grueling 16 days praying as their daughter fought for her life.

The hospital billed them \$16,000.

Would they ever catch a break?

“Every time it came, I read the magazine from cover to cover. Those beautiful words came into our home and meant so much to me.”

When Hard Times Get Harder

"That year, 1985, was the hardest of our lives," Larry recalls. "Before we were born again in 1981, I'd never really heard the gospel message. Pam had been raised in church but never had a personal relationship with Jesus.

"Although I'd been radically saved, I had no foundation of the Word. I didn't have any spiritual principles in me and didn't begin to learn any until 1983. One autumn evening that year, a friend gave me the keys to his Mercedes. He told me to keep it overnight to wash and wax it. He told me to feel free to drive it.

"I drove his car that evening and listened to a cassette that was in the tape deck. I'd never heard anything like it. It was a teaching by Kenneth Copeland.

"The next day, when my friend heard how much I'd enjoyed the tape, he loaned me the entire series. I listened to the series at least 10 times that week, from beginning to end. The more I heard, the hungrier I became."

While Larry got excited about those first tapes, Pam wasn't initially on the same page. Unlike Larry, she had been raised in church and the messages she'd heard didn't sound anything like what Kenneth Copeland preached. The difference left her feeling confused and scared. Even so, she continued to listen to the teachings and watch *Believer's Voice of Victory* on TV. The more she listened and watched, the more settled she felt.

What truly turned the tide for her, Pam says, was the *BVOV* magazine. A stay-at-home mom, spending her days alone in the house with her baby daughter, Pam received the magazine each month like manna from heaven.

"Every time it came, I read the magazine from cover to cover," Pam remembers. "Those beautiful words came into our home and meant so much to me. I slowly realized that Larry couldn't do my part for me. He couldn't get revelation for me. I had to get into the Word for myself.

"I'd had some bad things happen to me in the past and felt like God didn't love me. I believed that He hadn't protected me because I wasn't worth it. Through God's Word, I learned that wasn't true.

"From the pages of the Bible, I learned that God loved me. I was precious to Him. I'd been created for a specific purpose. He had great plans for me! I believed and received that truth. Since then, my life



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has never been the same.”

Once Pam was on board with the message of faith, she and Larry agreed to begin to apply it in every area of life, including their finances. That meant investing in their own spiritual growth, and into the kingdom of God.

“We became Partners with KCM in 1983,” Larry says. “I’ll never forget sending them our first check for \$15. That was a lot of money for us. We used some of the money we earned from selling aluminum cans to buy resources for our spiritual walk and for our business. The first teaching series we bought were *The Authority of the Believer* and *God’s Laws of Prosperity* by Kenneth Copeland. I also bought *The Power of Confession* by Fred Price.

“I can’t quantify how many times I heard them. For the next three or four years, I listened to them day and night. I’d started a lawn care business and listened to Kenneth every day while I mowed. I immersed myself in the Word.

“Kenneth Copeland taught me how to read the Word, understand the Word and stand on the Word. I let him teach me how to sow and how to receive. As I put those principles into practice though—things got worse before they got better.

“We were always behind on our bills. There was one financial fire after another. I don’t blame our financial problems on the devil. I was making bad financial decisions and mishandling money.”

Forming a Spiritual Partnership

One day, Larry came home and found his wife in tears. Day after day of being hounded by calls from bill collectors had pushed her to her limit. Larry

knew it would help if they had an answering machine to screen the calls. But how could they spend money on that when they were behind on their water bill? The \$11 bill had jumped to \$22, and now was \$33.

He sat beside Pam on the bed.

“I can’t take it anymore,” she said. “I just want this to be over. I want it to go away.”

“WE’RE NOT SPECIAL. WE’RE JUST HUMBLE, THANKFUL CAR WASH PEOPLE WHO LEARNED TO OPERATE IN THE POWER AND PRINCIPLES OF SOWING AND REAPING.”

“If we stop what we’re doing, will that help anything?”

“No.”

“Then we just have to keep going, standing in faith, speaking God’s Word and doing everything we can do in the natural,” Larry told her. “Let’s pray, because if you’ll help me, I promise that as we succeed you can have anything you want.”

“It’s not about things,” Pam said. “I just don’t want to be losing every day.”

That evening, Pam and Larry prayed. By the time they finished, they had something stronger than just a marriage. They had formed a spiritual partnership. No matter what happened, they wouldn’t be moved. No matter how bad things got, they would refuse to change their stand on the Word or change their confession.



