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VICTORY

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MINISTRIES



September 2016

A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF FAITH

BY KENNETH COPELAND

EXERCISE YOUR GOD-GIVEN PRIVILEGE— VOTE! P.22

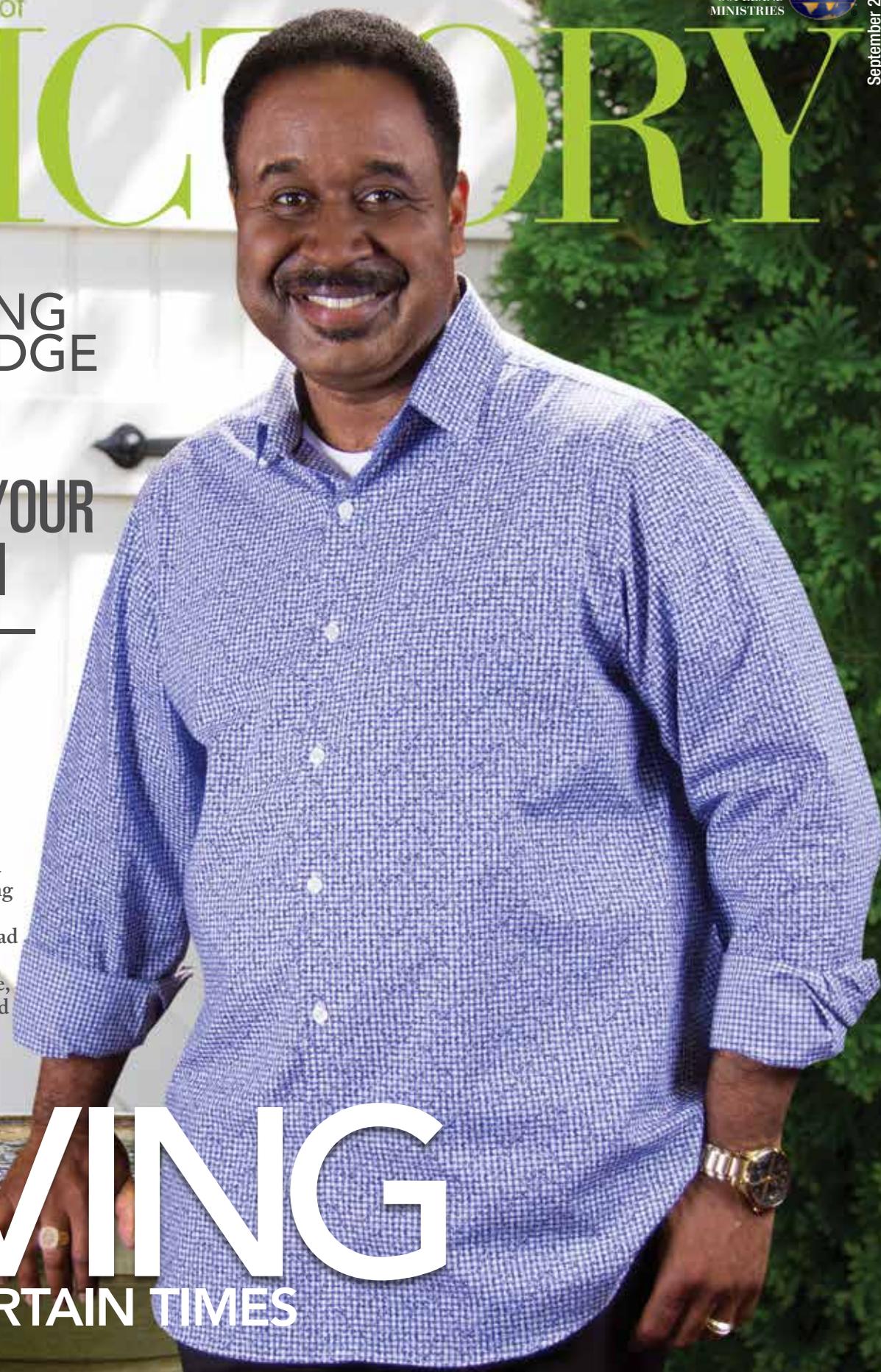
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When David and Donna Jenkins realized damaging floodwaters from South Carolina's Broad River had flowed in every direction except toward their home, they knew that angels had held back the waters and kept them, and their property, safe.

LIVING

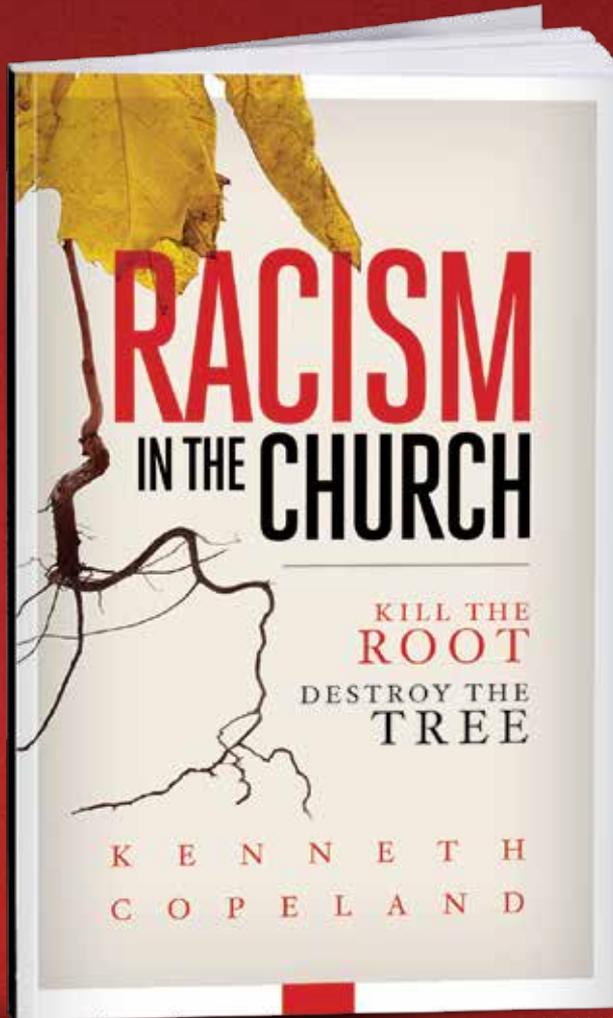
IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

by *Melanie Hemry*



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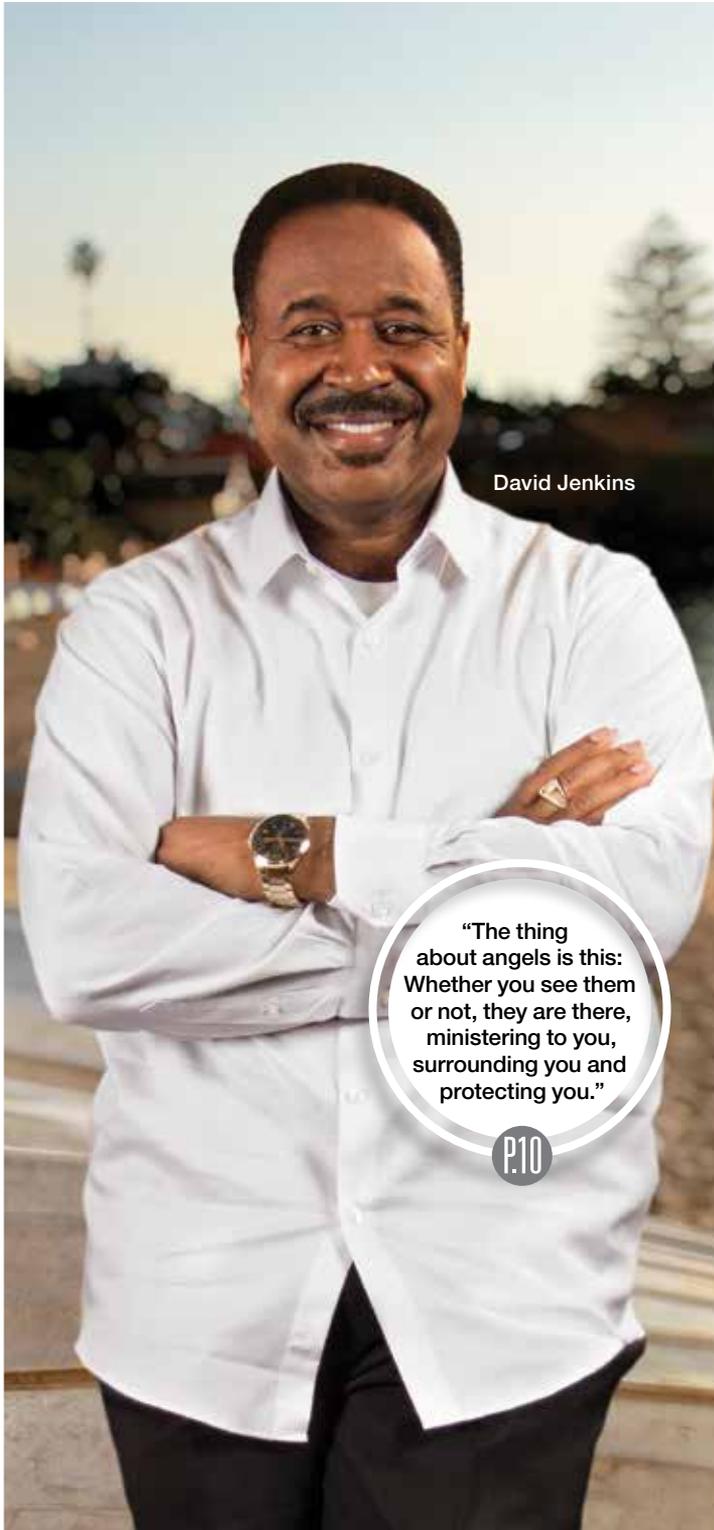
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September



David Jenkins

“The thing about angels is this: Whether you see them or not, they are there, ministering to you, surrounding you and protecting you.”

