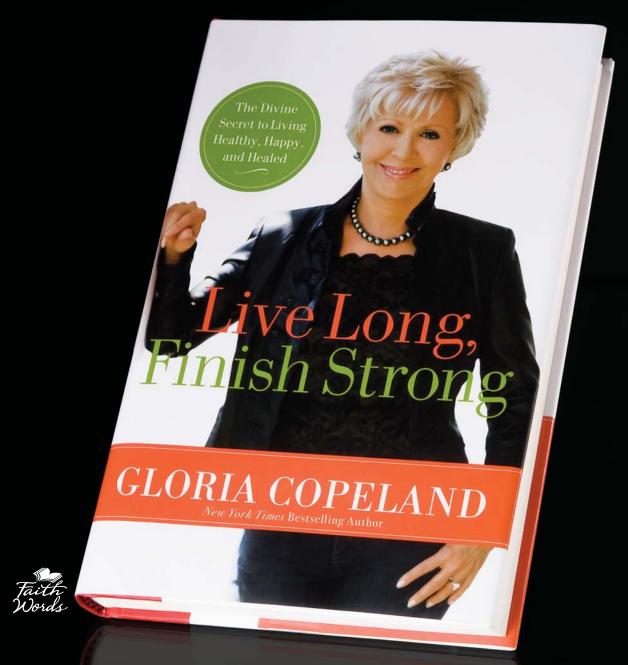


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Find out 'How Old Is Old?' by reading an excerpt from the book on page 4. FINISH STRONG is a registered trademark owned by Finish Strong, LLC

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w Old Is Old?

by Gloria Copeland
The Word promises you
a long life—but how long?
Discover how old old is
according to the Word and
then receive that promise
for yourself in this excerpt
from Gloria's new book,
Live Long, Finish Strong!

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Mary: A Woman of Destiny

by Terri Copeland Pearsons God's goodness is evident in the life of Mary, even when she faced the death of her Son. See how His goodness will lead you to greatness, too.





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by Melanie Hemry
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the power of partnership—and
the truth that Jesus had paid her
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by Kenneth Copeland
The economy is unstable. People
everywhere are asking, "What if
I lose my job? What if I lose my
savings? What if...?" Instead,
stand on a solid foundation when
you ask, "What has God said?"



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 37 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 and Gloria Copeland

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DIVINE MESSENGER SHOWED UP AT YOUR HOUSE TODAY AND PROMISED YOU A LONG AND BLESSED LIFE? What would you say if a prophet, a minister or an angel of God looked you squarely in the eye and said: "Your days will be long on the Earth. Your days will be strong on the Earth. If the Lord tarries His coming, you will live in length of days and strength of days."

Some years ago, that's exactly what happened to my husband, Kenneth. A dear friend of ours, an established minister who was visiting our home, spoke those words to him by the Spirit of God. Because we've learned some things about how to receive God's promises by faith, we knew just how to respond.

We said, "We receive it! We believe it!" We rejoiced! That's a message anyone would like to receive. It's a



Seth 912 : Enos 905 : Cainan 910 : Mahalalel 895 : Jared 962 : Methuselah 969

powerful and encouraging message.

Best of all, you don't have to wait for a prophet or for some special message to come to you because this message is already confirmed in the Bible. It's God's promise to you. In recent years, I've spent many hours studying what the Word of God has to say about longevity and have seen for myself that the promise of a long, strong life isn't reserved for just a few special people. It's not meant for a select number of people who are divinely ordained to live to a ripe, old age.

The promise of a long and blessed life belongs to every obedient child of God.

If you are a believer, it belongs to you.

God doesn't have to send an angel or a prophet to deliver that promise to you. All you have to do is open your Bible to find a multitude of verses that tell you God wants you to live a long, long time. As you read them, they will say to you much the same thing the Lord said to Kenneth: "It's My will for your days to be long upon the earth. It's My desire for your days to be strong upon the earth. If Jesus tarries His coming, My plan is for you to live in length of days and strength of days."

How you respond to that message will make all the difference. If you shake your head in disbelief and only wish it were true, it won't have much effect. If you respond in faith and say, "I receive it! I believe it!" it can revolutionize your life.