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE JULY

		Old Testament	New Testament
Thu	1	2 Kgs. 10:1-12:8	Rom. 13
Fri	2	2 Kgs. 12:9-14:22	Rom. 14
Sat	3	2 Kgs. 14:23-16:20	
Sun	4	Ps. 79-81; Prov. 17:1-18	
Mon	5	2 Kgs. 17:1-18:16	Rom. 15
Tue	6	2 Kgs. 18:17-20:11	Rom. 16
Wed	7	2 Kgs. 20:12-22:20	1 Cor. 1
Thu	8	2 Kgs. 23-24	1 Cor. 2
Fri	9	2 Kgs. 25-1 Chr. 1:33	1 Cor. 3
Sat	10	1 Chr. 1:34-2:41	
Sun	11	Ps. 82-85; Prov. 17:19-18:9	
Mon	12	1 Chr. 2:42-4:23	1 Cor. 4
Tue	13	1 Chr. 4:24-6:30	1 Cor. 5
Wed	14	1 Chr. 6:31-7:12	1 Cor. 6
Thu	15	1 Chr. 7:13-8:40	1 Cor. 7
Fri	16	1 Chr. 9:1-11:3	1 Cor. 8
Sat	17	1 Chr. 11:4-12:22	
Sun	18	Ps. 86-88; Prov. 18:10-24	
Mon	19	1 Chr. 12:23-15:15	1 Cor. 9
Tue	20	1 Chr. 15:16-16:43	1 Cor. 10
Wed	21	1 Chr. 17-19	1 Cor. 11
Thu	22	1 Chr. 20-22	1 Cor. 12
Fri	23	1 Chr. 23-24	1 Cor. 13
Sat	24	1 Chr. 25-26	
Sun	25	Ps. 89; Prov. 19:1-17	
Mon	26	1 Chr. 27:1-29:9	1 Cor. 14
Tue	27	1 Chr. 29:10-2 Chr. 2:18	1 Cor. 15
Wed	28	2 Chr. 3:1-6:11	1 Cor. 16
Thu	29	2 Chr. 6:12-8:10	2 Cor. 1
Fri	30	2 Chr. 8:11-11:4	2 Cor. 2
Sat	31	2 Chr. 11:5-14:8	

The devil responded to their decision by launching his fiercest attack.

“That’s when our daughter got spinal meningitis,” Larry says. “But thank God, we’d learned from Kenneth that healing was ours. We spoke God’s Word over her nonstop as nurses gave her IVs and ice baths. We confessed, ‘Tara is healed by Jesus’ stripes! No weapon formed against her will prosper!’ We continued to speak the Word over her.

“We give glory to God for healing Tara. We also thank God that because Kenneth taught us our rights and our authority, our daughter was healed and made whole.”

Living Past Delayed Gratification

Over the next few years, things started to get better. The family grew, as Pam gave birth to two sons, Stephen and Ricky. In 1986, their direct selling business began showing signs of life, and their lawn care business was growing as well.

By December of 1988, all the bills were caught up and they received a \$5,000 bonus. Larry gave Pam \$400 and kept \$400 for himself. “It’s been too long since we bought anything for ourselves,” he said. “Go to the mall and buy yourself something nice.”

Pam walked around the mall. She looked in windows. She walked up and down aisles. She looked at purses and jewelry. It all seemed so foreign to her.

“What did you buy?” Larry asked when she came home.

“I had so much fun!” Pam said, her eyes lit. She wasn’t carrying a bag.

She hadn’t bought anything. She’d lived in delayed gratification for so long, she didn’t know how to spend money.

“Go back to the mall,” Larry ordered. “Buy yourself *something*.”

In 1989, Larry had the opportunity to sell his lawn care business. That only left one source of income—their direct selling business. But it was thriving.

“We lived in that little rental house for seven years,” Larry explains. “We moved into another rental, which was a little larger, and stayed there for two years. “We wanted to buy a home, but a realtor looked at our finances and told us we’d never get a loan.

“In 1985, our income was only \$10,000. It went up a little each year, and finally we were

caught up on all our bills. By 1991, the business was booming—we made \$380,000! We were so overwhelmed at the blessing, we didn’t know what to do.

“That same year, we saved \$100,000 and used it as a down payment on a \$350,000 house. They approved the loan in 15 minutes! We paid off that loan very quickly.


“Kenneth taught us to live within our means. He taught us to give and sow. Our income has continued to grow. Today, we own a 34-acre farm in North Carolina. The sign on the gates leading to the farm says, ‘Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.’

“We recently bought a second home in Florida on 5 1/2 acres. We’ve never invested in the world system. When people ask for financial advice, I tell them that we live to give, especially to Kenneth Copeland Ministries. Most of the time, people struggling with finances don’t understand that the tithe is just giving back to God what’s already His. Multiplication comes from what you give above that.

“You have to trust God. Many times people don’t give and therefore they can’t reap. People used to tell me I was stupid for making almost nothing and still giving to God. They don’t call me stupid now.

“We’re not special. We’re just humble, thankful car wash people who learned to operate in the power and principles of sowing and reaping. You just can’t outgive God. We’ve tried.