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As a believer, you already have all the faith you'll ever need. For that faith to produce results, however, you must learn how it works.

10 Living in Uncertain Times

by Melanie Hemry

David Jenkins spoke a word of knowledge to his congregation, warning them that *something* was about to happen. He encouraged them not to fear, but rather to prepare by stepping up their prayers of protection and to stock up on emergency supplies. Little did he know, the storm of a millennium was heading their way.

19 Does God Have a Plan for Women?

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Too many women have been religiously brainwashed instead of biblically taught. God is *not* a male chauvinist. He does not oppress women, nor does He treat them with any less respect than He treats men.

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Gloria and I consider **PARTNERSHIP** a very sacred thing and are convinced that the principles of partnership are **KEY TO VICTORY** in these last days.



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by
Kenneth
Copeland

a WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF FAITH

I'm about to make a statement that may shock you, but according to the Bible it's the absolute truth: As a born-again believer, you have enough faith inside you right now to receive anything God has promised you in His WORD.

That's right. No matter how you feel about it, whether or not you've seen much evidence of it, you already have all the faith you'll ever need. You have faith to receive God's abundant provision. You have faith to walk in His supernatural BLESSING. You have faith to do everything in life He'll ever call you to do, because residing in your reborn spirit at this very moment is the very faith of God Himself. He deposited it in you the moment you received

Jesus as LORD.

The New Testament confirms it. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). "For...God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" (Romans 12:3).

As thrilling as it is to have the God kind of faith, however, for that faith to produce results in your life, you can't be content just to "have" it. You must also develop a working knowledge of how it operates.

There's a big difference between those two.

It's like the difference between having a ticket to ride on an airliner and being a pilot. The person with a ticket has access to the airplane, but

**DON'T EVER WORRY
ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE HOW
LONG THIS IS TAKING,
OR IS IT WORKING.**

FAITH RESTS. IT DOESN'T STRUGGLE TO PRODUCE RESULTS BY WORKS.



“
I watched in amazement as [Oral Roberts] used his faith again and again, like a mechanic uses a tool, to set people free from the oppression of sickness.
”



For your faith to produce results, you can't be content just to "have" it. You must also develop a working knowledge of how it operates. Here are some points to help get you there:

1

Agree with God's WORD and declare, "I have within my reborn spirit God's own faith!"

Ephesians 2:8

2

Acknowledge that like every other believer you have the same measure of faith Jesus Himself has.

Romans 12:3

3

Continually strengthen your faith by hearing and meditating on The WORD of God.

Matthew 4:4

4

Put your faith into action with the words of your mouth.

Mark 11:23

5

While you're waiting for what you've believed for to manifest, stay in faith by refusing to fear and by giving thanks to God.

Philippians 4:6-7

THE TRUTH WILL MAKE YOU FREE

by
Gloria
Copeland

Do you ever long to be absolutely free of selfishness? Do you yearn to throw off every fleshly bondage and hindrance so you can walk fully in love?

As amazing as it seems, we can do it!

Jesus told us how: "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:31-32, *New American Standard Bible*).

That's why, again and again, we must meditate on the truths in the Word that tell us we've been made partakers of God's divine and loving nature. We must continually grow in our revelation of the fact that God's love has been shed abroad in our hearts. The more fully and deeply we come to know that truth, the freer we will be!

It simply doesn't work for us to try to free ourselves out of sheer, human self-discipline from our unloving habits and behaviors. It doesn't work when, by the force of our own efforts, we try to make ourselves "act nice." When we do that, we inevitably fail, and get frustrated and discouraged with ourselves. As a result, we end up more irritable and short-tempered than we were before!

The only way we can truly succeed at walking in love is by drawing on the grace of God within us. The only way we can truly love like Jesus loves is by letting His nature, which dwells within our reborn human spirits, flow out through us. The

more we know about His nature, the more we can do that.

As 2 Peter 1:2 says, God's grace is multiplied to us through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord! That's true in every area of the Christian life. We can't receive something from God that we don't know about. We have to hear the truth about it. Then, when we hear it, faith comes. As we believe and begin to act on that truth, we see the power of it go to work in our lives.

So dig into the Word and find out more about the loving nature of God that abides in you. Meditate on it. Confess it and say, "God's love lives in me!" Then, begin to act by faith, and the bondages of the flesh will be broken. You will know the truth, and it will make you free! 🙏

"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."
2 Peter 1:2-4

his use of it is extremely limited. All he can do is sit in the back section of the plane and depend on someone else to take him where he wants to go. A pilot, on the other hand, has a working knowledge of the process. If he has access to his own plane, he can set his own schedule instead of being tied to the airlines. He can sit in the front of the airplane and fly it instead of having to just ride along in the back.

When it comes to living by faith, God planned for all of His children to be spiritual pilots! He never intended for us to depend on someone else to do our believing for us. Although, when we're spiritual babies, we may have to ride along for a while on the prayers of more mature believers, God's plan is for each one of us to grow up and develop in our knowledge of how faith functions.

That's why Jesus said what He did in Mark 11:22-25:

Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

In those few short verses, Jesus gave us the classic teaching on how to use our faith. It's simple, yet it's extremely powerful. Whether you're just getting started or you've been walking with The LORD for decades, it will help you pilot your faith effectively. It will get you off the ground and keep you on track until you receive the manifestation of whatever you're believing for.

Walking Through the Process

One of the most practical ways I know to illustrate how to apply this classic teaching is by example; by taking a sample situation and mentally walking through it according to the process Jesus described. When I was preaching recently in Florida, for instance, I drew a situation from the life of a couple who were attending the meetings. For years they had wanted to have a baby, but had been unable to conceive.

Imagine, for a moment, you're facing that problem. (You may not be interested at all in having a baby at this point in your life, but just go with me here, OK?) Imagine that you and your spouse want to have a child and you've been told by the doctors that, due to some kind of physical problem, you're not going to be able to have one. You know what the Bible says about believers having children. It promises in Deuteronomy 7:14, "Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you."

In that situation, how do you receive the fulfillment of God's promise?

The first thing you do is have faith in God! You put your confidence in Him and say out loud, "I have God's own faith! I believe in Him and I believe what He said. His WORD is my top priority and final authority."

Then you speak to the mountain and pray something like this:

"Heavenly Father, in the Name of The LORD Jesus Christ, I say to this mountain of infertility, 'Be thou removed and be cast into the sea!' I do not doubt in my heart but I believe those words will come to pass. The desire of my heart is for a child to be born into our family, so right now, on this date at this time, I release my faith and I believe I receive a baby.

"As Jesus commanded, I forgive everyone who's wronged me in any way. It's not my will to hold anything against anyone. If I have

any grain of unforgiveness left in my heart, LORD, please reveal it to me and I'll instantly forgive. I know You've forgiven me for any trespasses in my life and I receive that forgiveness now.

"From this point forward, Sir, this is my covenant commitment with You. I will never change. I will never quit. This is my confession: I am healed of infertility and my desire for a baby has been granted. I take it and I thank and praise You for it. Amen."

"Is receiving from God by faith really that simple?" you might ask.

Yes, it is. It's extremely simple.

It's not necessarily easy, however, and here's why: The praying isn't all there is to it. It's only the beginning. To complete the faith process, while you're waiting for the manifestation of what you've prayed and believed

for, you must maintain your faith confession and add corresponding action to it.

That means, in the case of believing for a baby, you wake up every morning saying, "Praise God, we're going to have a baby in this house!" You go to bed every night saying, "LORD, I want to thank You, Sir, that we're going to have a baby!"

Don't ever worry about anything like how long this is taking, or is it working, or I wonder.... STOP IT!

Never, ever, ever put up with fear! The minute you catch it creeping in, kick it out and keep it out with The WORD of God. Look up all the baby scriptures you can find. Read them and meditate on them at every opportunity. The WORD of God is food to your spirit. It feeds and strengthens your faith like bread feeds

and strengthens the physical body. (See Matthew 4:4.)

Trying Isn't Believing

"But Brother Copeland," someone might say, "I have been feeding on The WORD and so far nothing has happened. My spouse and I keep trying and trying but we just can't seem to conceive a child."

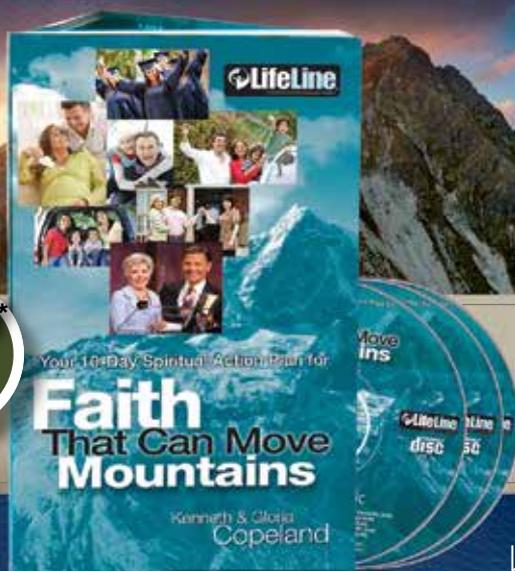
Then quit trying!

Trying isn't believing. As long as you're trying, you're not in faith. Faith rests. It doesn't struggle to produce results by works. It relaxes in God's grace.

Now, I'm not suggesting you stop putting action to your faith. Of course not! I'm just saying don't turn what God created to be a pleasure into a job. Stop approaching the marriage bed like you ought to be getting paid by

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the hour, and enjoy yourselves! Instead of “laboring” to make a baby, labor to enter the rest of faith. Talk to each other like you’re already pregnant. Stay in The WORD until the struggle relaxes, and then do what Philippians 4:6-8 says:

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are

lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things (*New King James Version*).

