

VICTORY

BY PASTOR GEORGE PEARSONS

WE ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE TIMES

BY KENNETH COPELAND

ANCHORED BY THE PROMISE

BY MELANIE HENRY

BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED

The Lord had directed Clyde Oliver to move to Texas and work for KCM. With the heart of a servant, Clyde was living his dream. Then, an unexpected decision by his wife changed everything.

P.10





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Editor's Letter



Leave It There!

Not many will recognize the name Charles A. Tindley, a 20th-century, Black Methodist minister known for his pioneering songwriting. But you may recall some of the spiritual hymns written by Tindley, whose father was a slave and his mother a freeborn, that became staples in the Church. They include hymns like, "Let Jesus Fix It for You," "The Storm Is Passing Over," "We'll Understand It Better By and By" and "I'll Overcome Someday," which years later was modified to become the anthem for the 1960s civil rights movement.

Tindley, who used his experience of escaping slavery and poverty to convey certain messages in his sermons and hymns, also drew from how he helped people deal with their problems. One instance is related in a story of Tindley's encounter with a constant worrier who sought Tindley's advice in dealing with his problems. Reportedly, Tindley looked at the man with concern, then said: "My advice to you is put all your troubles in a sack, take them to the Lord and leave them there."

Tindley later wrote "Leave It There," a hymn based on Psalm 55:22, which urges us to give our problems to God, then trust Him to handle them and sustain us. Here's the first stanza:

If the world from you withhold of its silver and its gold,
And you have to get along with meager fare.
Just remember, in His Word, how He feeds the little bird,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Leave it there, leave it there,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

If you trust and never doubt, He will surely bring you out,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

COVID-19 brought many worries and concerns in 2020 that linger to this day. We didn't just flip the calendar to Jan. 1, 2021, and *presto*—no COVID, no worries. That's what makes Tindley's message as relevant today as when he wrote it years ago. We may not be able to solve our problems, but we can take them to the Lord, leave them there and trust that He will solve them.

This month's articles offer that assurance. I hope you will take time to read each of them.

Ronald C. Jordan
Managing Editor



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"I consider partnership with KCM as vital. I'm so thankful that they allowed me to bloom where I was planted."

Pass this magazine on to a family member or friend.



When The LORD first spoke to us about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, He said: *This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.*

For 48 years it has been our joy to bring you good news through the teachings of ministers who write out of living contact with God, and the testimonies of believers who took God at His WORD and experienced His victory in everyday life.

—Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

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by Kenneth Copeland

“
*When you put
patience into
operation, you can
take a victory stand
on God’s WORD and
refuse to back off,
come what may.*

”

Anchored by the Promise

O

ne thing all babies have in common is a lack of patience. Whatever they want, they want it now. When they get hungry in the middle of the night, they don’t just wait quietly in their cribs, confident that someone will feed them in the morning. They cry at the top of their lungs and demand immediate attention. In the natural, that’s just how babies are.

The same is true spiritually. When Christians are first born again, they too, tend to demand that things change immediately. If they pray about a negative situation in their life and it doesn’t disappear overnight, they’re likely to kick up a fuss. “I don’t know why God hasn’t fixed this situation for me yet!” they whine. “I thought He promised me I’d be BLESSED.”

There’s no condemnation in that. We all start out as spiritual babies, so we’ve all been there. We just don’t want to stay



there. Because that kind of immaturity limits how much we can receive from God, we want to grow past that stage. We want to feed on the strong meat of The WORD and become, as Hebrews 6:12 says, “followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises” of God.

Sadly, believers don’t always get excited about the patience part of that verse. They’re eager to develop their faith because they know faith changes things. But they think patience doesn’t. Just like the world, they think patience is just putting up with whatever unpleasantness comes along.

But that’s a misconception. Patience is faith’s power twin! It’s not just rolling over and letting the devil beat up on you. It’s spiritual endurance that enables you to triumph over him. It’s a fruit of the spirit that, even in the face of contrary





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circumstances, empowers you to stay in faith and keep the devil under your feet.

When you put patience into operation, you can take a victory stand on God's WORD and refuse to back off, come what may. You can "withstand in the evil day, and having done all...stand" (Ephesians 6:13), and instead of whining you can keep the joy of The LORD in your mouth the whole time.

When the devil asks you what you're laughing about, you can tell him, "I'm laughing at you trying to convince me God's not going to heal me or supply all my needs according to His riches in glory. Those things are already a done deal, devil. God said it, I believe it and that settles it. So, ha-ha on you!"

"But Brother Copeland, can I really be that certain? Can I truly be sure that even if in the natural it looks impossible, God will still bring His promises to pass in my life?"

Absolutely!

You can be as sure of it as Abraham was in his day. Referred to in the Bible as the father of our faith, Abraham stood confidently on God's promise to him, even when it looked like the worst was about to happen. His faith stand was unwavering because he knew how serious God was about His WORD. As Hebrews 6 explains: "For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, 'Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.' And so, after [Abraham] had patiently endured, he obtained the promise" (verses 13-15, *New King James Version*).

Notice those verses connect Abraham's patient endurance with God swearing by Himself to BLESS him. They indicate God's sworn oath is what kept Abraham's faith strong. Therefore, as believers we need to understand what that oath was all about. We need to study the events surrounding it, because the giving of that oath is one of the most important events recorded in the Bible: one that not only teaches us a lot about following in Abraham's footsteps of faith, but that reveals what God's oath to him means in our lives today.

The Movies Got It Wrong

Genesis 22 records the story. It says that some years after the son God promised Abraham had been born to him and his barren wife, it came to pass that God said to him: "'Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.' So Abraham rose early in the morning

and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him” (verses 1-3, *NKJV*).

This didn't happen at all like you may have seen in the movies. They show Abraham crying and begging God to change His mind. That's not how it was. Abraham was a faith man. Once he'd heard from God, there was no argument about it. He just set out to do what God said.

When they got to the place God had specified for the sacrifice, Abraham said to the young men who'd accompanied him and Isaac, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you" (verse 5, *NKJV*).

Did you get that? Abraham didn't say he'd come back by himself. He said he *and* Isaac would be back. He was confident of that because God had already given him a promise about the boy's future and he fully believed God would fulfill it—even if it meant God had to raise him from the dead.

When Isaac (who didn't yet know what the plan was) asked his father on their way up the mountain, "Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham simply answered, "My son, God will provide himself a lamb." And, of course, that's exactly what God did. Just as Abraham started to sacrifice Isaac: "The angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said.... Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son" (verses 7-8, 11-13).

After the ram had been sacrificed, the angel of The LORD called to Abraham again. This time, to declare the oath of assurance we saw in Hebrews 6:14.

"By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;



“GOD KNEW IF ABRAHAM PROVED HE WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE HIS ONLY SON, THEN HE'D BE OBLIGATED TO DO THE SAME.”



2021 EVENTS

Branson Live

Victory Campaign

April 8-10 | Branson, Mo.

Sacramento Live

Victory Campaign

April 22-24 | Sacramento, Calif.

Detroit Live

Victory Campaign

May 27-29 | Southfield, Mich.

West Coast

Believers' Convention

July 5-10 | Ontario, Calif.

Southwest

Believers' Convention

Aug. 2-7 | Fort Worth, Texas

Word Explosion

Military Salute

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

Washington, D.C. Live

Victory Campaign

Nov. 11-13 | Woodbridge, Va.

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

Word of His Power Conference
March 21-28 : North Miami Beach, Fla.
wordsoflife.com

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

New Year's Eve Service
Dec. 31 : Newark, Texas
emic.org

For updated event information visit:

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POINTS
TO GET
YOU
THERE:

1

Abraham's faith stand was unwavering because he knew how serious God was about His WORD.

(Heb. 6:13-14)

2

God's oath-backed promise enabled Abraham to patiently endure in faith, despite contrary circumstances.

(Heb. 6:15)

3

As a believer you are an heir of that oath-backed promise.

(Gal. 3:29)

4

God has promised and sworn to you in the blood of Jesus that He will fulfill for you every word of the new covenant.