But, as most of us have discovered at some time in our lives, that kind of faith response isn't always automatic. It must be cultivated and developed on purpose.

How do we do that? By studying and meditating on what God has to say about this issue. For as Romans 10:17 tells us, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

How Old Is 'Bible Old'?

Bible old is much older than most of us think it is. It's older than medical science says it is. And it's far older than the way it used to be portrayed in the movies a generation ago.

That realization hit me a few years ago while I was watching an old John Wayne Western that included a scene where a white-haired, bun-wearing old lady was celebrating her birthday. To me, the woman looked at least 80 years old. Imagine my shock when they announced she was 60!

Whoa! I thought with great gratitude. We've come a long way since that movie was made. Sixty looks a lot better these days.

According to recent statistics, 60 doesn't just *look* better these days, it *is* better. In 1960, the year I graduated from high school, the average life expectancy in this nation was only 69.7 years. These days, the average life expectancy has increased to 77.8 years. So, even from a natural perspective, old today is at least seven years older than it was 40 years ago.

If we answer the question *How old is old?* with those statistics, we might conclude that 78 qualifies as old in our generation. Many Christians believe even the Bible backs up that idea.

But are they right?

The devil would certainly like for us to think so. He's worked overtime to convince believers that when they celebrate their 70th or 80th birthday, they should start preparing to check out of earth and into heaven. But he has had to twist the Scriptures to sell us that deceptive bill of goods, because nowhere in the Bible do we find the average life span of God's obedient people to be a mere seven or eight decades.

In fact, from a biblical perspective, 80 isn't old at all. A number of famous saints, including Abraham and Moses, were just starting to fulfill the call of God on their lives at that age. In God's eyes, an octogenarian is just a "spring chicken." If you doubt it, study the first few chapters of Genesis. There we see that God designed Adam's and Eve's natural bodies to live not just 70 or 80 years, but *forever!* Even after they sinned and death entered the picture, their life spans were astonishing—as were their children's and their grandchildren's and their great-grandchildren's. Consider this:

- According to Genesis 5, Adam lived 930 years.
- His son Seth lived 912 years.
- His grandson Enos lived 905 years.
- His great-grandson Cainan lived 910 years.
- His great-great-grandson Mahalalel lived 895 years. (He died a little younger than the others. Maybe he had some bad habits!)
- Mahalalel's son Jared lived 962 years.
- Jared's son Enoch never died at all. He walked so closely with God that he was caught up to heaven at the tender age of 365.

- Enoch's son Methuselah won the old-age award by living 969 years.
- Excluding Enoch, those people had an average earth life span of more than 926 years.

They lived almost a millennium. Think of it! For us today, that's like living from 1009 to 2009. In 1009, the Vikings were still roaming around, raiding villages. The world was in the throes of the Middle Ages. Can you imagine living from then until now?

That puts the concept of biblical longevity in a whole endures new light!

Living Long in Dangerous Times

"But Gloria, that was before the Great Flood," someone might say. "Conditions on the earth were much better back then. It was easier to live a long time."

Not really. According to the Bible, the years before the Flood were the most violent years this earth has ever seen. Genesis 6 says during that era, as men began to multiply on the face of the earth,

God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark (verses 5-7, 11-14).

We think we live in dangerous times today, but the years just before the Flood beat anything we've ever seen. People were so wicked, they didn't have any good thoughts. They were plotting evil all the time. Even so, God, in His great mercy and patience, put up with them as long as He could. Jewish sages tell us that one reason Methuselah lived so long was because his name meant "When he dies, judgment will come." That's exactly what happened. The Flood came the year Methuselah died.

What a wonderful testimony to God's mercy! It endures a long, long time.

God is so merciful, He refused to send the Flood until the last possible moment. He waited until there was only one God-fearing family left on the earth that He could depend on. He postponed judgment until just one man, Noah, stood between the annihilation of the human race and future generations.

I'm telling you, Noah lived in a dangerous era!