Look again at those verses. They don’t just say, “Don’t be anxious.” They say, “Be anxious for nothing, *but...*” do something else: Let your requests be made known to God. Do as Jesus instructed in Mark 11. Pray and believe you receive.

Once you’ve done that, rather than negating your faith by saying again and again, “Oh God, You know how much we want a baby. Please, please give us one!” continue to make your wants known to God through thanksgiving. Thank Him for answering your prayer,

and stay in peace by keeping your mind fixed on good things. When the devil attempts to get your faith off line and you’re tempted to get anxious over some bad report, focus on the report of The LORD. Think about things that are going right in your life instead of the things that are wrong.

“Well, I’m trying to do that, Brother Copeland.”

No, don’t get off on that trying business again. This isn’t something you “try” to do. It’s a command of God. Don’t sit there night after night watching murder and mayhem on television, and then claim you can’t help thinking negative thoughts. Change your mind by changing the channel. Turn off that fear-inspiring garbage and tune in to the Believer’s Voice of Victory Network or some other faith-building broadcasts.

See With the Eye of Faith

God can’t change your mind for you, and neither can the devil. Your mind belongs to you. You’re the one with the authority to cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5). So just do it!

Take charge of what you’re thinking. Follow David’s example in Psalm 103 where he said, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies” (verses 2-4).

This is how you keep your faith activated and stay in God’s rest! When your mind and emotions start coming apart at the seams, say, “Soul, you just shut up that unbeliefer. You stop forgetting the benefits that belong to you because of what Jesus did on the cross. You remember that



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SEPTEMBER BROADCAST CALENDAR

because of Him, you're BLESSED. You're saved. You're healed. You're a child of God who is crowned with His lovingkindness and tender mercies!"

Such words have an especially powerful impact when you practice seeing what you're saying with the eye of faith. That's what the people in Hebrews 11 did. Verse 13 says, they received God's promises, "*having seen them* afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed..." (italics mine).

Such faith vision doesn't always develop overnight, of course. Particularly if you've been in a particular situation a long time—if you've been barren for years, or living in lack, or sick—you may have to spend some time renewing your mind with The WORD to change how you see yourself on the inside. That's what I had to do when I began believing God for a jet for this ministry. Although I'd flown smaller airplanes for years, a jet was a step up for me. I knew I needed one to do everything God had called me to do, yet I couldn't see myself owning one. Despite what I'd learned about prosperity I still had some poverty thinking following me around like an ornery little dog.

Eventually, though, I got rid of it. I fed and strengthened my faith with The WORD. I fixed my mind on God's promise, saw it with the eye of faith, embraced it and confessed it. Sure enough, before long my faith vision became a reality.

The same kind of thing can happen in your life. Whatever it is you desire—whether it's a baby, healing for your body or a debt-free life—you already have what it takes to receive it. You have The WORD of God; you have God's own faith on the inside of you; and now you have a working knowledge of that faith.

So rise up and use it. Climb up there in the faith cockpit with Jesus...and fly! 📺



George Pearsons



Kellie Copeland

Aug. 29-Sept. 2

Done With Debt!—Part 2

Gloria Copeland and George Pearsons

Sun., Sept. 4

The Importance of Faith in the Name of Jesus

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 5-9

Pray in the Spirit

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 11

True Stories of Supernatural Protection

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 12-16

The Greater One in You

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 18

How to Pray for Unbelievers

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 19-23

Faith for Today, Faith for Tomorrow

Gloria Copeland and Kellie Copeland

Sun., Sept. 25

The Power of the Double

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 26-30

Faith for Endurance

Gloria Copeland and Kellie Copeland

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David & Donna Jenkins



Living

IN UNCERTAIN TIMES



David Jenkins paused in front of his television at home in Columbia, S.C., to watch the weather. “This rain has the potential to create a flood the likes of which hasn’t occurred for a hundred years,” the announcer said. “The ground is saturated and the lakes are full. All three rivers that transect Columbia—the Saluda, the Congaree and the Broad River—are already swollen over their banks.”

Several things clicked into place for David, pastor of Ambassadors’ Christian Center. The previous Monday, he had spoken to his congregation. “Something is about to happen,” he warned in a calm voice. “I have no idea what it is, but I do know that we have no reason to be afraid. Whatever it is, I want us to be prepared. First of all, step up your prayers for protection, especially praying Psalm 91. I also want you to stock up on emergency supplies and buy extra food and water.”

A couple of nights after that, David dreamed about a flood. In the dream he saw rain that wouldn’t quit. Buildings disappeared under the water, falling apart—homes and

businesses destroyed.

Now this, he thought looking outside at sheets of unrelenting rain.

“Ashley’s here!” his wife, Donna, called. Their daughter, Ashley, was the senior executive assistant to the city manager and lived downtown.

“Today at work I felt impressed by the Lord to pack a bag and spend the night here,” Ashley explained. “I thought it over and decided to come watch movies with you this evening but not spend the night. But when I got home from work, the Lord told me again to pack a bag and stay. So here I am!”

“I’m glad you’re here,” David said, hugging his daughter.

He’d like to think that their home was the safest place in Columbia.

by *Melanie Hemry*

“The thing about angels is this: Whether you see them or not, they are there, ministering to you, surrounding you and protecting you.”

September

		Old Testament	Psalms
Thu	1	Eccl. 5-6	Ps. 18
Fri	2	Eccl. 7-8	Ps. 19
Sat	3	Eccl. 9-11	Ps. 20-21
Sun	4	Eccl. 12; Songs 1	Ps. 22
Mon	5	Songs 2-3	Ps. 23
Tue	6	Songs 4-5	Ps. 24
Wed	7	Songs 6-7	Ps. 25
Thu	8	Songs 8; Isa. 1	Ps. 26
Fri	9	Isa. 2-3	Ps. 27
Sat	10	Isa. 4-6	Ps. 28-29
Sun	11	Isa. 7-8	Ps. 30
Mon	12	Isa. 9-10	Ps. 31
Tue	13	Isa. 11-12	Ps. 32
Wed	14	Isa. 13-14	Ps. 33
Thu	15	Isa. 15-16	Ps. 34
Fri	16	Isa. 17-18	Ps. 35
Sat	17	Isa. 19-21	Ps. 36-37
Sun	18	Isa. 22-23	Ps. 38
Mon	19	Isa. 24-25	Ps. 39
Tue	20	Isa. 26-27	Ps. 40
Wed	21	Isa. 28-29	Ps. 41
Thu	22	Isa. 30-31	Ps. 42
Fri	23	Isa. 32-33	Ps. 43
Sat	24	Isa. 34-36	Ps. 44-45
Sun	25	Isa. 37-38	Ps. 46
Mon	26	Isa. 39-40	Ps. 47
Tue	27	Isa. 41-42	Ps. 48
Wed	28	Isa. 43-44	Ps. 49
Thu	29	Isa. 45-46	Ps. 50
Fri	30	Isa. 47-48	Ps. 51

Except for one thing. About 800-880 yards away, on the other side of the neighborhood clubhouse, the Broad River had already overflowed its banks. If it flooded, they were right in its path.

A Bright Light

“That evening we alternated between watching movies and the weather,” David recalls. “The next day, Saturday, Oct. 3, the rain was heavier. Weather forecasters and city officials gave continual warnings to stay inside and off streets as the situation worsened. People were rushing to stores and emptying shelves. Businesses closed early as people settled down to ride out the storm.

“That evening it seemed as though a bucket broke and the heavens opened. This was way past what could be considered normal amounts of rain. We’d lived in Columbia since 1989, and we’d never seen anything like it. It rained hard and heavy, the sound of rain interrupted by great claps of thunder. We prayed Psalm 91 and thanked God for His protection.

“We had eight security cameras which allowed us to monitor the rain from every direction. It was an incredible sight; hard not to watch. That night, Ashley went to bed but Donna and I stayed up until 2 a.m.”

David locked all the doors and turned out the inside and outside lights. Finally in bed, he and Donna listened to the raging storm, unable to sleep.

“What was that?” Donna asked, sitting up in bed.

“What?”

“I just saw a bright light out the window.”

“I turned out all the lights,” David said, climbing out of bed to go check. Looking from the second story toward the front of the house, he saw a bright light but couldn’t tell where it came from.

David walked down the hall to the bonus room and adjusted the channel on the television so he could monitor all eight surveillance cameras. Every camera showed the same thing—pounding rain and lightning—every camera except one. That camera, pointed toward the front of the house, was lit against the storm.

Leaning forward for a better look, David felt the hair rise on the back of his neck. A light, the size of Ashley’s sedan, was shaped like a hand. Hovering above the cars, it appeared to be a great hand of fire. He could make out the thumb and the pointed index finger.

Supernatural Help

“Donna! Come here, you’ve got to see this!”

“Oh!” Donna gasped. “Look at that!”

David turned on the DVR to record the scene as they watched in awe.

“The light was so bright it lit the bedroom,” David explained.

“Look at the direction the hand is pointing,” Donna said.

“Yeah?”

“It’s pointing toward the Broad River! The hand of God is holding back the water!”

After an hour or so, Donna went back to bed. David stayed up the rest of the night, staring at the phenomenon and pondering its meaning. He was tempted to go outside and stand in the rain just to be near it. But the weather was strange and everything outside looked peculiar. Lightning flashed on the horizon and the rumbling thunder felt ominous.

David knew that angelic activity had increased on the earth in these last days. And in their lives, there had been more manifestations since Norvel Hayes

had prayed for them, prophesying that angels would start assisting them with their ministry. Neighbors walking down the street had stopped and said, "I've seen things in your backyard that look like angels!"