(Heb. 6:17-18)

5

Focusing on how serious God is about keeping His WORD will help you stand strong in faith and keep the devil under your feet.

(Heb. 6:19)

because thou hast obeyed my voice" (Genesis 22:16-18, emphasis mine).

What did God mean when He said, "By myself have I sworn"? He was saying, "There's no one bigger than Me by which to swear. So, I swear on My own life that I will keep this covenant of BLESSING I've made with you. If I fail to keep even one word, even one promise, of this covenant, I will destroy Myself."

Talk about a solemn oath! Picture the scene. God is making this commitment over the blood of the ram that was the substitute for His covenant partner's only son. There's no way He can unbind Himself from it.

Any argument about it is over.

It's been settled forever.

God cannot break this promise and still live.

Because Abraham understood this, his faith in God's WORD was unshakable! So, "fully persuaded that, what [God] had promised, He was able also to perform...after [Abraham] had patiently endured, he obtained the promise" (Romans 4:21; Hebrews 6:15).

The Oath Is for You, Too

"But Brother Copeland, God swore that oath to Abraham in the Old Testament. It doesn't really have anything to do with us, as New Testament believers."

Yes, it does!

God had us in mind when He made that oath.

His desire to secure our redemption was the motivation behind it. God knew if Abraham proved he was willing to sacrifice his only son, then He'd be obligated to do the same. Because of His blood-backed covenant and the oath He swore, He'd be bound to send Jesus to the cross to save Abraham and his seed.

Who is Abraham's seed? We are! Galatians 3:29 says, "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

This means the oath God swore to Abraham was also sworn to us. It means we can be as certain as he was that God will bring all His exceedingly great and precious promises to pass in our lives.

For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: that by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a *strong consolation*, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus (Hebrews 6:16-20, emphasis mine).

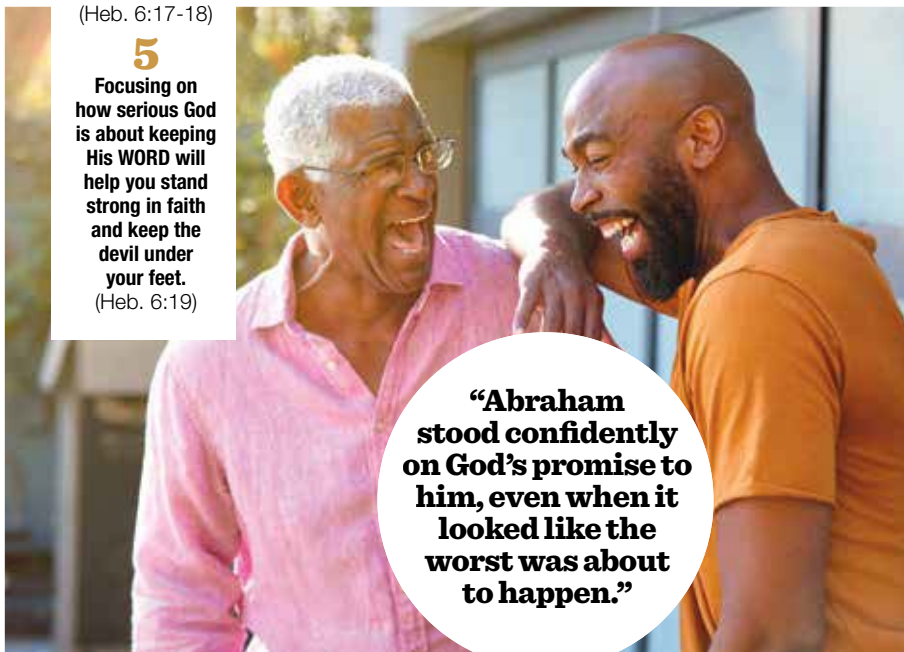
The word translated *consolation* in that passage means "courage." What is courage? It's inner strength. Strength that anchors our souls so we can believe God and not let contrary symptoms and emotions shake us.

It's what we see in Abraham. He didn't get emotional about sacrificing his son. His emotions were completely anchored in the promise of God. As believers, ours can be too.

We don't have to get all upset when natural circumstances make it look like God's promise can't possibly come to pass for us. We don't have to agonize when God tells us to do something we don't understand, like "owe no man anything." We don't have to cry and say, "LORD, how could You tell me not to borrow money? I can't get anything nice without going into debt. Don't You care about me?"

That's baby stuff! It's treating God as if He's not a trustworthy Father. As if there's something wrong with Him and His plan. It's time we outgrew that attitude. God can keep His WORD no matter what the circumstances and He knows what He's doing. We just need to believe Him and do what He says.

"But sometimes that's hard," someone might



say.

I know. If it were easy everyone would be doing it—and they aren't. As a born-again child of God though, you were born to do it! You're an heir of God's promise. You're the seed of Abraham and you're fully equipped to follow in his footsteps.

You actually have even more going for you than Abraham did! For after Jesus was raised from the dead, when He established the new covenant, He reenacted the same scene we saw in Genesis 22. He went into heaven's sanctuary with His own blood and "having obtained eternal redemption for us...through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God" (Hebrews 9:12, 14).

Picture it! Jesus stood there in the holiest place in the universe and was judged spotless. He was judged victorious, declared to be God, and the Father swore an oath to Him as The LORD Advocate Head of the Church and to us as His Body. He swore on His own life to fulfill for us every word of the new covenant.

This is what Galatians 3:13-14 is talking about when it 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."

We have God's blood-sworn oath: The power of the curse has been destroyed! By Jesus' stripes we have been healed! My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!

When your soul gets anchored in the fact that God has sworn an oath over Jesus' blood that He would destroy Himself if He ever failed to bring to pass for you even one of those promises, there's no way you can stay sick, broke, sorry and sad. There's no way any attack of the devil, no matter how fierce, can stand against the faith and patience that assurance inspires in you.

It's not knowing these things that has hindered us and kept us living like spiritual babies. It's believing the lies of the devil—like, "Maybe God wants me to learn something from this sickness and lack"—that's been the problem.

God didn't put that sickness or lack on you to teach you something. By His blood-sworn oath that's an impossibility. So instead of focusing on symptoms and circumstances, get your mind over on that oath. Fellowship with God over the price Jesus paid for your redemption. Sit before these mighty truths until, like Abraham, your soul is anchored in God's promise and lay hold of all that Jesus has provided for you! 🙏

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by
*Melanie
Henry*



BLOOM

Where You're Planted

Clyde Oliver circled the product tables inside the Tarrant County Convention Center in Fort Worth. As crusade sales director for Kenneth Copeland Ministries, he made sure all the tables were stocked and manned with personnel.

Looking at his watch, Clyde realized the current session of the Southwest Believers' Convention would soon end. Thousands of people would turn to the product tables to find what they needed to win the battles in their own lives.

Clyde loved his job. In truth, he'd loved all the jobs he'd held at KCM. Back when he started in 1979, he'd worked reproducing and shipping cassette tapes across the country. Those tapes might not have seemed very important to some people, but Clyde saw them as weapons—preparing the army of God for the spiritual battles ahead.

Clyde heaved a deep sigh of contentment. Working and serving made him happy. He'd grown

up in Crewe, Va., in the county of Nottoway. Jokingly, to some of the residents there, growing up in Nottoway meant there was “not-a-way” to succeed. Not Clyde. He'd been born again at age 5, filled with the Holy Spirit at 12, and heard God's voice at 13. He preached his

first sermon when he was 16.

Clyde chuckled at the memory.

He'd preached everything he knew in 10 minutes.