That ought to encourage us today because we're living again in a time when violence is rampant in the world. Wickedness is again increasing. As a result, a certain amount of judgment is going to come. Many people who are committed to sin and refuse to repent and honor God will die early. They'll fall prey to disease or catastrophe. Romans 6:23 says the wages of sin is death, and for those who work hard at sinning, payday comes too early. But we, as believers, are like Noah. We've found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Genesis 6:8), and we have been forgiven and cleansed of sin by our faith in the blood of Jesus. We have an ark-a covenant with God—through His Word, that will protect us from suffering the effects of sin that are coming on the world.

Of course, for us to enjoy that protection and the long life that comes with it, we must build our ark by faith in God's promises and stay there by obeying His Word. We're not going to live long just because we're born again, although that certainly helps. The new nature we received when we were saved will empower us to know and do what's

If you do not know
JESUS
as your Saviour and Lord, simply
pray the following prayer in faith, and
Jesus will be your Lord!

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

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

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

right. But to receive the full benefits of our salvation, we must walk with the Lord and obey His commandments.

If we ignore the instructions in the Bible, our consciences and the promptings of our spirits, and give ourselves over to the evils of the world—born again or not—we'll get caught up in those evils after a while. If we put our eyes and ears in places they don't belong, we'll be pulled off into sin. If we feed on television programs and movies full of adultery and fornication, we could end up wandering away from the ark of God's protection and living like sinners, even though in our hearts we don't want to.

No one thinks that will happen to them. Most Christians, when they're first tempted to compromise their standards, say to themselves, Hey, I know I shouldn't watch this stuff. I shouldn't go to those places or associate with those people, but I'm a Christian. It's not going to affect me. That's what every Christian thought who ever fell prey to adultery or some other sin that wrecked his life. He didn't think he could ever do such a thing. But because he looked at, listened to and thought about things he knew were evil, he eventually did them. He let that ugly stuff stir up the lusts of his flesh, and then he shocked himself and everyone else by acting

Don't let that happen to you. If you haven't

already, make a quality decision today to sell out to God and get your spiritual house clean. Get rid of sin, straighten up your life and set your mind on the Lord. Feed on the Word of God until that's the biggest thing in your life. Put God first and love Him with all your heart, soul and might.

If you'll do that, He will keep you in perfect peace no

matter what's happening in the world. Isaiah 26:3 says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." He'll keep you in the center of His plan for your life if you will listen and obey. And in dangerous times like these, that's the safest place on earth to be.

Post-Flood Longevity

Ask Noah. He can confirm it. When the Flood came, there was only one safe place on the planet, and God made sure Noah and his family were in it. As a result, they were protected from the violence around them and the judgment of sin. In a day when everyone else was dying, they not only

survived, they went on to live a long, long time.

Even before the rain began to fall, Noah had already attained what we could consider an impossibly old age. He was 600 years old the "day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11, *NKJV*).

Six hundred years is a long time to live. Considering the conditions Noah faced during those years, and the strenuous labor involved in building the ark, it would have been no surprise had Noah died a few years after the Flood. But he didn't. The Bible tells us that "Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died" (Genesis 9:28-29).

Some of Noah's descendants weren't quite as hardy as he was, however. His son Shem, for example, lived only 600 years. His grandson Arphaxad passed on at the early age of 438, and his great-grandson Salah died at 433 (Genesis 11:10-15). As you can see, people's faith for longevity was beginning to slip by then, and Creation scientists believe conditions on the earth after the Flood were not what they had been before the Flood.

Even so, God's people continued to enjoy such extended lives that patriarchs born centuries apart lived at the same time. According to Jewish historians,

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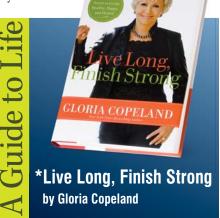
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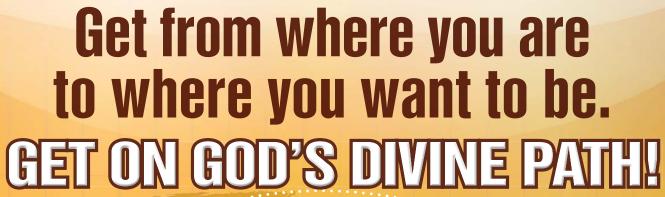
Noah's father (Lamech), for instance, knew Adam. And Noah, who was born 1,056 years after the time of Creation, knew Abraham, who was born 1,948 years after Creation. In fact, Abraham was 58 years old when Noah died.