In the fall of 2012, the IRS had claimed that their church owed more than \$50,000 in withholding taxes. It wasn't true; the church didn't owe anything. But the battle still had to be fought, and going up against the IRS felt a lot like facing Goliath.

David and Donna had planted seed for victory into Kenneth Copeland Ministries, both personally and through the church. When Kenneth Copeland traveled to Columbia for the 2013 Word Explosion, David had taken the opportunity to tell him about the situation. Brother Copeland prayed, using his authority in a powerful way.

Twelve days later, when David checked the security monitors in the morning, he was stunned at what he saw. The cameras had captured the image of two angels with swords drawn, guarding the front of their house. Later that evening, another angel had appeared at the back door.

"Lord, what is this?" David asked.

Your angels.

He and Donna knew without a doubt that those angels had come in response to Brother Copeland's prayers. Sure enough, the IRS conceded that they hadn't done anything wrong after all. The battle had been won in the heavenlies, not in the courtroom.

A while later, David was in the grocery store when he ran into a neighbor who said he had seen something in David's backyard that looked like angels. David asked, "Did they look like this?" and showed him the pictures of the angel at the back door.

The man studied the photographs. "Yes! They looked very similar.

"I'm an engineer," he said, "and I can tell you that these have not been photoshopped."

Activate God's Creative Power

You can create the world around you by what you believe in your heart and say with your mouth!

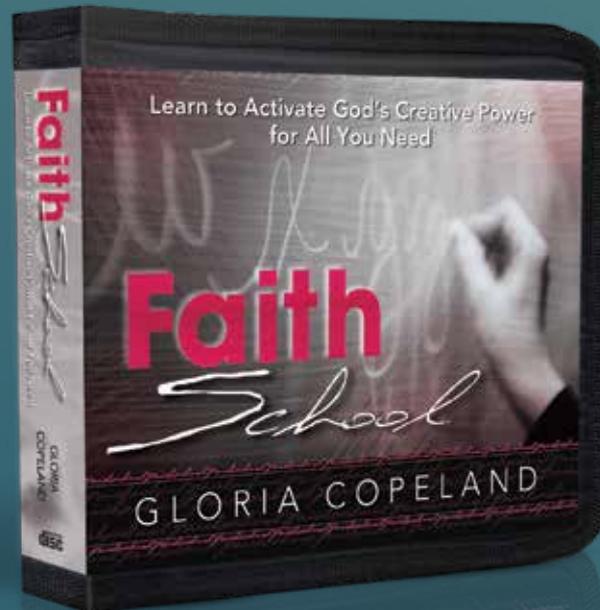
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“

I'm so grateful to be a Partner with KCM. I'm grateful for their teaching on Psalm 91 and for teaching us how to live by faith.

”

A Thousand-Year Flood

It was 5 a.m. and rain was still hitting their house like machine-gun fire. Certain that angels were on guard, David fell into an exhausted sleep.

The next morning when they turned on the news, Governor Nikki Haley was urging everyone to stay inside. “This isn’t a hundred-year rain,” she explained. “It’s a thousand-year rain! That means it’s been an estimated thousand years since we’ve had this kind of rain. The city is flooding and roads have been washed away. Stay inside!”

“When we got up Sunday morning, we realized that the Broad River had been flooding during the night but we hadn’t known it at the time,” Donna remembers. “There were two major streets into our neighborhood and both of them were flooded. One of the roads had collapsed and two trucks had fallen into the sinkhole. There was no way in or out of our neighborhood.

“None of this made sense to us. Our house is a two- to four-minute walk or a one- to two-minute bike ride to the Broad River. That river had flooded in every direction except ours! We should have been underwater, but not a single house on our street was flooded.

“Looking out our back window, it looked like Niagara Falls cresting over the upper part of our yard. The gushing water should have flooded the back of our house. But it was as though Moses was standing there with his rod lifted, because *the water parted* and gushed down either side of our home to the street. What we were watching wasn’t possible in the natural!

“The downtown area where Ashley lived had been hit hard. If she’d stayed home, she would have been trapped, alone with no way out. Yet we were right next to the river and not a single house on our street flooded. Two to three days later, people would walk down to the river and scratch their heads—it had flooded in every direction except toward us.”

The Power of the Blood

The situation was so dangerous, the city issued a curfew. Some who

ventured out drowned. People who left home and weren’t back inside by 7 p.m. were ticketed or sent to jail. The Jenkins weren’t able to get out of their neighborhood for three days.

True to the word of knowledge given to David Jenkins—something *had been* coming. He and his congregation were prayed up and stocked up, ready to ride out the storm of a millennium.

“It reminded me of the children of Israel when they put the blood of the lamb over their doorposts,” David says. “When the death angel passed over, every living thing died except those protected by the blood. I’m so grateful to be a Partner with KCM. I’m grateful for their teaching on Psalm 91 and for teaching us how to live by faith. I’m grateful for the power of prayer that dispatched angels to our door, right when our city was hit with *trillions* of gallons of rain.”

David and Donna Jenkins are convinced that the Broad River was forbidden to flood their street because the hand of God was set against it. Those angels and that hand were reminiscent of the story of Elisha in 2 Kings 6:14-17:

So [the Syrian king] sent there horses, chariots, and a great army. They came by night and surrounded the city. When the servant of the man of God rose early and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was around the city. Elisha’s servant said to him, Alas, my master! What shall we do? [Elisha] answered, Fear not; for those with us are more than those with them. Then Elisha prayed, Lord, I pray You, open his eyes that he may see. And the Lord opened the young man’s eyes, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of *horses and chariots of fire* round about Elisha (*The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*, emphasis added).

The thing about angels is this: Whether you see them or not, they are there, ministering to you, surrounding you and protecting you. In uncertain times, God’s Word *is* certain. 📖

**Join David and Donna.
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I DECLARE THIS "SUPERKID SEPTEMBER!"

It's going to be awesome, amazing, thrilling and adventurous! I don't know exactly what's ahead for you, Superkid, but I am pretty sure there will be change involved.

September is a month of change. So, let's talk about change.

Maybe you're starting school this month, or heading into middle school! Or, maybe you're even starting a NEW school—in a new town even. Yikes! That can be a scary change! And speaking of moving, that, too, can be a huge change! Changing friends, family dynamics or relationships can all be tough.

Just thinking about these possibilities can seem stressful.

I'm bringing this up, because change IS going to happen. Big changes, little changes, life changes and even diaper changes! Yes, I almost left that one out, but some of you will be blessed with a baby brother or sister this very month! Congratulations! For whatever change you go through, I applaud you. And so does your heavenly Father. You see, He is all about change.

Yes, God's Word says *He* never changes. But He does expect *us* to change.

Change is inevitable, it's a challenge, and it's good. Let's examine each of these.

CHANGE IS INEVITABLE.

What does that mean? Literally, *inevitable* means "you can't avoid it, it's sure to happen, occur or come." **CHANGE IS A FACT OF LIFE!** Look at Jesus, and imagine what His disciples were thinking in John 12-17.



Kellie Copeland



They figured His ministry was going great, and things were going well for the whole team! People were showing up to hear Him preach and were being healed. It was a real success! Then, suddenly, Jesus begins talking about going to see the Father! What? Jesus, You can't just leave! We need You! But Jesus knew what they really needed—someone just like Him who could live inside them. Who was it? You guessed it, Superkid. He was the Holy Spirit! His presence changed everything and everyone! Even though the disciples had no idea it was coming, God had change in mind for centuries! Wonder what He has in mind for you, Superkid? Whatever it is, change is a challenge.

CHANGE IS A CHALLENGE.

When change knocks at your door, how will you answer? What will you do? If you want to win, decide now. You may not know what challenges are ahead, and you don't need to. You do need to know that God loves you, Jesus will *never* leave you, and the Holy Spirit will talk you through it. Like players on sports teams trust their coaches, you can trust the Lord.

When you decide ahead of time to trust God as your helper and coach, you win. Even when a situation doesn't turn out like you thought it would, He will tell you how to handle it and make sure you come out of that change better than you went in. Some changes we can't control. If your best friend moves away, for example, you can't change that. But if you've already made the decision to trust God, He can help you deal with it. You'll still feel sad, but the Lord will bring you peace, and eventually a new bestie. Think again about the disciples! Their best friend was moving to heaven! They didn't realize it then, but He was going to be able to live inside them. He helped them through it, and He can help you through it, too.



CHANGE IS GOOD.

How is change good? We grow! Every time we trust the Lord, we grow up a little. The disciples began to know what their new life would look like as Jesus and the Holy Spirit walked them through it. They matured. Even though some changes are sad, let's not forget that some changes are great! God has a good plan for our lives, and as we trust and obey, He will walk us straight through. The disciples had no idea they would be better off with Jesus gone, but they had to trust Him when He told them, "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father" (John 14:12, *New Living Translation*).

One of those disciples was Peter. When Jesus was preparing to go to the cross, He tried to help Peter through this change. He not only told Peter what was coming, but that he was going to make it! In John 14:1 (*NLT*), Coach Jesus even told Peter: "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me." It didn't look like it was working when Peter was arguing with Jesus or denying Him. But in First and Second Peter, we see a person who grew strong by listening to Jesus. Peter encourages us not to trust our flesh, but to trust Jesus. In a time of stress and change, Peter learned to walk with God. He tells us we can trust Jesus with our lives, "and anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced" (1 Peter 2:6, *NLT*).

So how about it, Superkid? Can you make a decision to trust in Jesus, no matter what comes? To let Him lead and guide you through every season of change? You'll never regret it. When you trust Him, you'll begin to know Him as your best friend, and Satan, the enemy of your life, cannot shake you.