Following high school, Clyde had taken a job in a finance company. Within weeks, he got his first promotion. They promoted him again, again and again—with each promotion moving him to a new city. While he was working in Petersburg, Va., and



**READ
THROUGH
THE BIBLE**

APRIL

		Old Testament	New Testament
Thu	1	Deut. 1:1-2:15	Luke 21
Fri	2	Deut. 2:16-4:14	Luke 22
Sat	3	Deut. 4:15-5:33	
Sun	4	Ps. 42-44; Prov. 9	
Mon	5	Deut. 6:1-8:10	Luke 23
Tue	6	Deut. 8:11-10:22	Luke 24
Wed	7	Deut. 11-12	John 1
Thu	8	Deut. 13:1-15:11	John 2
Fri	9	Deut. 15:12-18:8	John 3
Sat	10	Deut. 18:9-21:9	
Sun	11	Ps. 45-48; Prov. 10:1-17	
Mon	12	Deut. 21:10-23:18	John 4
Tue	13	Deut. 23:19-26:15	John 5
Wed	14	Deut. 26:16-28:32	John 6
Thu	15	Deut. 28:33-29:29	John 7
Fri	16	Deut. 30:1-32:14	John 8
Sat	17	Deut. 32:15-33:29	
Sun	18	Ps. 49-50; Prov. 10:18-32	
Mon	19	Deut. 34:1-Josh. 3:8	John 9
Tue	20	Josh. 3:9-6:11	John 10
Wed	21	Josh. 6:12-8:23	John 11
Thu	22	Josh. 8:24-10:27	John 12
Fri	23	Josh. 10:28-12:24	John 13
Sat	24	Josh. 13:1-15:12	
Sun	25	Ps. 51-55; Prov. 11:1-23	
Mon	26	Josh. 15:13-16:10	John 14
Tue	27	Josh. 17:1-19:16	John 15
Wed	28	Josh. 19:17-21:19	John 16
Thu	29	Josh. 21:20-22:34	John 17
Fri	30	Josh. 23:1-Jdgs. 1:15	John 18

living in Richmond, he heard the Lord ask a question:

When are you going to do what I called you to do?

"I'm going to do it, Lord."

Clyde turned in his resignation and began serving in his home church, where he worked every day, serving for free. He worked a night shift job to earn money.

One morning at 8:30, Clyde turned on the radio after his night shift.

That was the first time he heard Kenneth Copeland teach.

Grabbing a Bible and notebook, Clyde began intently taking notes. From there, he listened to the broadcast every morning.

The following year, he married and was offered a job at his father-in-law's company. When he went for the interview, the supervisor explained the position, then said, "The job is yours if you want it."

In that moment, Clyde was silent.

"What's your hesitation?" the supervisor asked.

"The job starts at 8 each morning," Clyde said. "I've been listening to a preacher out of Texas by the name of Kenneth Copeland. He comes on at 8:30, and I don't want to miss his teaching."

"That's no problem," the supervisor told Clyde. "Come in at 8 o'clock and take your break early at 8:30. You can come in my office and listen to your program."

Clyde was not expecting that kind of response. Grateful, he accepted the job, and the offer to take an early break.

Then, in 1979, the Lord directed him to move to Fort Worth and work for KCM. He and his family joined Jerry Savelle's church, Overcoming Faith Center, and Clyde attended and eventually graduated from Savelle's school, Overcoming Faith Bible Training Center.

They bought a house, and with two small children they settled in.

Growing Pains

Scanning the product tables one more time, Clyde smiled at the realization that there was no place on earth he'd rather be than right here, about to serve the people who'd come to this Believers' Convention. He was living his dream.

Then without warning, his wife left. Colette,

their daughter, was 5 years old. Their son, Doug, was 3.

Suddenly, Clyde was a single parent.

"My first thought was that I needed to move back home to Virginia so my mom could help me with the kids," Clyde said. "About that time, I was overwhelmed with a memory. I was the oldest of seven children. After my mother gave birth to the sixth child, she had a nervous breakdown and was admitted to a hospital where she stayed for seven months."

Because the relationship between Clyde's parents was strained for most of his childhood, Clyde's father was rarely present in the home, Clyde said. So, there was no one to take care of the children.

"We kids were divided up among different family members," Clyde explained.

"One day I overheard some of the family members complaining about the problems that created. School was already out for the summer, so I stepped forward and suggested that they let us all go home. I would look after my siblings. They agreed to give it a try.

"I was 10 years old and used to helping my mother with chores. I cooked, cleaned and took care of the kids. They were thrilled to be home and back together, something they still thank me for to this day. Family members checked on us regularly to make sure we were OK.

"Mom recovered and came home by the end of summer. She was a great stabilizer in our lives and still is today. As I pondered these things, I realized that if I could take care of my siblings when I was 10, with God's help I could surely take care of my children.

"It was rough. I didn't tell anyone what had happened for several months. I just went on with my work. I had a little plaque on my desk that said, *I Will Bloom Where I'm Planted*. For a long time I ached when I looked at that plaque. Sometimes the growing process hurt. I often thought about Psalm 34:19, 'Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.'

"I had to believe that somehow, the Lord would deliver me out of the pain of this loss."

Not knowing what to do, or who to talk to, Clyde finally confided in Barry Tubbs, who was the associate minister at KCM, and his wife, Sue.



Marion and Clyde

“Barry and Sue were like parents to me,” Clyde said.

Two Are Better Than One

Clyde traveled with the KCM crusade team, occasionally flying on the ministry’s jet. For eight years, he served as the sole catcher in Gloria Copeland’s Healing School. During all that time, he never discussed his personal struggles with Kenneth or Gloria Copeland.

In 1987, four years after Clyde’s divorce, Kenneth and Gloria were holding a meeting at the Mabee Center in Tulsa, Okla. While the choir sang, Sue Tubbs leaned over to Gloria and said, “I sure wish one of those young ladies could be a wife for Clyde.”

“What?” Gloria asked. “I thought Clyde was married.”

“Oh, I thought Clyde had told you.”

Sue explained what had happened.

Tears filled Gloria’s eyes.

“I hope God has a wife for him, too.”

One day during the 1987 Southwest Believers’ Convention, Clyde realized he wouldn’t have time to feed his children before the book tables opened and the evening session began. Looking over his team of about 30 volunteers, his eyes fell on one woman in particular. He decided to ask her for help.

“Would you mind taking my kids to the Hyatt Regency Hotel, getting them some food, and charging it to my room?”

“No problem,” the woman answered.

Her name was Marion. She was a pharmacist from California.

“The kids had such a good time with Marion that they hung out with her for the rest of the convention between services, when they weren’t in Children’s Church,” Clyde remembers. “After the convention, we drove her to the airport to catch her flight home. As the plane took off, I heard sniffing coming from the back seat.”

“What’s going on back there?”

“We want Marion,” Colette and Doug said at the same time.

That caught Clyde’s attention. Marion had a profound effect on his children.

Deciding he needed to get to know her better, Clyde began spending time with her over the phone. The next year, in March 1988, the two were married. Colette and Doug were in the wedding.

A Fork in the Road

Two years later, in 1990, Clyde and Marion were vacationing in Florida when Marion saw a job listing in the *Orlando Sentinel*. “I feel the



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need to call about this job," she told Clyde.

"Why?"

"I don't know, but it's strong."

At the time, Marion had the opportunity to earn her doctorate. She was head pharmacist at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth. She reported to a colonel and had leadership of a lot of troops. The Air Force wanted her to join the reserves as a major. But for some reason, neither Marion nor Clyde had peace about it.

Marion called and found out what the job in Florida involved. A few weeks later, she suggested that Clyde take a week to attend Kenneth E. Hagin's Campmeeting in Tulsa.

"Just spend some time with the Lord," she said.

Clyde took her advice and drove to Tulsa. The second night of the meeting, Brother Hagin walked to the ministers' section, where Clyde was sitting.

"There are some ministers here tonight, sitting in this section," Brother Hagin said. "If you don't change the direction you're going in life, you're going to lose the anointing God has for you."

Clyde sensed that message had been directed toward him.

Back home, he and Marion decided to travel to Melbourne to check out the area since neither of them had been there before, and she could see if she might be interested in the job. During her interview, the owner of the company came into the room.

"Is this the woman from Texas who called about the job?" he asked.

Then, turning to Marion the owner said, "Well, the job is yours if you want it." And added, "You don't have to fill out an application. How much money do you need?"

The owner later told her, "The Lord sent you here to help me."