“We give our heavenly Father all the honor and glory for our prosperity. For our wonderful marriage, our three children and soon-to-be six grandchildren. We live a blessed life because of our partnership with Kenneth Copeland. That partnership means everything to us. It has changed the whole trajectory of our lives.”

Larry and Pam Winters don’t just sow money. They also sow into people’s lives. In 1991, they started hosting their own business conferences four times a year. Each Sunday, during the conference, they share the true secret of success: living for Jesus. They’ve welcomed thousands and thousands of people into the kingdom of God. 

JOIN LARRY & PAM IN TEACHING BELIEVERS HOW TO USE THEIR FAITH.

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What To Do When...

You Hear Something That Scares You

Commander
Kellie's Corner



SUPERKID, HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION WHERE YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO? I HAVE. IT CAN BE UNSETTLING UNTIL YOU KNOW HOW TO RESPOND.

Have you been in a situation before where you knew exactly what to do? I have. The difference was huge! I felt less turmoil and concern, and I was able to react quickly and do what I knew was right. **When you know what to do, fear and worry don't enter in as easily.**

The next few months, I would like to talk to you about "What to do when...." As we shine a light on difficult, confusing or uncomfortable situations, we can preplan our responses that will help us win over those situations. As I am thinking about you and what problems you might be challenged with, one comes quickly to mind: fear.

Fear can come at you from many directions, but one thing is for sure. God did not send it! Before we go any further, you need to know that. Although the Bible talks about the fear of God, it's not referring to being afraid, but it means the awe, respect and honor for God. Second Timothy 1:7 (*The Passion Translation*) says, "For God will never give you the spirit of fear, but the Holy Spirit who gives you mighty power, love, and self-control."

That settles it, doesn't it? That's good news because if God was giving me fear, I couldn't very well go to Jesus to help me get rid of it, could I? Phewww! That's a big relief. Now, let's talk about where fear does come from. Fear is a tool of our enemy, Satan. He uses it to keep people in his control. BUT Jesus has already beaten him! **The devil can only try to trick us into being afraid.** So he tries, but the more prepared and smarter we are, the less he can deceive us.



Fear will never conquer me!

One way fear can come is by what I call the "half-the-story trick." This is when you overhear someone say something that seems scary, hurtful or dangerous. When kids hear these things and don't tell a grown-up about it, they don't find out what is really going on. It is easy to imagine all kinds of things that aren't true when you don't know the full story.

Let me tell you an example. Years ago, something terrible caused a building to collapse. I heard of a child who saw this on the news. And while that could cause some fear, the building was far away and not a threat to the child's safety. However, TV news shows continued to air it, day after day for weeks. This child thought that buildings were being knocked down in cities all over the world! That's a terribly heavy weight for a little child to bear alone! Yet kids don't always ask questions or learn the truth about what they've heard. Don't feel bad, adults don't either!

How can we prepare ourselves to prevent this kind of fear from developing in our hearts and minds? I have some practical suggestions.

#1 Every time any kind of fear comes, say, "NO! I refuse to be afraid!" There is a great deal of power in YOUR choosing to not be afraid. Picture fear as an animal trying to get into

your picnic basket. No, not a bear...picture a mouse! Mice are easy to scare off when you realize how BIG you are, compared to how small they are. Fear is like that mouse—powerless when you stand up to it. That's YOUR picnic basket! Don't let that mouse in

there and don't let him trick you into thinking he is a bear! That's the same way you watch over the peace of God in your mind!

#2 Give that fear to Jesus and let Him fill you with peace. He IS our peace. Psalm 23 is one of my favorite scriptures. Verse 4 tells us how Jesus is our peace. We can remind ourselves that He is there with us all the time. "Even when your path takes me through the valley of deepest darkness, fear will never conquer me, for you already have! Your authority is my strength and my peace. The comfort of your love takes away my fear. I'll never be lonely, for you are near."

#3 Go straight to your parents or leader and tell them what you overheard.

They can help you understand the situation better. Many times there is nothing for you to worry about. In those times when there is something troubling going on, your parents will help you deal with the fear.

#4 Make a decision in your heart to trust the Lord and your parents or leader to handle the scary thing you heard, and to take care of you. If fear tries to come back, just remember that mouse trying to get into your picnic basket! Picture your lunch: An amazing sandwich, your favorite cookies and all kinds of goodies are in there, and it's yours! You are not letting that mouse anywhere near it! And you are not letting fear steal your peace!

Superkids, I want you to understand something: There are two kinds of peace. There is a natural peace that comes when you understand the facts about what's going on. Knowledge gives you some peace and fixes some of your confusion. Better though, is the true peace that can only come from Jesus. The Bible says that this kind of peace goes way beyond our own ability to understand the situation. Jesus brings this to our hearts when we let Him.

Now that you know what to do, the next time you hear something that scares you, you'll be armed and ready to say, "NO!" You've got this, Superkids! Better than that, Jesus has got YOU!