Now that is when life gets sweet and adventurous! Ready for some adventures, Superkid? Then put your life in His hands and say, "Bring it on! With Jesus, I'm ready for anything!" ♥

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



GoodNEWSGazette

'THANK YOU FOR BEING THERE'

Thank you for being there for me and my family. 2014 was the greatest year ever. I credit that to God, and my partnership with Kenneth Copeland Ministries. Obeying God and partnering with KCM is one of the best decisions I've ever made. You've been a lifeline for me. The preaching and teaching of Kenneth and Gloria and the other ministers in your meetings and on the broadcasts are awesome. We've received so much revelation and more breakthrough in 2014 than all the past years combined. We're learning to walk in health and prosperity better than ever.

The Lord gave me a brand-new laptop and a tablet, so I can download and watch all the programming and teachings 24/7. I am meditating on the 2015 prophecies every morning and applying them to my life. I read my chapter every day, and dozens of other scriptures that I proclaim over us daily, so praise God for **THE BLESSING**.

Lester R.
Wooster, Ohio

PROSPERITY TEACHINGS ARE A HUGE BLESSING!

Thank you so much for the prosperity teaching that has built up our faith to believe for debt freedom, and for the teaching on **THE BLESSING** of God that has really impacted our everyday walk with the Lord. After taking hold of the prosperity

broadcasts by George Pearsons and Gloria, already, in the last two weeks, we have been given £2,000 for a holiday. Friends felt the Lord lay it on their hearts to give us that amount. After I sowed £30 toward my own little business that I'm believing for,

we received a cheque from our bank for £347 yesterday for overpaid interest. Two huge financial blessings from the Lord, which we believe are just the start! Thank you, George and Gloria, for your amazing and faith-building broadcasts, which are such a blessing. Glory to God!

Michelle L.
Hampshire, U.K.

GOD HEALED HER EYES!

Since the middle of last year I had noticed I couldn't see clearly when trying to read. I'd start feeling pains on my forehead and eyes. This year, to read more than a chapter of the Bible was a problem, and to read what is written on the TV screen was a problem.

Yesterday, I was watching Gloria Copeland (on KLN) and as she started praying, I believed God for the healing of my eyes. Instantly, I received my healing! I started reading without any pain and can see clearly. Praise the Lord!
H.A. | Nigeria

PAIN...GONE!

I was in pain all over my body—muscles aching. I was praising and singing, then I started to dance. I can't say that I made a conscious decision to do so, but when I finished, all the aches were gone. Praise God! Thank You, Jesus. I am still testifying about this. This is one of the five things Brother Copeland says to do.

P.M. | England

BLESSED BY CHANNEL 265 ON DISH®

My husband and I just wanted to express how blessed we were to see we had Channel 265 available on DISH. We watched the SWBC and felt like we were right there at the meetings! What a wonderful miracle to have this channel 24/7! The timing was perfect and we just want to express our heartfelt thanks,



love and appreciation for Kenneth Copeland Ministries. We are very blessed to have been Partners with you for many years!

Jesus is Lord!
Colette N. | Ankeny, Iowa

RECONCILED!

About six months ago, I began seeking God first and His righteousness, determined to give over every area of my life to Him. Then one night, my husband, whom I had not heard from in years, called me from Korea, where he was stationed. (We had been separated and estranged for seven years.) We talked, and although we had both moved on, a new friendship was budding. At the time, I was unaware that there was a spirit of adultery to be dealt with. Adultery and divorce were normal in my family, so I didn't even really fight when it came against us. I needed help. After calling on the prayer warriors to help me, my husband and I are now reconciled. Right before I asked for prayer from this group [the KCM online community], my husband had backed out of our new relationship. My heart felt crushed but our Lord told me to *fight!* It was a wake-up call for me, and my husband says it was like "a light was turned on" for him. He called me immediately and said that he wanted his wife back. Thanks so much for standing together with me and praying. You're my new family and I'm so thankful for you.
C.B. | Peoria, Ill.



“

I BELIEVE IF GOD CARES FOR THE BIRDS, HE CARES FOR ME. I DON'T HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW HE'S GOING TO DO IT.

”

— Gloria Copeland

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.

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

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Esther D.,
prayer
minister

Living by Faith

Living by faith in God is the most thrilling, powerful adventure there is, but it doesn't work for those who just "try it." You have to be 100 percent committed.

AS A BELIEVER YOU
ALREADY HAVE WITHIN
YOU THE SAME BRAND
OF FAITH ABRAHAM
HAD. ROMANS 4:11-12

AS ABRAHAM'S
SPIRITUAL HEIR, YOU
HAVE THE RIGHT TO
BELIEVE AND RECEIVE
THE FULFILLMENT OF
ALL GOD'S PROMISES.
GALATIANS 3:29

WHEN YOU COME TO
GOD BY FAITH IN JESUS,
HE WILL TREAT YOU AS IF
YOU'VE NEVER SINNED.
EPHESIANS 1:4

YOUR FAITH WILL
INCREASINGLY FLOURISH
AS YOU WALK IN UNITY
WITH OTHER BELIEVERS.
EPHESIANS 4:13

YOU HAVE THE
CAPACITY TO
BELIEVE GOD'S
WORD EVEN
WHEN YOU'RE
FACING THE
IMPOSSIBLE.

ROMANS 4:20

“

BEGIN TO SEE YOURSELF AS THE
FATHER SEES YOU. WHATEVER HE
SAYS ABOUT YOU AS HIS CHILD,
THAT'S THE WAY IT REALLY IS.

”

—GLORIA COPELAND

DOES GOD HAVE A PLAN FOR WOMEN?

GOD FIRST BEGAN TO DEAL WITH ME ON THE TOPIC OF WOMEN SOME TIME AGO, AS I WAS PREPARING TO TEACH A MESSAGE ON HIS WILLINGNESS TO HEAL THE PHYSICAL BODY.

by Scarlett Stephenson



I was reading in Mark 5:25-34 where the verses describe Jesus ministering to the woman with the issue of blood. According to verse 26, she “had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse.”

Ultimately, the woman heard about Jesus, came and touched the hem of His garment, and immediately virtue flowed out of Jesus to heal her.

As I read this powerful passage, the Spirit of God spoke to me specifically about the word *virtue* in verse 30. Actually, as I read those words, the Lord spoke in my heart, asking, *Do you know the meaning of virtue?*

“Well, I think it means power,” I replied.

Immediately, He reminded me of Proverbs 31:10.

Do you know that a virtuous woman is a powerful woman?

His simple, yet profound, questions led me into a new study that altogether changed my perspective of the virtuous woman. Without realizing it, I had developed the misconception that the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31 was weak, mousy and introverted. In many ways, she seemed outdated and out of touch compared to the woman of today.

But as God began to

I began to realize that she demonstrated an extraordinary love for her family and attained an impressive level of financial prosperity, all the while tremendously impacting her community.

reveal to me the power this virtuous woman possessed, my opinion changed dramatically. I became engrossed in her lifestyle and overwhelmed with her remarkable accomplishments and outstanding qualities. In fact, as I began to study and meditate on this text, I grew more and more astounded by the woman’s strength and power. I began to realize that she demonstrated an extraordinary love for her family and attained an impressive level of financial prosperity, all the while tremendously impacting her community.

I began to desire this very same kind of power in my own life.

Most importantly, I began to realize that this same virtue—defined as strength, might, force and wealth—is available to every woman who remains vitally attached to Jesus. I understood that a virtuous woman is a woman full of God’s power.

A Virtuous Woman

In Proverbs 31:10, the question is asked: “Who can find a virtuous woman?” The question itself implies that finding a virtuous woman might not be an easy task. “Her price is far above rubies,” it says, suggesting she is a rare find.

Nevertheless, some harbor misconceptions of what characterizes a virtuous woman. There are those who read Proverbs 31 and say things like, “I can’t possibly attain to this level



Scarlett Stephenson

is the senior pastor of Goodness of God Church in Panama City, Fla. She is also the founder of Grace Counseling Center where she counsels those struggling with depression, anxiety and other soulful issues. In her book, *God Loves Women*, she declares God’s great desire to empower His daughters. For more information, please visit goodnessofgodchurch.com.

THE GOD KIND OF POWER IS ALWAYS BASED IN LOVE AND NEVER SELFISHNESS.

THEREFORE, GOD'S IDEA OF A VIRTUOUS AND POWERFUL WOMAN IS NOT A MANIPULATIVE, SCHEMING, SELFISH, CONTROLLING WOMAN.



of perfection. Who can live up to the performance of this woman of virtue?" Then there are others who wonder where such a woman finds her energy and stamina. Still other women resent the virtuous woman for raising such a high standard for the rest of us to attain.

As we gain an understanding of God's plan for women, we can clearly see that He enables and equips His daughters to do His will. As women, we are not left in our own strength to push, struggle and strive to be everything to everyone. God Himself empowers us to accomplish all we do, and in the process adds great joy to our lives and imparts even greater beauty and strength to us.

Frankly, too many women have been religiously brainwashed instead of biblically taught. You see, the word *virtuous* does not mean perfect; it means "powerful." The Holy Spirit opened my eyes to see this very powerful woman in a new and different way. He also shared with me His intention to make all women strong. Why? Because God loves women. He is not a male chauvinist. He does not oppress women, nor does He treat them with any less respect than He treats men. In fact, God moved on Peter to write that men ought to give honor to their wives with tenderness or their prayers will be hindered. I like to put it this way: God will not even talk to husbands who treat their wives dishonorably (1 Peter 3:7). He wants a man to love his wife, to nourish her and to cherish her (Ephesians 5:28-29).

Before the Lord brought revelation to me, I perceived the virtuous woman to be an extremely talented cook, preparing gourmet meals for her family. I pictured her as a type of Betty Crocker or

Rachael Ray. I thought she was a terrific seamstress, whose life was perfect. I also believed a virtuous woman was required to be married with children.