Sent Forth To Soar

Back at KCM, Clyde was at the potato bar in the lunchroom when Kenneth Copeland walked up to him. "Clyde, The LORD told me two years ago that if you went into full-time ministry everything would be OK. I've been praying for you ever since," Kenneth said.

"That startled me," Clyde said, "because I was around him quite a bit and he had never said

anything about it; and I hadn't mentioned that I was considering leaving and launching into our own ministry!"

Later, Clyde was sitting in Barry Tubbs' office when the Lord spoke to him: *Your time here is finished. You've done what I called you to do. Now I have more things for you.*

While Clyde was always quick to obey God, that didn't mean it was easy to leave the friends and mentors who had pulled alongside him over the years. However, Marion called and accepted the position in Florida. Colette was 11, and Doug was 9, when the family moved there.

"We joined Freedom Christian Center and attended there for 10 years," Clyde says. "When I first arrived, the Lord told me to pray for divine appointments and divine contacts. Soon, I was traveling to preach on five continents. I preached across America, in Central America, the South Pacific, Australia, Europe, Nigeria, Kenya and Russia, just to name a few of the places He sent me."

In the fall of 2000, the Lord directed Clyde to start a church. On April 15, 2001, Clyde and Marion launched Maranatha Christian Center in Melbourne.

"This is our 20th year, and we've been so blessed that Jerry Savelle and Dennis Burke have come here to minister several times in our annual campmeetings. I've continued to travel and preach.

"Marion still holds her position and is also a consulting pharmacist for several surgery centers. Colette and Doug are grown and both walking with the Lord. Colette is our worship leader and an anointed minister. We have two granddaughters who have both attended the University of Florida. The oldest, who is now a senior, was a drum major in the marching band for two years. The youngest graduated in December 2020 with a BA in criminology and plans to attend law school.

"In all the years that Kenneth has held the Ministers' Conferences, I've only missed attending once. I consider partnership with KCM as vital. I'm so thankful that they allowed me to bloom where I was planted."

Clyde and Marion Oliver are examples of what God can do with people whose roots are planted deep. They have become trees whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. 🌿



BELIEVING THE PROMISES



Whether you need healing, protection, prosperity or any other blessing God has promised, it takes faith to receive it. It takes making God's Word final authority in your life.

The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*, says, "Therefore, [inheriting] the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith..." (Romans 4:16). As you release your faith, it allows grace—God's unmerited favor—to flow to you.

But if you don't put the Word first, if you instead hold on to traditions of men, you won't be in a position to receive from God. The Bible says traditions make the Word of God of no effect (Matthew 15:6). They shut off the grace of God because there's no faith in them.

One tradition that has robbed the Body

**"Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed."
(Romans 4:16)**

of Christ for years is praying, “If it be Thy will.” That may sound humble, but it’s simply unbelief. It means you don’t know God’s will in that situation. It ties God’s hands in your life because there is no faith.

Faith begins where the will of God is known. The Word of God is the will of God. Faith comes by hearing God’s Word. You can have faith for whatever the Bible says is God’s will.

God’s Will Is Good

You can see God’s will in the Garden of Eden, in heaven and in Jesus’ ministry. The Garden was a little copy of heaven. It was a beautiful place where all of Adam and Eve’s needs were met and everything was good (Genesis 2). There was no sickness, disease or lack until man sinned. There is none in heaven either because God’s will is done there.

From the very beginning, God’s will has been to bless man with good. That has never changed. In Malachi 3:6, He says, “For I am the LORD, I change not.”

To see the perfect will of God in manifestation on the earth, look at Jesus’ ministry. He said, “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me” (John 6:38). His prayer was, “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10).



“The Garden was a little copy of heaven. It was a beautiful place where all of Adam and Eve’s needs were met and everything was good.”

Jesus proclaimed, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord” (Luke 4:18-19).

And according to 1 John 3:8, “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”

Jesus came proclaiming God’s Word to the people. Those who received that Word, and who received Him as sent of God, also received what God had for them—salvation, healing, deliverance, whatever they needed. God hasn’t changed His method. Jesus operated in the earth by the Word. He defeated the

works of the devil with “It is written.” We are to do the same.

Base Your Faith on the Word

If you try to receive from God without planting the seed of the Word (Luke 8:11), it’s difficult. You’re like the farmer who sits on the porch and says, “I believe in crops, but I’m not going to plant any seed this year. I’ll just believe, and if it’s God’s will, my crop will come up.” That farmer will never see his crop.

Faith is a seed. If you don’t plant it, it won’t grow. And praying, “If it be Thy will” won’t produce a harvest in areas where the Word of God tells you what His will is.

“If it be Thy will” is a prayer of dedication. It is for situations in which you don’t know God’s will. When something is not written in the Word, then you can pray a prayer like, “Lord, if it’s Your will, I’ll go to Africa.” But it is not a prayer that will change things.

Faith is what changes things in the physical realm. Hebrews 11:1 says, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” It takes faith to get substance.

According to Romans 10:17, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Faith comes from believing the promise of God.

If you don’t know what God said about something, you don’t have any basis for faith. It’s your responsibility to go to the Word and find out what He said. Proverbs 4:20-22 says, “My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.” Standing on the Word makes God’s power available to you.

Agree With God’s Word

God has given us His Word to teach us about Himself, to teach us how He thinks and what His will is, so we can learn to agree with Him. We will have success in whatever areas we learn to agree with God, both in our words and our actions. He told Joshua, “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, 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” (Joshua 1:8).

Once you find the will of God in a situation, you then know how to pray. Romans 10:8 says, “But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith.” If you need a mountain moved out of your life, it requires



**WORDS OF FAITH FOR
A GOOD FUTURE**

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL YOU GET TO HEAVEN TO OPERATE IN THE POWER OF GOD'S KINGDOM. (Mark 1:15)

When you were born
again into God's
kingdom you inherited
all its BLESSINGS.
(Eph.1:3)

When you sow God's
promises into your heart
and persist in believing
them and speaking them
by faith, in time, they will
come to pass in your life.
(Gal. 6:7, 9)

The kingdom of God bears
fruit in your life by the law
of sowing and reaping.
(Gal.6:8)

IN GOD'S KINGDOM THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION.

(Matt. 19:26)

believing God with your heart and speaking it out your mouth. The spirit of faith says what the Word says (2 Corinthians 4:13).

Faith makes a choice. Then it stands on that decision, based on the Word, until the manifestation comes. But when you say, "If it's Your will," you have made no choice.

Choose to believe God's Word and speak the end result you desire—the promise of God for your life. When you find out God's will and get in agreement with it, you can pray in faith. Faith will reach out and grab hold of the Anointing of God to change whatever needs to be changed in your life. ♡



TESTIMONIES OF REAL-LIFE VICTORY

'We Feel Like Family'

We are so thankful for VICTORY Channel®, especially your church services. We feel like family, even though we live in Pennsylvania. We have learned so much. Thanks, Pastor George, for the excellent teachings on the political platforms. The worship is wonderful. And Pastor Terri, your prayers are powerful and touch the throne of God.

We are active members in our local church and pay tithes there, but you are our church family too, so we will also be sowing seed to EMIC! Also, we watch many of the programs on VICTORY Channel and they are all good. Thank you for all you do to bring such honorable programming.

D. and R.C. | Manheim, Penn.

Encouraging Gifts

Thank you very much for the birthday cards, gifts and the book *Mercy—The Divine Rescue of the Human Race*. I'm 80 and in a nursing home. I read my cards every day, and the material you sent brings me much happiness and hope.

A.S. | Missouri

Steps of Faith

My jaw and teeth were healed as Kenneth Copeland spoke of the woman healed of the issue of blood and the four steps she took. I had faith, took those steps, the pain stopped and peace filled that side of my face. Thank You, Jesus!

M.J.W. | Arizona

Decision To Be Debt Free

While watching Pastor George, I heard him say: "The minute you decide to be debt free, God sees you as debt free." I did it! I said, "I'm debt free by the power of God." I started with my credit cards. Paid off! I paid off my car, then started

to work on my home.

After I paid off my car, the engine quit. But, praise God, there had been a recall and my engine was replaced with all new parts at no cost to me.