Talk about good examples of longevity! These people lived so many years that the oral tradition about what happened at Creation was passed down from Adam through only seven people until the time it was written down by Moses, who received it on Mount Sinai directly from God.

Job, too, who is believed to have lived during the same era Abraham did, enjoyed a life span that would shock us today. Although Job's friends are famous for criticizing and speaking wrong things about him, one thing they said of



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him came true: "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in his season" (Job 5:26).

Job's longevity is especially impressive because, as everyone knows, he had to survive some dangerous times. The devil came after him with a vengeance. He put Job through a terrible time of troubles that lasted somewhere between nine months and a year.

During that time, Job's wife told him to curse God and die. In so doing, she sided with the devil. That's just what the devil wanted. Satan told God that if Job suffered loss, Job would curse God to His face. (Wives, we don't want to follow Mrs. Job's example. When our husbands are having a hard time, we don't want to join up with the devil and discourage them further. We want to join with God and encourage them.)

Thank heaven, Job didn't heed his wife's advice! When trouble came, he stayed with the program. He refused to dishonor God, and he refused to give up and die.

As a result, he not only made it through, but "the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.... After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations. So Job died, being old and full of days" (Job 42:10, 16-17).

The Bible doesn't tell us how old Job was before his trouble started, but historians estimate he was at least 60 years old. That means Job lived to be about 200...and the last 140 years turned out to be even more enjoyable for him than the early part of his life. He ended up richer than ever (which is remarkable since he started out as the richest man in the East). He had a whole houseful of beautiful children and lived to see his great-great-grandchildren.

Not bad for a man most people refer to as "poor old Job."

Back to the Garden of God's Goodness

What does all that have to do with us?

We're descendants of these people!

Every one of us can trace our ancestry back to Noah. We're of the same species. We come from this same family of people who lived 200, 400, 500, 600 and even 900-plus years.

So when the devil tries to convince us that 70 or 80 is old, we ought to laugh in his face. "No, Methuselah was old," we should say. "Noah was old. I won't be old for a long, long time!"

"But what if God's will for those people is different from His will for us?" you might ask. "Can we really be sure God wants all of us to live long lives?"

Yes, we can, because, as I've already mentioned, God has spelled out His will in His written Word. He has revealed to us, through the Bible, that from the very beginning His desire for humankind was not just long life, but *eternal* life.

God never wanted any of His children to die. His plan was for them to live in His goodness and blessing forever. He wanted things to be well with them. He wanted them to enjoy a life without stress or strain in an environment full of everything good. His plan was and still is the *Blessing Plan*. VICTORY

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That Will Change Your Life Forever

Thirty years ago, it began... the Kenneth Copeland Ministries meeting that would set the standard of excellence for ministries across the nation: the *Southwest Believers' Convention*.

On Aug. 17, 1981, Norvel Hayes opened the meeting with a powerful message—"Faith in God's Word" is the

No. 1 way to fight the devil. He was followed by a legendary lineup of ministers including Charles Capps, T.L. Osborn, John Osteen, Jerry Savelle, Hilton Sutton, and hosts Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. Thirteen thousand registered at the meeting from all 50 states and 23 nations. Little did anyone know that 30 years later this annual gathering would still be the highlight of the year for thousands of believers who come to be immersed in The Word for a week of uncompromised teaching.

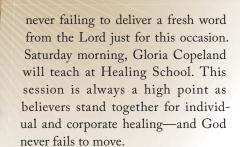
"I believe one of the most important things God has called us to do is to meet together," said Kenneth Copeland. "God told me, I want you to conduct meetings where people can totally immerse in the Word of God. He showed me exactly how to conduct them, and said there were believers out there...who had a strong hunger to lock in to His Word."