No Fear, Superkids!
Commander Kellie



TESTIMONIES OF REAL-LIFE VICTORY

Faithful to His Word

God has healed me. I was sick for a month, but I believed God had already taken this infirmity on Himself, died for our sins and has given me long life. Listening to healing videos of the Copelands on YouTube® gave me faith and hope. I know the whole team was praying for me; may the Lord bless you all. His Word accomplished what it was sent to do (Isaiah 55:11).

South Africa

Thankful

For four days I had a battle with pain in my left side along with fever and a bladder infection. I had been standing on healing scriptures and needed someone to agree with me, so I called for prayer. The next day, all pain was gone, and the infection cleared up in a few days. Thank God for your prayer team, for answered prayers and for my healing.

B.C. | Mississippi

'No Cancer'

Last year I was diagnosed with bladder cancer. I called KCM for prayer. After two surgeries and treatment, the doctor examined me and found no cancer. He said, "Now this is the way it is supposed to look. No cancer." Thank God for He has healed me! And thank you, KCM!

B.W. | Illinois

'The Holy Spirit Set Me Free'

I have over 50 cards from KCM with declarations of the Word I recite daily. One day I was studying with negative feelings against some people and asked the Lord to show me what it was. One of your cards

was on bitterness; as I read it, I felt the Holy Spirit set me free and I was able to repent and apologize. Thank you.

P.M. | Louisiana

'Completely Healed!'

I called to receive prayer for healing for a wound that had been slow to heal (months) and within a couple of days it was completely healed! It stopped scabbing and the skin is smooth and perfect. Praise God.

M.M. | Florida



"Operating in mountain-moving faith is dependent upon operating in forgiveness."

—Kenneth Copeland

'Giving to GOOD GROUND'

I heard George Pearsons on TV make a statement that struck me. He was holding a list of ministries that you had given airplanes to. I told my wife, "We're already giving a lot, but send \$100 to the Copelands, so that our giving is on a greater level—God has blessed them."

From 2010 to 2015 our patient load had dropped from 175 visits a week to 65 on average. However, we *never* quit tithing. Our savings disappeared; and we tried to exist mainly on our social security. Every four to six weeks, we would take \$1,000 to cover expenses.

When we directed \$100 a month to your ministry, our patient load increased and we started having money to pay our monthly expenses, plus a reserve. What a lesson in giving to GOOD GROUND. So grateful Pastor George spoke about your "giving attitude" that day.

L.S. | Clarkston, Wash.

A Whole New Life

I've battled with drugs and alcohol and was also in the gay community. In prison, a pastor asked me about the Lord. We shared a lot of time together and he asked me to get

baptized—the best day of my life, which has been amazing since then.

While in prison, I began receiving the Believer's Voice of Victory magazine. Each month, I

studied it with my Bible and I still receive it. You have encouraged me through your magazine and helped me grow in the Lord, along with all the wonderful things you do to send people

guidance and new starts. The power and the presence is amazing in my life now. God bless all of you and remember, Jesus is Lord.

K.F. | Louisiana



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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Suicidal Thoughts Gone

I read your *BVOV* magazine story about Todd White and was healed of suicidal thoughts that I've had every day for many years. I cried as I read it yesterday and read it again today—I'm so happy! Thank you, KCM.

D.S. | Ohio

Worth the Wait!

I called the prayer line regarding a job I was waiting to hear back on. The hiring manager was out so it was taking a couple of weeks. The reason it took so long was because they were giving me a better job title with more pay! Thank you for the prayers.

R.W. | Grayson, Ga.

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***“Love
rejoices
over other people’s
success. It celebrates
when it sees them
prosper.”***



by Gloria Copeland



Envy: An Enemy of Love

THE DEVIL IS A THIEF.

HE COMES "TO STEAL, AND TO KILL, AND TO DESTROY" (JOHN 10:10). SO, IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE TO YOU THAT THE MOMENT YOU START BEARING THE FRUIT OF LOVE, HE'LL IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT TO STEAL IT.

He'll try to introduce into your life things that are specifically designed to oppose and hinder your love walk. I call these things "enemies of love."

Just as the force of love produces victory and blessing in our lives, love's enemies open the door to Satan. They make us vulnerable to him so that he can get in and do his dirty work. If we know how to identify his strategies, however, we can guard ourselves against them. So, it's important for us to know what they are.

One enemy of love that's especially dangerous is the devilish force of *envy*.

Envy is a feeling of discontent and ill will because of another's advantages, possessions or success. It's a longing to possess something awarded to or achieved by another. It's closely associated with jealousy, which denotes a feeling of resentment that another has gained something one feels he or she more rightfully deserves.

First Corinthians 13:4 (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*) says emphatically, "Love is *never* envious!"