L.S. | Crowley, Texas

"None of us could live a lifestyle of love on our own. But, thank God, we're not on our own!"

—Gloria Copeland



'Never Too Late'

Dear Gloria, I have been reading the free gift you sent to me, *God's Will for Your Healing*. I had to stop highlighting in it—I was highlighting *everything*. Every line on every page was of great value. Thank you so much for your insight into God's heavenly realm of forgiveness and healing.

I am 70 years old. God released me from chains of childhood abuse in my late 30s, but I had no idea about all His mercies and blessings until I started to follow KCM on YouTube®. I have learned so much; it is never too late to learn the truth of God's love.

B.G. | Minnesota

Obedient and Pain Free

On BVOV there was a word of knowledge about someone who had a back problem and sciatica. I heard the Lord say to me, *Get up and touch your toes. I obeyed and the pain went away. I have been healed ever since. Thanks be to God!*

W.E. | Michigan

Impactful Programs



I want to thank you for putting together three programs on VICTORY Channel that have a positive impact on my life and my husband's: *Victory Update*, *American Stands* and *Flashpoint*. We also watch the services from EMIC.

These all helped us navigate through 2020. We pray in agreement with the positive prayers each program presents. I have been encouraging my friends to start watching your programs. Even our pastor wanted to know where he could

get accurate election information from godly people. Please keep up the good work to inform us. I am so thankful to be a longtime Partner with your ministry.

L.R. | Sanger, Texas

SALVATION PRAYER

If you do not know Jesus as your Savior 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.

connect with us

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!
kcm.org/salvation

PRAYER IS OUR PRIORITY.

1300 730 433 or
+617 3343 7777



Noemi R.,
prayer minister

ES Hablamos Español

God's Complete Healing

I had sleepless nights for almost two months with headaches and all manner of discomfort. A few days ago I submitted my prayer request. God is good—He healed me completely. For two days now I have been sleeping very

well with no pain. I went to the hospital for a checkup; the doctor didn't find anything wrong with my health. Glory be to God. Thank you very much for your support.

R. | South Africa



Be Still



We're all busy.

We struggle to stay focused amidst the challenges, distractions and information overload that surround us today—especially from technology.

No matter how disciplined you are, when your smartphone “dings,” you usually find yourself pulling it out to read whatever it was that screamed for your attention: a text message, a social media post, a news release, whatever.

Today more than ever, it's a struggle *not* to be distracted and instead be tuned in to where the Lord would have you focus.

This became clear to me years ago when I found myself in Colorado on a camping trip. One morning before sunrise, I walked away from camp and found a solitary spot where I could watch the sun come up over a mountain. If you've ever watched the sun rise like that, you know it's breathtaking.

There I was, on the side of a wooded slope, overlooking a meadow with a creek. It was so quiet you could have heard a pine needle drop. In that moment, the Spirit of God came on me, and I sat there for a couple of hours. I didn't have a vision. God didn't speak to me audibly. But in that moment, everything He *is*—all the peace, all the joy, all the assurance, all the knowing—was there. When I returned to camp, I was in a completely different place spiritually, and I remained in that place for months.

I asked the Lord, “Why did I have to go to the side of a mountain in Colorado to have that kind of experience?”

The Lord quickened me to look at Psalm 46:10: “Be still, and know that I am God.” Be *still...know...* those words stood out to me from

that simple verse. If we want to truly *know* Him, it starts by getting *still*.

Get Still

Getting still before the Lord allows us to experience all His capacities—what He's imparted to each of us, the assurance of our faith and the things we believe.

In Hebrew, the word *still* means to “cease or abate.” *Strong's Concordance* gives another definition that makes me chuckle: “Relax.”

Sometimes it's hard to cease, abate or simply relax in this world. To do so requires a real commitment.

I'm reminded of Martha, who was so busy and concerned with serving that she couldn't sit at Jesus' feet. The Lord didn't tell Martha she shouldn't serve, but He did correct her for being “cumbered about much serving” (Luke 10:40). In the next verse, Jesus clarified that in doing so, she was “troubled about many things.”

We need to be able to accomplish our work or ministry without being cumbered or troubled about what we do. We must recognize that there is a time to abate from our physical labor and get physically still before the Lord.

Enter the Word

How do we get still in this busy, busy world?

When my wife and I were first starting out in ministry, we only had a few members and



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one service a week. I had plenty of time to get still before the Lord. As our church grew, things became more complicated.

As your commitments grow and as your ministry grows, you'll face the same question I did: How can we maintain a place of stillness so we can continue to experience the presence and glory of God?

Psalm 119:130 gives us insight: "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."

You might read that and think the word "simple" is referring to the foolish or immature, but that's not it at all. *Strong's Concordance* defines *simple* in this verse as "those who are open." God's Word gives understanding to those who are open.

You could also look at it this way: *What is the opposite of simple?*

Complicated. The more complicated our lives are, the less likely we are to be still.

The Complication of Time

It's challenging to manage time in a way that allows us to get still before God. Getting beyond our smartphones, our cares and our to-do lists is a battle.

We all have practical things that need to be done. We need to spend time communicating with our spouses. We need to spend time with each of our children, especially when they're young. For those in ministry or in some other leadership position, there's always work to do. We can't simply sit in a corner, wait on the Lord and expect everything to get done. In addition, the more our influence increases, the more demands increase as well.

We need to exercise, too, if we're going to take care of our physical bodies. Depending on how God leads us, we may need to do strength training, cardio, stretching or something else.

All that takes time.

If you think about it too much, you may find yourself like Martha, "troubled by many things"!

Thankfully, the Lord showed me something that set me free—and I believe it will help you too.

Redeem the Time

Ephesians 5:14-16 says, "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

If you're ready for time to be redeemed, read

those verses again. When I was meditating on them, the word "light" stopped me in my tracks—because the Word says, "God is light" (1 John 1:5).

I knew from previous studies that understanding the properties of light gives us insight into God. One of the things Einstein demonstrated mathematically in his theory of relativity was that the closer we get to the speed of light, the more time is dilated—meaning *it slows down*.

Recognizing that I had a time problem, I reasoned that if I were to get with God, time would elongate, and I'd have a greater capacity to fit in what needed to be done. That revelation, and ultimately that practice, has been my greatest shortcut in ministry. Solutions to problems that save vast amounts of time and energy have come during my time in the light, when I've gotten still enough to know the Lord. That's when I've had flashes of understanding and revelation.

Being still doesn't encroach on my time management either. It allows God to enable me to redeem the time, to save that which would otherwise be lost.

I challenge you to take time to be still, to spend time in the Word and with the Lord—and to trust that He'll redeem that time. He'll give you supernatural insight and shortcuts to accomplish the things you need to do.

Simplify

No, it's not easy to do, but a simple, uncomplicated life allows His Word to enter in. That results in revelation.

First John 1:7 put it this way: "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

That verse is talking about continual unbroken fellowship with God. It's in that place that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. This, however, is more than salvation.