But one by one I began to discover that these were half-truths. The only other woman in the entire Bible who was referred to as virtuous was Ruth. In Ruth 3:11, Boaz said of her, "For all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman." Yet, at the time, Ruth was a single woman who was widowed with no children and no money. She had a bitter mother-in-law named Naomi. Ruth was from Moab, and in some people's minds, she was even of the "wrong race." Why would anyone refer to her as being virtuous?

Because of her character.

The word *virtuous* as defined in Strong's Exhaustive Concordance means "strong, mighty, efficient, able, wealthy, forceful, and with substance." This multiword description shed new light on the word for me. I began to understand how this kind of power flows only from the all-powerful One, our heavenly Father, the omnipotent God. Suddenly, I realized the reason Ruth was known as a virtuous woman was because of what Boaz had said in a previous verse: "Blessed be thou of the Lord" (Ruth 3:10).

Ruth truly was blessed and empowered by God. How do we know? Because in Ruth 1:16, Ruth said to Naomi, "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." When Ruth chose God, she became virtuous. She became powerful. Likewise, when we choose God we also become virtuous and powerful. As we live in Him, we have access to all that He is.

God's power is different, and far greater, than the world's. Jesus said, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19).

Power Based on God's Love

The God kind of power is always based in love and never selfishness. Therefore, God's idea of a virtuous and powerful woman is not a manipulative, scheming, selfish, controlling woman. That description characterizes the world's image of a powerful woman. It also sounds very much like another woman we read about in the Bible named Jezebel. Jezebel was strong all right; but not strong in God. She was not submitted to God, and she was very strong-willed.

In fact, she even ruled over her husband, King Ahab, and commanded hundreds of the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:19). In other words, Jezebel was the very opposite of the Proverbs 31 woman and was the very definition of manipulation and control.

There was great evil in Jezebel's heart. On one occasion, for example, she threatened to kill God's prophet Elijah. Another time, she boldly mocked God (1 Kings 19:2). In 1 Kings 21:1-29, we see her plotting to kill Naboth over a plot of land her husband, King Ahab, desired. Naboth had refused to sell or trade the land, which had been in his family for many years. Ahab had become distraught, so Jezebel intervened and sent letters to the people, forging Ahab's signature. She set up two

false witnesses against Naboth who testified before the people that Naboth blasphemed God. When the king ordered Naboth out of the city, and the people stoned him, Jezebel told Ahab to go possess Naboth's vineyard.

The Bible states in 1 Kings 21:25 that King Ahab sold himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, which Jezebel his wife stirred up or inspired him to do. From the world's perspective this woman had power and influence, but it was not the power of God. This selfish, evil power was rooted in the devil. God's power is far greater, and rooted and grounded in love, which never fails (1 Corinthians 13:8).

Women like Jezebel—and there are plenty of them around, even today—feel they must dominate, control and manipulate. These women are driven by fear and insecurity, which only makes them weaker. There is no “happily ever after” for women who pursue this kind of selfish behavior. The truth is that strength stems from faith in God, and courage is derived from trusting in Him.

In 2 Kings 9 we read of Jezebel's unhappy demise. She was thrown out of a window and her body eaten by dogs, just as Elijah had prophesied. All that was left of her was her skull, her feet and the palms of her hands. It was not a pretty ending for Jezebel to become dog food. Her life was an example of what Proverbs 14:12 says: “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of [destruction].” She followed a path that was not right unto God, but right to her. And she paid for it with her life.

Contentious, nagging women like Jezebel are repulsive. Twice, in Proverbs 21:9 and 25:24, the Bible says it is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house. Instead of trusting God and believing in Him to move and supply for them, fear forces some women into continually nagging to get things accomplished or to get their way.

Unfortunately, fear only opens the door to the enemy or the devil. Foolish women pluck their houses down

(Proverbs 14:1). What constitutes a fool? Psalm 53:1 says, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘*There is no God*’” (*New King James Version*). A fool acts like God is not real, not alive. A fool disregards God in her life. A fool acts like the Word of God is not true.

If you remove the italicized words in Psalm 53:1 that were added at the liberty of the translators, it actually reads “The fool has said...no God.” A fool will say no to God, no to His Word, no to His instruction, no to His plan. But when we set our love upon our heavenly Father, we become established in Him and shall not be moved. We are unshakable when we trust in the living God—rock solid. As we trust in Him, we become strong in the Lord and in the power of His might that cannot be defeated (Ephesians 6:10).

Where does this power come from and where is it to be used? Acts 1:8 states, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me.” Jesus said, “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (Luke 10:19). And in Acts 10:38 we read, “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”

God desires women to be powerful in Him. He doesn't want weak daughters. He said, “Let the weak say, I am strong” (Joel 3:10). He is a mighty God, and He wants mighty children. It's time for us to acknowledge every good thing in us, so that we may become effective (Philemon 1:6).

When God instructed Abram to leave his country and his father's house, He promised, “I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing” (Genesis 12:2, *NKJV*). Years later, when God made a second covenant with Abram, He changed Abram's name to Abraham, and his wife's name from

Sarai to Sarah. God promised He would bless her and give Abraham a son by her, and “then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her” (Genesis 17:16, *NKJV*). After dealing with Abraham, the Lord came to him again when Sarah was near and confirmed the promise that she would indeed bear him a son within the year. In 1 Peter 3:6, God refers to all of us as her daughters.

You see, the Bible doesn't just talk about Father Abraham, but also about Mother Sarah. A name change signifies that a covenant was established between God and all mankind—men and women. For that very reason, God's mighty covenant of prosperity is for women as well as men.

Galatians 3 says that Christ became a curse for us, that the blessing of Abraham might come on the gentiles. He said that in Christ there is neither Jew nor gentile, bond nor free, male nor female. We are all in Christ, and we are all heirs according to the promise. Women who know they have a covenant of prosperity can activate the covenant themselves and step right on over into a place of abundance.

As the Holy Spirit reveals His purposes for women, we discover how simple it is to operate in this same fashion. Women of all ages can join the prestigious ranks of virtuous women.

Proverbs 31:29 says, “Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.” Of all the women in the Old Testament who did mighty exploits for God—including Sarah, Deborah, Abigail, Ruth, Esther and Hannah, to name a few—God said this virtuous woman “excellest” them all. Wow, what mighty power she possessed and because she was not named, you can put your name in there and become the virtuous woman.

I pray as you read the Bible in light of the virtuous woman, you also will begin to comprehend God's profound love for women, and His intense desire to empower His daughters. Most of all, I pray that God will reveal to you how very powerful you are in Christ Jesus. ⑦



THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A NATION DOESN'T BELONG ONLY ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE POLITICIANS, BUT ON THE HEARTS OF BORN-AGAIN BELIEVERS IN PRAYER WHO'VE BEEN GIVEN...

A HIGHER FORM OF POWER

What I have to say to you today is simple. And it is quite serious.

Your response to it will not only affect your life and mine, but many thousands of others.

It is a message—no, a command—all of us have no doubt heard before. But, by and large, we have ignored it. We have thought somehow we could get by without it, that we could let it slip without paying a price.

But we have paid. Our whole nation has paid. One look at any newspaper will give you an idea just how dearly.



The command I'm talking about is the one found in 1 Timothy 2:1-2. There the Apostle Paul says, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

That verse is clear, isn't it? The instruction is plain. Yet even in these tumultuous days when our nation is so desperately in need of God's guidance, most of God's people don't do what that verse commands.

Why not?

Is it because we don't care? Is it because we're unwilling to invest a few minutes of prayer in the future of our nation each day?

No.

I believe it's because most of us are overwhelmed by the problems we see around us. *How could my prayers make a dent in the national debt?* we think. *How could my faith affect foreign policy?* In other words, we fail to pray because we fail to realize just how powerfully our prayers can affect this country. So today, I want us to look at some scriptures and find out what The WORD of God has to say about the subject.

First, let's look at Romans 13:1. There, the Apostle Paul writes, "Let



every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

It amazes me how little attention is paid to this very important scripture. In fact, when you get right down to it, most Christians don't even believe it! You can tell just by the disrespectful way they talk about our leaders.

"Well, if those leaders are ordained of God," you may say, "why don't they act like it?"

Because the believers they govern



aren't praying for them!

You see, if by prayer we will invite God into our governments, He'll take control of those who've been put in positions of authority. As Proverbs 21:1 says, "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will." Think about that for a moment! God has reserved the right to override the will of a nation's leader, if need be, to see that His people are governed according to His will.

What's more, God will hear the prayer of any government leader. Even if he's the worst reprobate in the whole world. He heard the prayer of old King Nebuchadnezzar. And, believe me, that means He'll listen to any leader!

When you have time, I'd encourage you to go to Daniel 4 and read the account of Nebuchadnezzar because it's a powerful example of what we're talking about here. You see, Nebuchadnezzar was king of Babylon. He was an ungodly ruler of an ungodly

nation. He'd taken captives, however, from the land of Judah. He had some of God's people under his authority. So, God began to deal with him.

Again and again, God warned him, *Nebuchadnezzar, you're going to lose your mind if you don't straighten up.* But Nebuchadnezzar refused to listen. And, sure enough, he went just as crazy as could be.

He stayed that way for years, too. Ran up and down through the woods like a wild man. Then one day he cried out to God and God heard him.

Despite his status as a heathen king of a heathen nation, God intervened repeatedly in Nebuchadnezzar's life and heard him when he finally cried out for help. Why? Because he had God's people under his control!

If We'll Pray for Them...

That same principle still holds true today. If we'll open the way through prayer, God will deal with our leaders! He'll turn the hearts of everyone from the White House on down to make sure His children are governed justly. In fact, if we'd just be obedient to 1 Timothy 2:1-2, there's no council of any kind on earth—no king, no president, no congress—not anyone who could overthrow God's purpose for His people.