This year that tradition continues Aug. 2-7 in Fort Worth, Texas, giving Partners, Friends, pastors and ministers the opportunity to take a vacation of the highest kind: a vacation in the Word. This year is different in one unique way—normally, the Southwest Believers' Convention is one of two or more Believers' Conventions around the nation. But this year, the Lord instructed Brother Copeland to have just this *one* for the whole season, for the whole world to attend—and to call it "Homecoming 2010."

"We're having one big homecoming," said Brother Copeland. "People from Milwaukee are coming...people from Los Angeles are coming...they're coming here from all over the world!"

THE BLESSING in Action

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland will host Homecoming 2010 at the Fort Worth Convention Center, sharing the platform with ministers you can trust. Jerry Savelle, Jesse Duplantis and Creflo Dollar have become attendee favorites,



"Jesus always comes to Healing School," said Gloria Copeland.

Attendees can also look forward to anointed praise and worship, one-on-one interaction with KCM staff members, special services for children and young adults, and most of all, THE BLESSING. As an added feature, singer Randy Travis will perform in concert Tuesday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m.—admission is FREE!

"I attended my first Believers' Convention in Basel, Switzerland," said KCM Partner Patrick Onos. "Since then it has been the overflow of God's BLESSING.... THE BLESSING has done marvelous things in my life this year in spite of all opposition from the enemy. THE BLESSING of the Lord healed me, gave me a new job, kept me from falling back to the world, and too many things to mention. It really works! I am a living testimony of what God's Word can do."

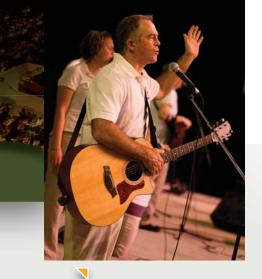
Testimonies like these pour in to the KCM headquarters in Newark, Texas, after each KCM event...and we're expecting more from Homecoming 2010!

Make Your Plans Today

"We're all going to get together in one place," said Brother Copeland. "Start believing for it. Start setting aside for it. Start getting ready. Your divine path...is right here!" It will be worth the trip!

To learn more, visit kcm.org/events and click on "Homecoming 2010" for information, including speaker schedule, travel details and easy event registration. And if you can't attend on-site, every Homecoming 2010 service will be streamed LIVE via the Internet: Go to kcm.org/media, then click on "Live TV."

We look forward to seeing you there...because one word from God really can change your life...forever! VICTORY



"There is no price too big, no effort too great, no job too hard for our God to reach our children. Whatever we must do, we are going to reach our kids."

-Kenneth Copeland

Take Your Kids to Superkid Academy >> One of the high-

lights of the Southwest Believers' Convention has always been that it's for the *entire family*. While moms and dads are attending sessions and hearing the Word from Kenneth and Gloria Copeland and others, their kids ages 6-12 aren't left out. Just down the hall, Superkid Academy is raising the roof!

This year at Homecoming 2010, Superkid Academy is back—as fun and faith-filled as ever. Led by Commanders Dana and Linda Johnson, kids experience a life-changing environment where learning to walk in faith—boldly—is the "in thing." Each service

is centered on solid teaching that will challenge your little ones to seek the Lord wholeheartedly.

"We teach our kids Jesus is the only way to be free, have peace and be secure," said Dana Johnson. "He is the one way to find truth, life and love."



The Johnsons specialize in sharing the gospel in "kid language." And they've trained a powerful group of Superkids to help pray, teach, minister, and lead praise and worship during each service.

"It's all about kids ministering to kids," said Commander Kellie Copeland Swisher.

They also use interactive music, group games, silly skits, lively teaching, plenty of prizes and more... including special appearances by Commander Kellie herself. And with tight security measures that link parents to their children, parents can be confident their children are safe and sound.

In short, bring your whole family to Homecoming 2010. Where else can your kids attend a full week of Superkid Camp...for FREE? While you're in the main service, give your kids the opportunity to gain a solid foundation in faith. Their lives will never be the same! VICTORY

4forty

Experience God's Presence

the annual Kenneth
Copeland Ministries'
event we have all come
to know as the Southwest
Believers' Convention.
KCM and 14forty Student
Ministries are thrilled to
once again partner with GO
Ministries as we host your
junior high and senior highschool students during this
life-changing week from
August 2-7.