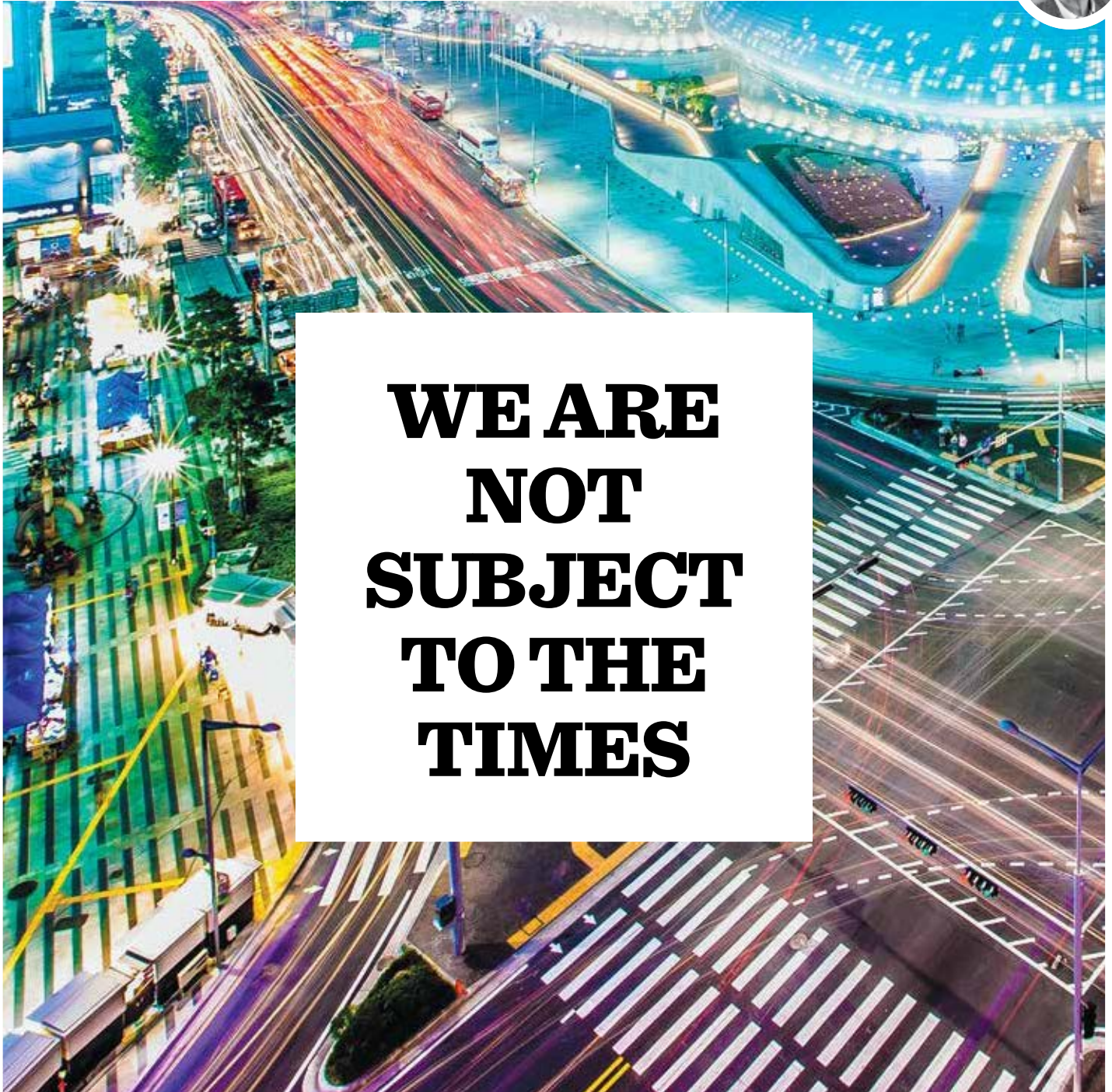
When you walk in the light—when you become still—you have fellowship with God. It's in that place that you find great revelation, great joy, great excitement and great effectiveness. It's where you maximize your time and get things done while watching your influence grow. It's where you get to know Him. 📖



**Watch
Mac on**

Winner's Way

VICTORY
C H A N N E L



WE ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE TIMES

We are not subject to the times.

This was a strong word from The LORD that came to me years ago as I was preparing a series of teachings on prosperity for our church.

God was very emphatic in His words—the truth that we do not live under the dominion, rule, control or influence of whichever way the economy and the world’s system are going.

He went on to tell me the times are subject to us—the Church!

The times we are in are subject to the authority of God’s WORD, the blood and the Name of Jesus that we activate through our

faith. Why? Because we are subject to and governed by another economy and another system—the kingdom of God.

You and I live in the secret place spoken of in Psalm 91:1: “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” Psalm 27:5 tells us that “in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion....” And in Psalm 32:7, the psalmist declares God is a “hiding place.”

We must believe and stand firmly upon Psalm 31:15 which says, “My times are in thy hand....”

Separated From the World's Failing System

We are to thrive and not just survive.

To *survive* means “to barely get along and merely exist.” That is not us!

Thrive means “to flourish, succeed, advance and prosper no matter what the times are like.”

John 17 establishes the fact that we may be *in* this world, but we certainly are not *of* this world. We are separated from the world's failing system. In verse 14, Jesus prayed to His Father, saying: “I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.” This truth is so important it's repeated in verse 16.

In verse 15, Jesus prayed that the Father would separate us from the evil that is in the world. Evil in the world includes fear, poverty and disease. Look at these scriptures:

Matthew 6:13 says, “...deliver us from evil.”

Galatians 1:4 says, “...deliver us from this present evil world.”

First John 5:18 tells us, “...that wicked one toucheth him not.”

Jesus then asks the Father in John 17:17 to “sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” The word *sanctify* means “to separate or cut out away from.” Through this prayer, we have been cut out away from the world's failing economic system. “The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free [has separated us] from the law of sin and death” (Romans 8:2).

We are not subject to the economy. We thrive and flourish in spite of what is happening around us.

The Wall of Redemption

The Old Testament is a type and shadow of the New Testament. In Exodus, for instance, we find a picture of how we are to live today. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him, “Let my people go.” If Pharaoh refused, there were serious consequences. We find them described in Exodus 8:21-22:

If thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of

flies, and also the ground whereon they are. And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

Take special note of what God said in verse 23: “And I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.”

The word *division* in the Hebrew is the same as the word *redemption*. God actually built a “wall of redemption” between the Egyptians and the children of Israel. And as a result, the plagues that came against Egypt did not touch God's children. Their cattle did not die, hail didn't touch them, and there was light in the land of Goshen when it was pitch black among the Egyptians.

How does this apply to us now?

Look at Galatians 3:13-14: “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.”

We have been redeemed, separated and cut away from the curse of fear, sickness, lack and debt! Jesus paid *in full* for you and me to live above whatever is happening in the world's system.

Because of Him, we prosper!

Because of Him, we are separated from the evil in this world!

Because of Him, we are not subject to the times!

Same Conditions—Different Results

We just found in Exodus a principle that resonates throughout Scripture. Even though the children of Israel were living in the same vicinity as the Egyptians, the wall of redemption separated them from the plagues. I call it, “Same conditions—different results.”

Jeremiah 17:5-8, *New Living Translation*, is a great example from the Old Testament. It says, “Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the LORD. They are like stunted shrubs in the desert, with no hope for the future. They will live in the barren wilderness, in an uninhabited salty land.”

Now, here comes the wall of redemption: “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not



George Pearsons is CEO of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of KCM. For more information or ministry materials go to emic.org.



Watch
EMIC services
with Pastors
George & Terri on
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bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”

Do you see that? Same conditions, different results.

In the *King James Version* of verse 8, this was a time called “the year of drought.” The person who “maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD” (verse 5) did not produce anything. The person who trusted in the Lord did not “cease from yielding fruit.” When it says his leaf was *green*, that word in Hebrew means, “to enter into a state of prosperity and become extremely successful.” One man failed, the other succeeded. Again, the conditions were the same but the results were different.

Luke 6:47-48 is a great example from the New Testament: “Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock” (*New King James Version*).

Once again, here comes the wall of redemption in verse 49: “But the one who hears [the Word] and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great” (*English Standard Version*).

It was the same storm. The storm was in the same neighborhood, yet the results were quite different.

Everything Is Going to Be ALL Right!

The LORD gave a very powerful word through Kenneth Copeland during the Homecoming 2010 Convention. In part, He said: *The world is in serious trouble. Some very hard things are coming in different places around the world. They are that way now, but they will not get better. They will continue to get worse and worse and worse. It is on a downhill run that the world cannot stop. But, for the household of faith, everything is going to be all right. Everything is going to be all right.*

He told us how we are to separate ourselves from these times: *Cling to The WORD, take your stand, fight the good fight of faith, don't feed on fear and trouble but feed on The WORD.* Then, The LORD said repeatedly:

“
**WE
THRIVE
AND
FLOURISH
IN SPITE
OF WHAT IS
HAPPENING
AROUND US.**
”

Praise and worship and preach The WORD. For as I have said, and will continue to say until it becomes solid and strong in your spirit—your time has come. It is your time to excel. It is your time to do exceeding, extraordinary things in the financial world, in the medical world, in all of the areas where the world is in such dire trouble and so confused that they are confused beyond their ability to understand how confused they really are. And they are hurting because of it. They are crying out because of it. But, for the household of faith, everything is going to be all right.