Love rejoices over other people's success. It celebrates when it sees them prosper. Envy does the opposite. It causes you to be sad when someone else gets ahead of you in some way. It causes you to think things like, *Look at that guy's new car! He doesn't work nearly as hard as I do! I'm the one who should be driving a new car!* Or, *Look at that woman's new house! She doesn't need a house that big and expensive. My family is much bigger than hers, and we're living in a house that's half that size.*

Even if we're walking in love, there are times when such thoughts come to all of us. They jump into our minds sometimes before we realize what's happening. But we don't have to entertain them. When a thought or feeling of envy comes, we can deal with it immediately and say, "No, that thought is not of God and I'm not taking it into my life. I rebuke you, envy. You're not love. You leave me. I'll not have that thought."

My father in the faith, Kenneth E. Hagin, used to say, "You can't stop the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them





JULY

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Stephens



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Pearsons



Terri
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June 28-July 2
Living an
Uncompromised Life
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., July 4
Jesus, Our Jubilee
and Messiah
Kenneth Copeland

July 5-9
A Life Worth Living
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., July 11
The Absolute
Goodness of God
Kenneth Copeland

July 12-16
The Value of Praying
in Tongues—Part 1
**George &
Terri Pearsons**

Sun., July 18
Jesus Came To Bring
Abundant Life
Kenneth Copeland

July 19-23
The Value of Praying
in Tongues—Part 2
**George &
Terri Pearsons**

Sun., July 25
Words of Faith Activate
Healing Power
Kenneth Copeland

July 26-30
God Is a Good God
**Kenneth Copeland &
Greg Stephens**

from making a nest in your hair.” And that’s how it is with your thought life. You can’t stop thoughts from coming, but you can refuse to give place to them—and you *should* if they come to you from Satan!

He puts thoughts into your mind to tempt and solicit you to do evil. He presents his envious ways of thinking to you like a salesman, hoping that you’ll buy them. If you reject what he’s trying to sell you, however, he’s out of business. He has to go looking for another customer if you refuse to accept his ugly thoughts and take God’s thoughts instead.

How do you take God’s thoughts?

By filling your mind with the Scriptures, which are His written Word.

As you read the Scriptures and meditate on them, they’ll come alive in you and drive out everything that’s contrary to them. God’s thoughts about love will send envy packing. They will help you recognize it for what it is so you can identify it, deal with it as sin and put it away from you.

That’s important to do because envy will not only corrupt your love walk, it will neutralize your faith and put you at a great disadvantage. It will literally do damage to your life. It can even lead to sickness and disease and cause your physical body to deteriorate. As Proverbs 14:30 says, “A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.”

I don’t know about you, but I am not interested at all in having rotten bones! I want to depart from the evil of envy, so I can enjoy health in my body and *strength* in my bones (Proverbs 3:7-8, *New King James Version*).

“Well,” someone might say, “I think everyone has a little envy in them. I don’t think it really qualifies as evil.”

Then you’d better think again because the Bible puts it with the worst of the worst. It identifies envy as a work of the flesh and lists it in Galatians 5 alongside things like adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, murders, drunkenness and revellings (verses 19-21).

Envy is even referred to in Scripture as a symptom of a reprobate mind. It’s named as a characteristic of people who, as Romans 1 says, are “being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy...haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, [and] unmerciful” (verses 29-31, *NKJV*).

Envy keeps really bad company! It isn’t anything to mess around with. It’s an ungodly, destructive force. It’s a manifestation of darkness and an absolute enemy of love.

Running Over With Love, Joy and Contentment

If you’ll live by His wisdom, you won’t be very susceptible to envy. You won’t have to be jealous of other people, because your heavenly Father will bless you as much as anyone around. As you delight in Him, “He shall give you the desires of your heart” (Psalm 37:4, *NKJV*). What’s more, as you delight in Him, spending time in His Word and in prayer, you’ll become divinely content. You won’t be inclined to envy someone else’s lifestyle or possessions because you’ll be busy basking in the richness of life in Jesus. You’ll be praising Him, enjoying the satisfaction only He can give, and saying, “In Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11, *NKJV*).

On the other hand, if you don’t take time to delight in the Lord, if you spend all your time on natural things and set your affections on them, you won’t have that inner sense of contentment. You’ll grow cold toward God, your spirit man will take second place, and you’ll start looking to the things of this world to give you joy, peace and delight. You’ll start noticing others who have things you want and don’t yet have, and you’ll become vulnerable to envy.

Envy is a diabolical thing. It has been used by Satan throughout history to stir up persecution against God’s people. Remember how, in the Old Testament, Joseph’s brothers sold him as a slave to the Egyptians and then told his father he’d been killed? Acts 7:9 says they did that because they were “moved with envy.”

In the New Testament, the Jewish leaders delivered Jesus over to the Romans to be crucified. According to Mark 15:10, they did it “because of envy” (*NKJV*).