The Constitution of the United States is a tremendous document, a Holy Ghost-anointed document in its original form. But, I'm telling you, it doesn't hold a candle to The WORD of God. The Bible is heaven's constitution! And if we'll start believing it, praying it and acting on it where this nation is concerned, its power will whip this country back into line with the will of God. And there won't be anything or anyone on earth that can stop it.

But if we're ever going to see that happen, we're going to have to take The WORD of God and go to war in prayer and in faithful intercession. And, unfortunately, most of us don't know the first thing about fighting such a war. For, as Ephesians 6:10-12 says, it's not a battle of flesh and blood, but of the spirit. In fact, let's look at those verses and see

exactly what they say about this fight.

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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.”

Read that last verse again.

Most believers are so earthly minded (or carnally minded) they never even realize where the enemy’s attacks are

Warfare in the Heavens

Sometimes, when I talk about the warfare that takes place in the heavens, people get confused. “Heaven?” they say. “I thought the devil was thrown out of heaven.”

What they don’t realize is this. Throughout the Bible, we are taught there are three different areas called heaven: the heaven where God resides; the stellar heavens (what we call “outer space”); the heavens around this earth (the atmosphere surrounding this planet).

This last heaven is where spiritual

The Greek text of that scripture would literally read, “I give you the keys of the kingdom. Whatever you declare locked on earth is locked in heaven and whatever you declare unlocked on earth is unlocked in the heavenlies.”

Daniel couldn’t do that. He didn’t have the authority of the Name of Jesus. All he could do was hang on for 21 long, hard days until the angel of God could get through to him.

But praise God, you and I, as believers and as children of the Most High God, don’t have to wait 21 days.

IT IS TIME WE BEGIN TO REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT WE ARE TO WORLD AFFAIRS.

actually coming from. They blame circumstances and people, and they waste their energy fighting natural conditions instead of supernatural causes. We need to wake up to the warfare that’s going on in the heavenly realm!

We can get a glimpse of it in Daniel 10:12. There, we find Daniel had been fasting and praying for 21 days, awaiting a word from The LORD. Then, an angel appeared to him and said, “Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.” This angel had left heaven with the answer to Daniel’s prayer on the first day he prayed. But he didn’t arrive for 21 days. What took him so long?

Look at verse 13. “But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.”

Then, later in verse 20, he says, “And now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.”

These scriptures are clear examples of the activity and warfare going on in the heavens.

war takes place. (That’s why Ephesians 2:2 calls satan *the prince of the power of the air*.) It is where wicked spirits such as the prince of Persia operate. From there, they attempt to rule the nations to which they’ve been assigned.

And rule them they will unless the prayers of God’s people keep them from it.

Do you remember what Jesus said in Matthew 18:18? “ whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” The heaven Jesus was talking about there isn’t the heaven where God resides. Nothing needs to be bound there. He was talking about the battle zone, about the heaven where satan’s forces are operating.

He was telling us we have been given the authority to pull down the strongholds of satan (2 Corinthians 10:4). He was telling us God has given us power to bind the wicked spirits in heavenly places and to loose the angelic powers of God to work in our behalf.

Jesus told Peter in Matthew 16:19, “I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

We don’t even have to wait 21 seconds for the angels to begin their work on our behalf! Philippians 2:9-10 says we have been given a Name which is above every name, and at the Name of Jesus *every* knee shall bow in heaven, in earth and under the earth. That covers it all!

As believers, we have total authority over the powers of satan. We can take authority over the evil spirits that are trying to destroy this nation. We can take authority over them in the Name of Jesus and pull down their strongholds.

It is time we begin to realize how important we are to world affairs. Since the day Jesus gave us the Great Commission, the life or death of the world has been in the hands of the Church. We are the ones who have the mighty Name of Jesus and the awesome strength of the gospel to bring life and abundance to every creature. We are the ones whose prayers can change every office of authority in this land.

Vote God’s Way on Election Day

Very soon our national elections will take place, and if we want a nation of “godliness and honesty,” it’s up to us to begin to intercede right now and use the power God has given us.

Right now, you need to be praying for all of the candidates. You need to find out who they are and then go to The LORD and ask which ones He's chosen. Don't just make your decisions by what the media say. Go to God. He knows the heart of each man and woman who's running for office. He'll give you supernatural guidance.

Be willing to set aside old ideas and past prejudices. I don't care if everyone in your family has voted Democrat ever since the Depression. I don't care if you've always voted a straight Republican ticket. Vote Holy Ghost this time, OK? Vote however *He* says.

Did you notice what I just said? I said, VOTE.

The vote is a God-given privilege, a gift The LORD has given us. Don't throw it in His face by failing to take advantage of it!

In the last presidential election there were millions of born-again, Holy Ghost-baptized, professing, believing Christians who weren't even registered to vote. Just think what a mighty army for God we would be if we all went to the polls this year. We could determine the outcome of elections with our votes if we only would.

God has called us to intercede. He has commanded us to pray for those in authority. He has given us His WORD, His power, His Name, His authority and His faith. We have all the tools necessary to pray effectively for our government and its leaders.

Let's band together as never before in intercession for this country and for all the nations of the world. We are God's people, called by His Name, and we can stand in faith before God for the healing of our land.

Again, I urge you. If you haven't already registered to vote, do it today, right now. It is your responsibility as a believer to get involved in the affairs of your country. God wants this great land of ours, and the only way He's going to get it is through His ambassadors, you and me.

If you've already registered, then come Election Day, make sure you go to the polls! Don't let the affairs of your

life sway you from the voting booth. And don't let anyone but the Holy Spirit tell you who you're to vote for. Start preparing yourself now by praying about the candidates and listening for the voice of The LORD.

God has an army marching in this land. If we band together, we can prevent the wickedness in high places from ruling our nation. The time has come for us, as believers, to be counted both in prayer and at the polls. So, let your voice be heard!

For those of you reading this article outside the U.S., the same applies to you. If you will humble yourselves in unity and pray, God can change the injustice and corruption that may exist in your country. The key is prayer and involvement.

We may all come from different lands with different backgrounds, but we all have one thing in common—Jesus Christ is our LORD. And that alone is enough to alter the spiritual complexion of this earth. 🙏



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THE
HOUR
OF

POWME



Why is it important to be able to say no to sin? Because walking in sin will keep you from walking in God's best.

R If you've ever endeavored to establish a daily prayer time, you know from experience it's not an easy thing to do. The devil will fight you over it, tooth and nail. He'll put all kinds of pressure on your flesh to keep you from doing it, because he hates it when believers pray.

*by
Gloria
Copeland*

I remember clearly what a battle I went through over it.

Years ago, when the Lord first led me to get up an hour earlier every morning to pray, I found myself in a real struggle. In my heart I wanted to obey God. But when the alarm went off at 5 a.m., it seemed my flesh had other ideas. Instead of jumping out of bed, my flesh talked to me about how dark and cold it was outside. It told me I should just snuggle down for another hour of sleep. And a lot of mornings that's exactly what I did.

In spite of my initial failures, however, I didn't give up. I'd already determined I was going to pray an hour a day. So, if I slept through that hour one day, I made a fresh start the next.

I'd already figured out, even back then, that failure doesn't have to stop us as believers. When God tells us to do something, although we may not be very successful at

it initially, we can just stay on that road until we get our mind and body in agreement with the Spirit and get it done. If we experience failures along the way we can receive God's forgiveness and grace, get back up and go again. If we quit, though, we're stuck. God can't help us because we don't give Him anything to work with.

I'll be forever glad I kept giving God something to work with in the area of prayer, because the hour of prayer is the hour of power! Prayer strengthens our inner man. It builds us up spiritually so we can take dominion over the pressures of our flesh and live like the overcomers we were born again to be.

Think about what happened to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and you'll see what I mean. When He went there to pray in the hours before the Crucifixion, His flesh

God is about to manifest in our generation in even mightier ways than He did in the book of Acts. He's about to do greater miracles in greater numbers than ever before—and He wants us to take part in them.

was drawing back from going to the Cross. His human will was at odds with God's will. By the time He finished praying, however, His flesh was in submission and His spirit was in charge. He'd received the strength He needed to do everything God had called Him to do and He was ready to go.

Peter, James and John were there in the Garden with Him but they didn't come out in the same kind of victory. They missed out on it because instead of praying they fell asleep. It was a major mistake, and Jesus let them know it.

"What, could ye not watch with me one hour?" He said. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:40-41).

For Peter especially, that warning quickly hit home. Just hours after he heard it, in a moment of fleshly weakness he denied Jesus. In his heart that wasn't what Peter wanted to do. He wanted to be faithful. His heart was right. But his flesh brought him down.

As believers, we all know what it's like to be in that situation. In our hearts we want to do the right thing. We want to please God. Yet, all too often our flesh has tripped us up and caused us to stumble.

Every time we've ever failed God and fallen into sin it's been because of the weakness of our flesh! But we can rise above that weakness. If we do what Jesus said, we can get our spirit in ascendancy over our flesh so that when temptation comes we won't enter into it. If we spend time in prayer we'll be able to say *yes* to God and *no* to sin!

Opening the Door to the Devil Is Dangerous Business

"Why is it important to be able to say no to sin?" you might ask.

Because walking in sin will keep you from walking in God's best. It will hinder the operation of God's BLESSING in your life. It will open the door to the devil who is out to steal from you, kill you and destroy

you. (See John 10:10.)

Sin is dangerous business! It won't stop you, as a believer, from going to heaven when you die, but it will certainly make you vulnerable to a lot of hellish stuff while you're here on earth. Sin can cause your body to be sick. It can rob you of the prosperity that's yours in Christ Jesus and leave you broke and in debt. Sin can bring destruction into the lives of your children and deprive you of the long and satisfying life God has prepared for you.