What an exciting year it promises to be at

Homecoming 2010,

We had a marvelous time together last year and this year is going to be bigger and better than ever. There will be new music, hilarious dramas, fresh videos and ministry that will bring every young adult into the presence of God.

As our relationship with GO Ministries has grown, I have been more and more impressed with the ways I have watched them operate in their calling to minister specifically to the needs of today's teenager. I love the way they take the young interns who enroll in their ministry and turn them into ministers who are well able to reach this generation in big ways.

Some of you may know my younger cousin Max, who is the son of (Commander) Kellie Copeland Swisher. Last year, after he graduated from high school, Max enrolled in GO Ministries'

internship and is now part of their tour team. Max has always been an awesome young man of God, but now he is operating in his calling as a member of the worship team and it has been inspiring to watch him grow.

This same transformation is happening not only in GO Ministries' interns, but also in the lives of the young people they minister to in churches, conferences and even in public schools!

If you are the parent or grandparent of a student in junior or senior high, please consider this our personal invitation to them to join us this year at Homecoming 2010 and 14forty. Sarah and I will be speaking, as well as guests Kellie Copeland Swisher, Rick Reyna, Chip Brim and Steve Munds. We'll all be joined by Ryan and Rebekah Harrison, who are the new youth pastors at Eagle Mountain International Church, and the whole 14forty team.

Homecoming 2010 and 14forty. It's a week you don't want to miss! For more information, visit us online at kcm.org. We look forward to seeing you there.

—Jeremy and Sarah Pearsons

visit kcm.org/events







WORRY LINES CREASED CYNTHIA HUNTER'S BROW

AS SHE SLID INTO A CHAIR AND BEGAN OPENING THE STACK OF BILLS THAT WERE DUE. EVEN THOUGH SHE EARNED A GOOD SALARY AT GENERAL MOTORS, AS A SINGLE MOM RAISING HER DAUGHTER ALONE, MONEY HAD ALWAYS BEEN A MAJOR ISSUE. >> AND OVER THE YEARS, CYNTHIA HAD DEALT WITH IT THE SAME WAY MOST PEOPLE DO.

BY MELANIE HEMRY

Each time Brother Copeland spoke it was like pieces of a puzzle fitting together in my mind as I grasped spiritual truths that I hadn't understood.

When her car needed new tires Cynthia applied for and received a credit card from the tire store. When she needed new appliances she'd opened an account and charged them. When her daughter, Dawn, wanted to go to college to study mechanical engineering, Cynthia was thrilled to help her. But the college expenses only added to what was fast becoming a mountain of debt. Over time, she paid for more and more things on credit. And soon the mountain of debt loomed larger than life itself.

Sitting at her kitchen table, Cynthia rubbed her forehead and tried to remember what had prompted her to open the Spiegel account in the first place. Shrugging her shoulders, she paid the last bill and looked to see the balance remaining in her checking account. The debt wasn't strangling her—yet. But the weight of it had begun to press her day and night as she found herself living from paycheck to paycheck. She put away her checkbook and filed the paperwork, straightening the kitchen with a feeling of heaviness.

In recent weeks, one of Cynthia's co-workers had started talking to her about debt. It wasn't a subject Cynthia ever discussed. She hadn't shared her situation with her sister, Toni, her closest confidante, nor had she told Dawn.

"How much debt do you have?" her co-worker had asked.

Cynthia sighed. That was *her* secret. She'd never told a living soul. But somehow she knew it was time to break her silence: "\$30,000," she admitted, "most of it on 10 credit cards."

"You're financially sick," the co-worker pronounced with the solemn attitude of a physician giving a death sentence. "It'll take you 30 years to pay it off."

Cynthia suspected he was right.

Worse, she saw no way out.