Remember all the trouble the Apostle Paul had to go through in the book of Acts just to preach the gospel? Almost all of it was caused by a spirit of envy. That spirit got on the unbelieving Jews of that day and drove them, in one situation after another, to try to destroy the Apostle Paul’s ministry any way they could.

We All Have To Watch Out for It

The same kind of envy that got hold of the religious people in Paul’s day still rears its ugly

Broadcasts subject to change without notice

MORE WAYS TO WATCH





head in the Church today. It shows up sometimes in relationships between believers, and it brings division into churches. It can even get hold of ministers.

The pastor of a small church, for example, can be tempted to envy the new church that opened up down the street—especially if that church attracted thousands of members seemingly overnight. He can find himself giving way to feelings of ill will and thoughts of discontent every time he drives by and sees it prospering. After a while, if he doesn't realize what's happening and repent, he'll find reasons to criticize what the pastor there is doing. He'll be telling everyone down at the coffee shop about all the flaws he sees in that pastor.

That's not love!

When we get aggravated by how well someone else or another minister is doing, that's the spirit of envy working in us, and it will keep us from prospering. It will interfere with our relationship with God and keep His power from moving in our own lives and churches. It will bring confusion into our ministries and open the door to every evil work of the devil.

"Well," you might say, "I'm not in the fivefold ministry. I'm just a member of a church."

That doesn't mean you don't have to watch out for envy. It finds ways to cause trouble in the Body of Christ through church members too. You might be in church one Sunday morning and start feeling annoyed over something trivial—like how another believer looks. You might feel a little jealous because you think they're prettier or more handsome than you are. As the Sundays pass by, you might find yourself getting cranky when you see that person wearing a new outfit and getting a lot of compliments.

What should you do if that happens?

Identify the problem as envy and refuse to give it any place in your heart. Instead of bringing division into the church by avoiding that person, go out of your way to express love toward him or her. Smile and say, "You certainly do look lovely today!" Then go on your way asking God to bless that person and thanking Him for making him or her so pleasant to look at.

It doesn't matter how spiritually mature you might think you are, if you're saying things that bring division into the Body of Christ, you're being carnal! You're operating in the flesh and not in the spirit. When you're walking in the spirit, even if another believer gets into strife with you, do everything you can to maintain peace. Don't get into strife with that person. Don't cause more trouble in the church by going around saying



Digital issue

KCM.ORG.UK/MAGAZINE

the same ugly things about them they're saying about you (Proverbs 24:29). No, keep treating that person kindly because you're operating in love.

I'm not saying, of course, that if you stay free of envy, you'll be able to closely follow any preacher, regardless of what they teach. You need to be discerning. Although you can learn something from everyone who knows the Bible and loves the Lord, you need to stay away from unscriptural teachings that will damage your faith.

That's what I do. While I enjoy reading a variety of Christian authors and leaders, I avoid books written by people who don't tell me the truth. I don't listen to ministers who preach religious tradition and say things like God makes people sick or keeps them poor to teach them something.

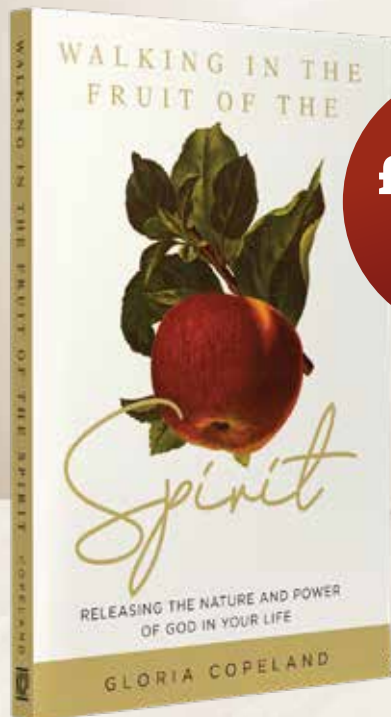
I can't afford to listen to things like that! When sickness tries to come on me, I don't want to have to wonder, *Is this sickness from God?* I want to be confident that God wants me well and that by Jesus' stripes I was healed (1 Peter 2:24).

At the same time, though, I don't go around arguing with Christians who don't agree with me about everything. I don't go around putting up walls of division between me and them just because they don't believe exactly like I do. I

“Envy will not only corrupt your love walk, it will neutralize your faith.”



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Walking in the Fruit of the Spirit
by Gloria Copeland

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Love, joy, peace, goodness and kindness are all supernatural expressions of the character and presence of God who lives inside us. When we yield to them, the Holy Spirit enhances and strengthens them in us to become a river of living water that flows out of us to help bless others!"

Gloria Copeland



endeavor to walk in love toward everyone. And I've found I can fellowship with almost any believer, as long as I remember I don't always have to be expressing my opinions to them.