Sin never, ever, produces anything good. That's why God commands us to get it out of our lives. He tells us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us" (Hebrew 12:1) because He loves us and He wants us surrounded by His goodness.

When you look at it in that light, it's easy to make the decision to lay aside sin. Carrying out that decision, though, isn't usually quite as easy. The reason is simple. On one hand, spiritually you're a new creature, re-created in the image of Jesus and made the righteousness of God; but at the same time you're living in a natural, unregenerate body. The nature of that body didn't change when you got born again. It remained as spiritually dead as it's ever been, and left to itself will keep trying to do the same old sinful things.

Talk about a challenging situation! You have to learn by the revelation of God and His Spirit how to make this deal work. Otherwise you'll find yourself stuck in a place of defeat like the one Paul described in Romans 7:22-24. You'll wind up saying like he did: "I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

I think every Christian has said that kind of thing at one time or another! We've all felt condemned for falling

 The hour of prayer truly is the hour of power! Here are some points to get you there.

1 Spiritually you're a new creature but you're still living in a natural body that left to itself will pull toward sin. Romans 7:22-23

2 As a born-again child of God you're no longer in bondage to sin. Romans 8:2

3 You can enjoy victory over sin by walking in the spirit. Galatians 5:16

4 Prayer puts your spirit in ascendancy and empowers you to overcome the pull of the flesh. Matthew 26:41

5 When you pray in the spirit the Holy Spirit takes what's in your heart, puts it together with His wisdom, and prays it into your life. Romans 8:26-27



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prey repeatedly to some kind of sin and wondered how we were ever going to find the strength to overcome. But, thank God, Paul doesn't leave us wondering. In the next few verses, he gives us the answer. He says:

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. And if Christ be in you, the

to this particular passage, He leads us to mortify the deeds of the body. He leads us to get rid of sin and to live "[under obedience to the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life]" (Romans 7:6, *The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

This is why the Holy Spirit constantly says to us the same thing Jesus said to His disciples in Gethsemane: "Spend time in prayer!" Prayer releases the resurrection power of God that's within us and quickens our mortal bodies. It influences our flesh and helps bring it into submission to our spirit so that instead of yielding to temptation we can do the will of God.

SIN IS DANGEROUS BUSINESS!

It won't stop you, as a believer, from going to heaven when you die, but it will certainly make you vulnerable to a lot of hellish stuff while you're here on earth.

body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God (Romans 8:1-2, 5, 10-11, 13-14).

The No. 1 Leading of the Spirit

Look again at that last verse. It says that as sons of God we are led by His Spirit. What does His Spirit lead us to do? First and foremost, according

"But Gloria," you might say, "sometimes I don't really know how to pray about the temptations I'm facing. Other than just asking the Lord to help me, I don't know what to say that will strengthen my spirit and give me the power to overcome."

Many times I don't either. But that's OK because when we find ourselves in that situation,

The [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf with unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance. And He Who searches the hearts of

men knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit [what His intent is], because the Spirit intercedes and pleads [before God] in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will (Romans 8:26-27, *AMPC*).

The word *weakness* can apply to any kind of inability that might hinder us in our Christian life. But as it's used in these verses it refers primarily to the weakness of the flesh. It's talking about the natural body's susceptibility to temptation and its tendency to hold us back from walking in the spirit.

This is what Romans 8 is all about. Paul wrote the entire chapter to explain how we can live as overcomers. He wrote it to reveal to us the keys to breaking free from the bondage of sin and the flesh and experiencing "the glorious liberty of the children of God" (verse 21).

Praying in other tongues is one of those keys! It edifies us. It enables us to pray mysteries beyond our understanding (1 Corinthians 14:2, 4). It enables us to rise up "like an edifice higher and higher" and build ourselves up on our most holy faith (Jude 1:20, *AMPC*).

Praying Out God's Will for Your Life

Think about how thrilled the believers in Paul's day must have been when he told them about the benefit of praying in other tongues! They were in the same predicament we are. They were spiritual beings in a fleshly body, but without the same advantages we have. They didn't have a New Testament all bound up in a leather book. They couldn't renew their minds with the Word by opening up the Scriptures anytime they wanted or turning on their CD player or smartphone and listening to someone preach.

Yet, by praying in other tongues and obeying the promptings of God, they turned the world upside down. By allowing the Holy Spirit to bear them up in their weakness they prayed beyond their knowledge and helped bring forth a move of God the likes of

which this earth had never seen.

If they could do that, just think what we can do! Think what can happen if, in addition to feeding on the Word of God that's so readily available to us, we spend time daily praying in other tongues.

We're in the last of the last days! God is about to manifest in our generation in even mightier ways than He did in the book of Acts. He's about to do greater miracles in greater numbers than ever before—and He wants us to take part in them. That's the reason He's stirring us up about the hour of power.

If we'll give Him time every day, the Holy Spirit can help us pray out God's plan for us. He can take what's in our heart, put it together with His wisdom and knowledge of God's will, and pray it into our lives.

Remember what happened to Peter on the day of Pentecost? He got baptized in the Holy Spirit, started speaking in other tongues, and suddenly, instead of standing in the shadows weeping because he'd denied Jesus, he was standing in front of thousands of people boldly preaching the gospel! Instead of being dominated by the weakness of his flesh, he was walking in the spirit and acting on his heart's real desires. He was saying no to sin and yes to the move of God.

It's easy to see why the devil hates praying in tongues so much. He doesn't want you turning out like Peter did. But if you commit to praying in the spirit every day, and obeying the promptings of God, you will.

Even if you may have failed in the past, as a believer you have the same desires in your heart that Peter had. You want to please the Lord. You don't want to fail Him. It's not in your heart to follow after sin. That's in your flesh. In your heart you want to be a stalwart disciple, one God can depend on, one He counts faithful. You want to share the gospel and boldly fulfill the perfect will of God.

So do it! Pray in other tongues and walk in the spirit. Overcome the temptations Satan has put in your life and the flesh that has held you in bondage. Step into the glorious liberty of the sons of God! 🙏

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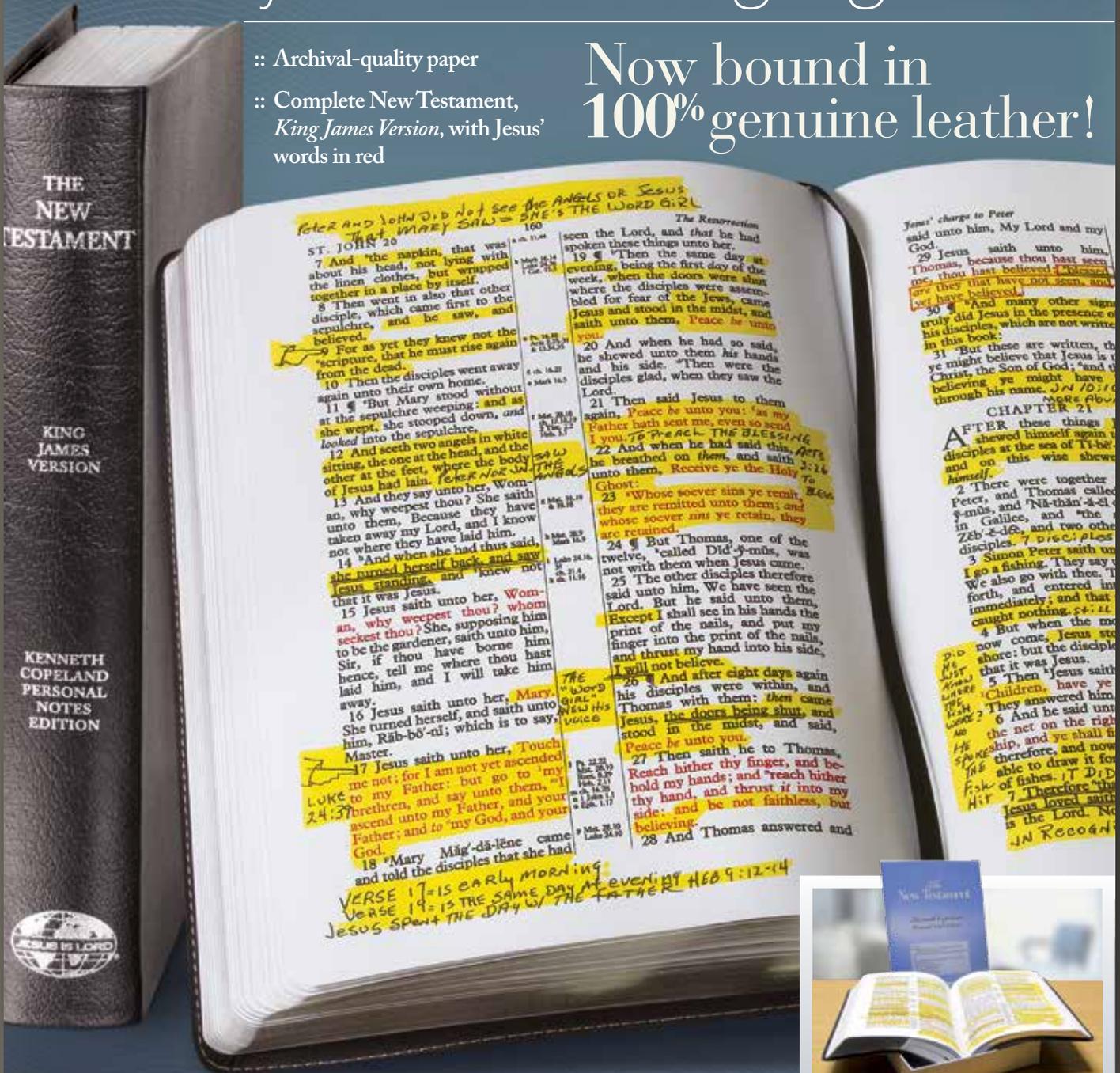


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