THE CURSE OF THE LAW

"I was the eighth child born to a family with 11 children," Cynthia explains. "Ours was the warmest, most loving family, but most of us did not know the Lord. It wasn't until 1998, while Dawn was in college, that I was born again. And it wasn't until 1999, when Dawn and I found Word of Faith International Christian Center and Bishop Keith Butler, that I started growing spiritually. Even then, although Pastor Butler taught everything I needed to know, it was all so new to me that I *heard* it but didn't *get* it. For instance, I remember hearing him say, 'If you're in debt, you're in bondage.' I wondered what I could do about it."

In 2001, Kenneth Copeland spoke at Word of Faith Church. He spoke with simplicity and the anointing was

so strong Cynthia understood things that hadn't been clear to her before. Later, Dawn decided to attend the Southwest Believers' Convention in Fort Worth, Texas, and asked her mother to go with her.

"Neither of us knew what to expect, and we were overwhelmed by the experience," Cynthia recalls. "Each time Brother Copeland spoke it was like pieces of a puzzle fitting together in my mind as I grasped spiritual truths that I hadn't understood. The same thing happened when Gloria Copeland spoke and each session built on the one before. One service in particular changed my life. Brother Jerry Savelle opened the Scriptures and showed us in Deuteronomy 8:18 that it is God who has given us power to get wealth. I saw in Deuteronomy 28 that debt was listed as a curse. Then I saw in Galatians 3:13 that Christ has redeemed us from all the curse of the law. I got it!

"Brother Savelle said if we believed those scriptures and stood on them in prayer God would help us get out of debt! I knew that if I wanted things to change, I had to change what I was doing. The problem was I had no idea where to start."

THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

Back home, Cynthia took her first step of change by telling Dawn about her mountain of debt. Then she and Dawn met with Cynthia's co-worker who also worked for a company that helped people get out of debt.

"He's going to charge you \$100 a month," Dawn said after the meeting. "I'll help you for free and you can apply that money toward your debt."

Agreeing to her offer, Cynthia handed Dawn a letter.

"I got this letter from one of my credit card companies. Tell me what you think."

Dawn read the letter in amazement. "I've never seen anything like this!" she exclaimed. "This company wants to help people get out of debt! For a limited time you can sign up to get 2.9 percent for the life of the loan! You could transfer some of your debt over to this and get it paid off faster!"

Dawn instructed Cynthia to transfer as much of her debt as possible onto the low-interest loan. Next she told her to get a debit card connected with her checking account and use it instead of the credit cards. The credit cards were off limits.

"If you only pay the minimum payment you're just chipping at the debt," Dawn explained. "You don't have to put an extra \$100 with each payment, but if you'll add an extra \$30 or \$40, you'll start whittling down the principal."

Next Dawn instructed her mother to list all of her credit cards from the least amount owed to the greatest. "Start paying off the smallest debt first," Dawn instructed. "When you get that one paid off, take all the money you were paying on it and add that amount toward the next one. Each time you pay one off, add the amount you were paying on that card to the monthly payment on the next one."

Cynthia looked at the simplicity of the plan and wondered why she hadn't thought of it herself. Grateful for the help, she implemented everything Dawn told her to do. In addition, she told her sister about the debt, and asked her to believe with them for that curse to be removed from her life.

"I got a debit card that earned rewards," Cynthia recalls. "By using it instead of my credit cards, I earned points that paid my phone bill, filled my tank with gasoline and put cash in my pocket. However, even though I was implementing all of Dawn's suggestions, I realized I had a bigger problem than the debt. Because I didn't have a revelation of covenant, I had been very casual about tithing. I thought I was doing really well to throw \$20 in the offering bucket when it passed. If I went out of town, I didn't bother making up what I would have given.

"At the Southwest Believers' Convention I learned about our covenant with God and realized tithing wasn't a casual thing. I started honoring the Lord with my tithes and offerings. I also got revelation about the kingdom of God and I realized it wasn't a spectator sport. I wasn't created to sit and do nothing, so I found places where I could serve in the church and began doing my part to advance God's kingdom."

Cynthia took her first steps to attack that mountain of debt in 2002. Although paying her tithes and putting extra money toward debt reduction made money tight, there was also a sense of relief that her secret was out in the open and she was working toward a goal. Each time she paid her bills, while it strained her pocketbook, she got excited to see the new balance on the card she was working to pay off.