One time the Lord told Ken that the greatest problem He had with the Body of Christ was our "dogged determination to correct one another." I don't want Him to have that problem with me! I don't want to be always correcting other believers. That's not my responsibility, and it's not yours, either.

"But Gloria," you might say, "what about when I'm doing my best to walk in love, and someone just keeps on being mean to me?"

Follow the example of the Apostle Paul. He never let another person's bad treatment of him drive him off his God-ordained course. He kept ministering to people, even when they harassed him and caused him trouble. He kept choosing to walk in love and to pay "no attention to a suffered wrong" (1 Corinthians 13:5, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

If Paul could do that in his situation, certainly we can do it today.

The strongest people in the world are those who walk in the love of God. When you operate in His love, He takes your part. He protects you. He keeps you and causes you to finish your course in triumph.

Satan can't do those things for you. He can't even bless the people who obey him. Everything he does turns into a curse. You can forget the stories you've heard about people who made deals with the devil, and because they did what he said, he made them happy, successful or rich. Those stories are lies. It's a ridiculous concept. There's no good in Satan, so no deal anyone makes with him will *ever* do that person any good.

Think about that the next time he tries to sell you on envy. Remember Song of Solomon 8:6 says, "Jealousy is cruel as the grave." Say no to that deadly thing. Treat it like the enemy that it is and run it off with what God's Word says about love.

If you do fall prey to envy sometimes and stumble in your love walk, don't be discouraged. Just repent and let the Lord help you get back on track. He said in the Bible that all of us, as believers, are "taught of God to love one another" (1 Thessalonians 4:9). So look to Him to teach you. Let Him show you how to stay free of envy and make walking in love your supernaturally natural way of life! 📖

This article is adapted from Gloria Copeland's new book, *Walking in the Fruit of the Spirit*. For more information, or to order, see the ad on this page.



by Kenneth Copeland



Recognize Your Real Enemy

**"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."
Eph. 6:12**

Have you ever wondered how Jesus was able to look at those who were crucifying Him—the ones who mocked Him, spit on Him and sentenced Him to death—and pray, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34)? How was it possible in the midst of such suffering to respond in such love? Why wasn't He angry and bitter at the people for behaving so wickedly toward Him?


Because He knew those people were not His real enemies. Jesus walked in the spirit. He understood the spiritual realm is more real than the one which can only be seen with the physical eye. That's the realm where His true enemies, the devil and all his demonic forces, were operating. They were the ones pushing and inciting the people to cry, "Crucify Him!" They were simply using men as puppets to get their evil job done.

So Jesus moved against them with the most effective weapon in the arsenal of heaven. He moved against them with the power of love.

Had Jesus allowed Satan to pressure Him into responding in bitterness and unforgiveness toward those who were crucifying Him, the devil would have thwarted the whole plan of salvation. He would have succeeded in getting Jesus to sin and disqualified Him from serving as the spotless, sacrificial Lamb.

But Jesus didn't fall into that trap. He recognized His warfare was not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness and wicked spirits in heavenly places. And He won that war with the compassion of God. He won because instead of allowing Himself to be moved by the emotions of the moment, He was moved by the Holy Spirit of God who is Compassion Himself. As always, Jesus obeyed His Father and thus, He acted in love.

"But that was Jesus!" you say. "He had a direct line to the Father. I don't!" Yes, you do. You have the ability, through the same Holy Spirit that indwelt Jesus, to be moved with compassion just as He was. Romans 5:5 says the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. All we have to do is make the decision to be motivated by His love rather than our own, human feelings.

No matter how fiercely the devil rages against us, we can overcome him by wielding the weapons of the spirit—not against the people who hurt us, but against the forces of darkness themselves. We can rise up as more than conquerors and win the victory with the power of love. 



“
If you’re ignoring the
commandment of love,
things simply won’t
work right in your life.
”

The Day of His Power

I BELIEVE THE DAY OF HIS POWER IS AT HAND.

IT’S TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO WALK IN THE SAME LEVEL OF POWER AND ANOINTING THAT JESUS WALKED IN WHILE HE WAS IN THE EARTH. SO WHAT MUST WE DO FOR GOD’S POWER, ABILITIES AND ANOINTING TO FLOW THROUGH US AS NEVER BEFORE?

The most important thing is this: *We must walk in love.*

If we don’t walk in love, there’s no way we will walk in power. Why? Because the love of God carries the power of God.

No love—no anointing or power. It’s that simple.

Now, as Christians, we’re already equipped to walk in love and to also walk in the anointing, which is an outflow of power from the Holy Spirit. The day we became born again, the Holy Spirit showed up and poured the love of God into our hearts (Romans 5:5). At that point we were equipped to walk in love and in power.