Stand on this word, and stand on THE WORD.

You and I are not subject to the times. We are separated from the world's system and live in the prosperity of God's kingdom of heaven right here on earth.

The ultimate purpose of our prosperity is to reach out to others. We are protected in the household of faith in order to help those who want to come over and join us. We need to be ready to receive them and assist them in building their new lives in Christ.

We must let them know that they are not subject to the times.

We can teach them how to come up to a new level of walking in God's supernatural prosperity and provision. We can give them the good news that in Christ, “Everything is going to be ALL right in the household of faith!” 🙌





by Gloria Copeland

YOU ARE GOD'S INHERITANCE

When you think about giving to the Lord, what's generally the first thing that comes to mind?

Do you automatically think about finances? About giving or sowing your tithes and putting money in the offering at church?

If the answer is yes, you're in good company. Most of us, as believers, it seems, tend to think about giving almost exclusively in financial terms. The Lord, however, does not. While He appreciates us giving to Him of our finances and tells us in the Scriptures to do so, there's also something else He wants us to give Him. Something that's even more important.

He wants us to give Him ourselves.

He wants our whole hearts and total obedience.

He wants us to give Him our all.

That's the biggest, best offering we can ever bring Him. Plus, it's His due!

He bought and paid for us, spirit, soul

and body. He shed His precious blood to purchase us and make us His own. As James 1:18 says, "Of his own will begat he us...that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."

Notice God didn't just beget us so that we can *bring* Him our firstfruits, but so that we can *be* His firstfruits. In other words, we're like the tithe. We're holy and set apart for Him and His purposes.

We don't belong to the world.

We don't belong to the devil.

We don't even belong to ourselves.

We belong to God.

We're His "inheritance."

As the Apostle Paul put it in his letter to the Ephesians, we are "saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom [we] also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit" (Ephesians 2:19-22, *New King James Version*).

Talk about special! God not only calls us His "saints" (holy or separated ones), He considers us to be so precious He's chosen the Church to be His dwelling place. He's committed Himself to building her up





“STAYING IN LIVING CONTACT WITH HIM IS THE KEY TO EVERYTHING IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.”

“The more you cultivate your union with Him, the easier it is for you to **SAY YES TO GOD.**”



into a holy temple He can fill with His glory...and He's been working on that building program for more than 2,000 years.

It hasn't always gone smoothly, either. There have been times in the Church's history when she would lose ground and things would get dark. But then someone would get light on the Word of God. Someone would get a revelation, like Martin Luther did about the just living by faith, and the Church would light up and start growing again.

Through it all, though, God has never given up on us. He's kept teaching us, line upon line and precept upon precept. And over time, we've learned some things.

We've learned how to operate by faith. We've learned how to resist the devil and rejoice even in the face of persecution. We've learned how to cast our care over on the Lord; how to tithe and give so that regardless of what happens in the world we are BLESSED and abounding.

Now, in these last days before Jesus returns, God is bringing it all together. He's preparing us to finish out this Church Age in triumph by giving us a fresh

revelation of the fact that we truly are *His* people. That although we're in the world, we are not of it. That we're His special possession and He wants us to live like it.

Through His apostles, prophets, pastors and teachers, we're being reminded anew of what Paul told the early Church: "You are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.' Therefore 'Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters'" (2 Corinthians 6:16-18, *NKJV*).

Raising Up a Generation to Take the Promised Land

If you've read the Old Testament you know those words were first spoken by God to the Israelites. As His First Covenant people, God called them His own just like He does us under the New Covenant. Having separated them to Himself from all the nations of the earth, He repeatedly talked to them in the Scriptures about dedicating themselves and their lives to Him.

All too often though, they refused. They'd draw near to Him for a while, but then they'd give in to the pull of their flesh and the devil. Providing us, as New Covenant believers, with an excellent example of what not to do, they'd backslide into ungodliness and start living like the world.

Take, for example, what happened after God brought them out of Egypt. Although they initially sang praises to Him for splitting the Red Sea and delivering them from Pharaoh's army, they soon turned back to Egyptian idolatry. At Sinai, while Moses was on the mountain getting God's commandments, they built and started worshipping a golden calf!

When Moses returned, he got them straightened out. But they didn't stay that way long. A few months later, when they were about to go into the Promised Land and found out it was full of giants, they backslid again.



POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

1

When you were born again, God made you holy, which means He separated you from the world to Himself.
(Eph. 1:4)

2

God lives in you and has created you to be His holy temple.
(2 Cor. 6:16)

3

You're not supposed to blend in with the world and conform to its ungodly ways.
(2 Cor. 6:17)

4

God called Israel His firstfruits and promised to protect them; He makes the same promise to us in the Church.
(Jer. 2:3, *AMPC*)

5

God has been conforming the Church to the image of Jesus, and in these last days He will finish that work.
(Eph. 4:13)



Kenneth Copeland



Greg Stephens



Mark Hankins



Trina Hankins



Jeremy Pearsons

Mar. 29-Apr. 2
For Such a Time
As This—Part 1

**Kenneth Copeland and
Professor Greg Stephens**

Sun., Apr. 4
No Longer a Stranger
to the Covenant
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 5-9
For Such a Time
As This—Part 2
**Kenneth Copeland and
Professor Greg Stephens**

Sun., Apr. 11
Consider Jesus,
Consider the Covenant
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 12-16
The Spirit of Faith
**Kenneth Copeland and
Mark & Trina Hankins**

Sun., Apr. 18
Closing the Door
on Unbelief
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 19-23
Living Life More
Abundantly
Jeremy Pearsons

Sun., Apr. 25
Receiving Healing by Faith
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 26-30
Walking by Faith
and Not by Sight
Kenneth Copeland

“These giants are going to kill us all,” they cried. “Forget Moses and this God he keeps talking about. Let’s pick another leader and go back to Egypt!”

As a result, they wound up back in the wilderness. They had to wander around there for 40 years until all the Israelites who’d been 20 years old and over when they came out of Egypt were dead. God never gave up on His plan to bring His people into the Promised Land, though.

In the wilderness He prepared for Himself a group of people who would believe and obey Him. He raised up a whole new generation of Israelites who’d never known any God but Him.

I remember the first time this dawned on me. I was reading in Jeremiah 2 where God says to the prophet: “Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus says the Lord: I [earnestly] remember the kindness and devotion of your youth, your love after your betrothal [in Egypt] and marriage [at Sinai] when you followed Me in the wilderness, in a land not sown. Israel was holiness [something set apart from ordinary purposes, dedicated] to the Lord, the firstfruits of His harvest [of which no stranger was allowed to partake]” (verses 2-3, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Wait a minute! I thought. *How can God possibly say those things about the Israelites He brought out of Egypt? They weren’t devoted and holy. They were unfaithful and rebellious.* Then it hit me. God is referring in those verses to the generation of Israelites who were under 20 years old when they got to the wilderness. The generation that grew up there.

That generation of Israelites was indeed “holiness to the Lord.” They’d never had the opportunity to worship the idols of Egypt. With no knowledge of the ways of the world, they’d never looked for provision, protection and direction from anyone but God.

They’d been raised on the manna He poured out for them from heaven. They’d traveled around for years following the cloud and the fire of His presence. Those too young to remember all the signs and wonders God had done over the years heard stories about them time and again from their parents.

They truly were a generation that had been separated to God...and they were the ones who would take the Promised Land.

Big Enough to Finish the Job

In those verses in Jeremiah 2, God refers to this generation of Israelites as His firstfruits. In the New Testament He refers to us, as believers, the same way. As His New Covenant, firstfruit people, we’re the group God has separated unto Himself and prepared

to take the promised land. We’re the holy ones He’s raised up to walk out His ultimate last days plan.

What is that plan?