Ephesians 3:14, 16-20 explains:

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be

“The Lord (God) says to my Lord (the Messiah), Sit at My right hand, until I make Your adversaries Your footstool. The Lord will send forth from Zion the scepter of Your strength; rule, then, in the midst of Your foes. Your people will offer themselves willingly in the day of Your power....”

—Psalm 110:1-3,
*Amplified Bible,
Classic Edition*



IF SOMEONE OFFENDS YOU AND YOU REFUSE TO FORGIVE THAT PERSON, THEN YOU'RE CHOOSING TO STEP OVER INTO ENEMY TERRITORY.



strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that [the Anointed One and His Anointing] may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of [the Anointed One and His Anointing], which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, *according to the power that worketh in us.*

Anyone who flows in the anointing and demonstrates the power of the Spirit must be a person rooted and grounded in love.

The Bible tells us when Jesus was moved with compassion (love), the anointing showed up in His life—people were healed, miracles occurred. The same is true for us. If we will walk in love, we can be powerful Christians!

Stay in the Circle of Love

When Jesus was asked, “Master, which is the great commandment in the law?” He answered, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:36-40).

Think about what He said! Everything hangs on loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind, *and* loving your neighbor as yourself. So if there are areas in your life where you can't seem to get the victory, you might ask: *Am I walking in love? Am I loving the Lord with all my heart, soul and mind?*

If you're ignoring the commandment of love, things simply won't work right in your life even though you may be doing a lot of right things.

But here's the good news: You can take hold of love and see *everything* repaired in your life!

Don't Open the Door!

Jesus said, “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love” (John 15:10). Here Jesus, our Commander in Chief, has given us a direct order to abide in His love. Why?

Jesus knows as long as we stay in the circle of love we will be protected. First John 5:17-18 tells us the enemy can't touch us: “All unrighteousness is sin.... We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.” Stepping out of love means stepping into unrighteousness (sin), which *opens the door to the enemy.*

When we are obeying the commandment of love,

we will not only be protected but we will also be anointed. That means the enemy can't touch us and the power of God will be at work in our lives. We'll be prospering the way we should in every area.

However, if we step outside that circle, we become subject to everything outside of love. In other words, we walk right into enemy territory—the curse. Even though, as believers, Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the law, the curse and all its effects are still in the earth.

So if someone offends you and you refuse to forgive that person, then you're choosing to step over into enemy territory. As a result, the power of God will be short-circuited in your life.

Light the Fuse

Love is the fuse to the whole gospel. Without it, there may be a form of godliness, but no power will be in operation. Results depend on whether or not we're operating within the circle of love. Our abundance, our anointing, our victory is within that circle.


Satan's whole mission every day is to try and get you to go AWOL. Why? Because a soldier who is *absent without leave* may be wearing a uniform, but his or her uniform no longer possesses the authority it once did. No longer is it *anointed*.

So refuse to step into enemy territory. Stay in love—obey our Commander in Chief. When you do, you are in the power of God and He has told the enemy, “Touch not [my] anointed” (1 Chronicles 16:22).

Stay in love and you'll be ready for God's power to flow through you. You'll be equipped and prepared not just to see your own needs met, but to help minister to others.

We really haven't seen His goodness until we see the goodness God is getting ready to pour on us in *the day of His power!* As that day approaches, we must take hold of this key revelation of love as never before.

Begin today to love God with all your heart, soul and mind. And love your neighbor—no matter what they've done or how badly it hurts. Do whatever it takes to get back in the circle of love. Then get ready for abundance, power and the anointing that removes burdens and destroys yokes to overflow in your life.

It is *the day of His power*—stay in the circle of love! 



Creflo Dollar is the founder and senior pastor of World Changers Church International in College Park, Ga.; World Changers Church-New York; and several fellowship churches across the country. For more information, visit creflodollarministries.org.



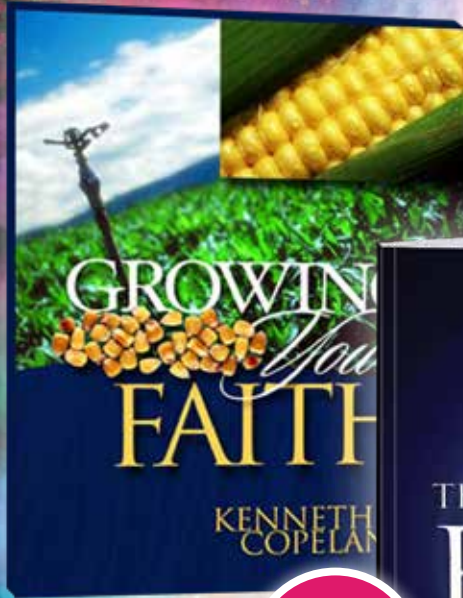
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FREE UK shipping included.
Offer price valid until July 31, 2021

IN PRINT SINCE '73 VOL. 49 : N° 7 JULY 2021

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