- For us to be “holy and without blame before Him in love...to the praise of the glory of His grace.” (Ephesians 1:4, 6, *NKJV*)

- For us to all come together “in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:13)

- For us to “no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine...but, speaking the truth in love [to] grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.” (verses 14-15, *NKJV*)

In other words, God’s plan is that we grow up to be living revelations of Jesus! That we give ourselves to Him so fully that when the world looks at us, they see His reflection. They see His love, His goodness, His abundant BLESSINGS, His righteousness, His glory and His resurrection life.

I realize that may sound like a tall order. But God has been working on the Church for 2,000 years to get her there and He’s big enough to finish the job. We just need to cooperate with Him and avoid the mistake that first batch of Israelites made.

Instead of letting unbelief stop us at the edge of the promised land, we need to press on in faith toward the prize of our high calling. Instead of giving in to the pull of the world, we need to exhort each other daily and say, “We’ve come this far, let’s not draw back now. Let’s lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and finish our race looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith” (see Hebrews 12:1-2).

“But Gloria, what if I’ve tried really hard in the past to lay aside worldly habits and sins and I’ve failed?”

Then stop trying so hard and instead focus on drawing near to Jesus!

Staying in living contact with Him is the key to everything in the Christian life. The more you cultivate your union with Him, the easier it is for you to say yes to God and no to the flesh and the devil. The more you fellowship with the Lord in prayer and in the Word, the more His presence and His truth will separate you from the world and transform you into His likeness.

Release the Nature and Power of God in Your Life!



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God never intended for us, as Christians, to try to live by a set of religious laws. He never meant for us to just be legalistic rule-keepers. His desire is to have a people who follow Him from their hearts. A people who obey His written Word and the promptings of His Spirit because they love and are devoted to Him.

The Hebrew word translated *devoted* is an important Bible word. In the Old Testament it's used in reference both to God's people and to the tithe and its literal meaning is "devoted to destruction." The reason it denotes destruction is because God protects that which is devoted to Him. So, anyone who abuses or misuses it brings upon themselves some degree of destruction.

Most of us have learned this about tithing from experience. We've found when we give it to God (to whom it rightfully belongs), it opens the door for Him to prosper us financially. When we withhold it from Him and keep it for ourselves, it does the opposite. It opens the door for the devil to steal from us, and we wind up losing not only the tithe but more besides.

In Jeremiah 2, God applied the same principle to His firstfruit people. After essentially calling Israel His tithe, He said "no stranger was allowed to partake" of what was theirs. "All who ate of it [injuring Israel] offended and became guilty," He said, and as a result "evil came upon them" (verse 3, *AMPC*).

I'm telling you, it's dangerous to tamper with that which is devoted to God!

Remember what happened to those who tampered with the Ark of the Covenant in the Old Testament? They instantly regretted it! One time the Philistines stole it and a plague of tumors broke out among them that would have wiped them out if they hadn't returned it. Another time a man just touched the Ark in an irreverent way, and he dropped dead on the spot.

Why did those things happen? Because the Ark was devoted to God. It carried His holy presence.

Now, we, as the Church, are the Ark of God's presence! The devil can't do anything to us unless we let him because we're God's protected ones. We're His inheritance, His firstfruit people.

He's separated us to Himself so that in these last days He can pour out His glory upon us and through us in a way that will draw all men to Him. So, let's give ourselves to Him completely. Let's live for Him, obey Him and devote ourselves to Him, spirit, soul and body.

Let's put Him on display for all the world to see, and take our promised land! 🇺🇸

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THE Ripe STUFF



Commander
Kellie's Corner

SUPERKID, THINGS ARE KIND OF CRAZY IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW. CHANGE IS HERE. YOU PROBABLY THINK, NO KIDDING!

In the last year, life has radically changed all over the planet.

Times are hard and people are hurting. People are confused and they don't know what to do. What good news! Wait...what?

You were born for this. As a believer in Jesus, you were made for this time! Not only does Jesus know what's going on, He wants us in on it.

In John 4, *The Passion Translation*, the disciples left Jesus at a well in a Samaritan village and went to buy some food. Jesus met a woman there who had experienced a lot of hurt, sin and shame. Jesus knew all about her even before she said a word. Did He deal with her by hurting and embarrassing her? No! He told her the truth about her situation and that He was there to help her. She was CONFUSED. After they had talked, she said to Him in verses 25-30: "This is all so confusing, but I do know that the Anointed One is coming—the true Messiah. And when he comes, he will tell us everything we need to know."

I love the way Jesus responded! **"You don't have to wait any longer, the Anointed One is here speaking with you—I am the One you're looking for."**

I bet she was shocked! He is the Messiah, the Savior?

"At that moment the disciples returned and were stunned to see Jesus speaking with the Samaritan woman. Yet none of them dared to ask him why or what they were discussing. All at once, the woman dropped her water jar and ran off to her village and told everyone, 'Come and meet a man at the well who told

me everything I've ever done! He could be the Anointed One we've been waiting for.' Hearing this, the people came streaming out of the village to go see Jesus."

She WAS confused, but suddenly her past didn't seem important or confusing. Suddenly she was excited to tell others about Him.

Then when the disciples encouraged Jesus to eat something, they couldn't figure out who had fed Him. But He said, "My food is to be doing the will of him who sent me and bring it to completion" (verse 34).



Jesus had met a hurting person, ministered to her and freed her with the truth about herself AND the truth about who He was. When she told others, they came running to see Him! Look at verses 35, 39-42:

"As the crowds emerged from the village, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Why would you say, "The harvest is another four months away"? Look at all the people coming—now is harvest time! For their hearts are like vast fields of ripened grain—ready for a spiritual harvest.'... So there were many from the Samaritan village who became believers in Jesus because of the woman's testimony: 'He told me everything I ever did! Then they begged Jesus to stay with them, so he stayed there for two days, resulting in many more coming to faith in him because of his teachings. Then the Samaritans said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you told us, but now we've heard him ourselves and are convinced that he really is the true Savior of the world!'"

When confused people come to Jesus, they bring more confused people to meet Him!

Read verse 35 again. He said, "Look at all the people! It's HARVEST TIME!" How did He know? He saw that their hearts were RIPE.

My grandfather was a peach farmer. I loved to go see him in the summer. Sometimes I'd go in early June, ready to pick peaches. He would tell me, "They are too green, you have to wait." Wait? I didn't want to wait, I wanted peaches! His peaches weren't ready until July. How did he know? He knew what RIPE peaches looked like and he knew the timing of the harvest. He taught me to know when it was harvest time by how they looked, even though I never really got over wanting to pick peaches out of season.

Superkid, Jesus knows God's calendar.

He tells us what harvest time looks like in Matthew 9:36-38, *New Living Translation*. He traveled all over teaching and healing. Crowds came to hear Him, just like in Samaria. "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

Confused? Helpless? Like sheep without a shepherd? That sounds like the woman at the well, and like the world right now! Do you know people who are fearful, confused, hurting? Maybe you've even felt that way. Jesus teaches that this is the sign that it's harvest time! That means it's time to let Jesus comfort, heal and give us His peace, and allow Him to shepherd us. We will bring in a harvest of people, telling them about His great love.

"He said to his disciples, 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.'"

Superkid, pray this prayer with me:

"Father, this has been a strange time. Thank You for sending Jesus to be my Savior. Jesus, I give You my fears and concerns. I ask You to talk to me and give me Your peace. I give You my confusion in return. Create in me a clean, strong and bold heart to tell others about Your love! I am a Jesus kid, ready to harvest with You. In Jesus' Name. AMEN!"

The time is now! **The harvest is ripe.** Confused and hurting people are READY for Jesus! Expect Him to lead YOU, and you will lead them straight to HIM!

Commander Kellie



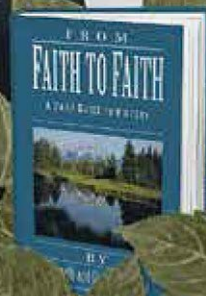
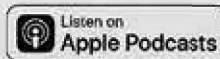
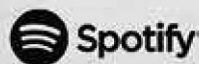
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