Sitting at her kitchen table, Cynthia trembled with delight as she wrote the final check to pay off her first credit card. *It worked!* Pulling out her master list of debts, she crossed off the first card and wrote PAID IN FULL. Afterward she told Dawn, called Toni and other family members and invited them to a modestly priced restaurant for a credit-card-cutting party.

Cynthia looked around the table at the faces of her loved ones with more hope and joy than she'd felt in years. "OK, are you ready?" she asked, getting everyone's attention. She pulled a small pair of scissors and her credit card out of her purse and held them up for all to see. Then with great flair, she snipped a piece of the credit card. Passing it around the table, each of her guests had the privilege of cutting off a piece of the card. By the time it got back

to Cynthia, there was nothing left except the pieces. Everyone laughed and cheered, happy to have been part of Cynthia's joyous moment.

Free at Last

"Six months later, we had a second card-cutting party," Cynthia recalls. "As the momentum grew, I was able to pay off two cards at once! Every time I drew a line through the name of a credit card and wrote PAID IN FULL beside it, I felt the burden from that bondage lift. My family was excited each time I hosted a card-cutting party. And I paid for everyone's meal with my debit card!"

Eighteen months after she implemented her debt reduction plan, Cynthia wrote a check to pay off her last credit card. Overwhelmed with joy, she crossed the card off her list and, once again, wrote PAID IN FULL. Then she threw up her hands and thanked God, giving Him all the glory.

The restaurant rocked with laughter, shouts of delight and fun as Cynthia cut the first piece off her final credit card. Each person around the table basked in her joy and celebrated her freedom from the bondage of debt.

"The only debt I had left was my car payment," Cynthia remembers. A few years later, Dawn gave her mother a gift—she paid off the balance due on her car.

"I felt like I had a new lease on life," Cynthia explains. "The burden of all that debt was gone. I was planted in a wonderful local church where I was serving and growing. Dawn and I were attending the Believers' Conventions like addicts. My life had taken a 180-degree turn and I couldn't have been happier.

Walking in Love

"There was only one area in my life where I felt unfulfilled—I wanted a husband. My first marriage ended in divorce and I'd been single for a long time. I told Dawn and Toni about my heart's desire and the three of us prayed and asked God to bring me my husband."

Weeks, months and years passed as Cynthia left her request in the hands of the Lord. Meanwhile, the GM plant where Cynthia worked closed, and she and some of her co-workers were sent to work at another location. As the two groups tried to meld together, strife broke out on the job and Cynthia refused to take sides. Treated like an outcast, she spent each break reading *From Faith to Faith* and meditating on the Word. "You can have a Garden of Eden right here on earth," Brother Copeland had said, "but you have to walk in love no matter what you're faced with."

As the situation escalated, the Holy Spirit prompted her about how to handle it. *Don't worry about what anyone else says about you. Keep believing Me! Show love! Don't return evil for evil!*

On a frequent basis, co-workers approached Cynthia and said, "Just wait until you hear what they said about you..."

Each time, Cynthia smiled and replied, "That's OK. I love them anyway." She refused to fuel the flame of gossip and strife.

"Had I tried to justify myself, things would have gotten worse," Cynthia says. "I just meditated on the Word of God and let Him handle it. I trusted the Lord with the situation and He turned the whole thing around. Today all the people who were involved are still my friends."

HEAVEN ON EARTH

Relieved that she'd passed the test of love, Cynthia rejoiced in the Lord as she picked up the phone one day a short while later. "Cynthia?" a male voice asked, "this is Michael Hall."

Time stood still for a moment while Cynthia allowed the world to straighten on its axis. A longtime family friend, Cynthia hadn't seen or heard from Michael in years. During that time Michael had developed a deep relationship with the Lord and joined a good local church. Before long, Michael asked Cynthia to marry him.

God, You're amazing! Cynthia thought. By Your grace I've been born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. I'm out of debt, growing in the Lord and I've learned to walk in love. I'm finally ready for a husband!

In June 2005, Cynthia and Michael were married. In the years since she'd lost track of him, Michael had moved to another town and bought a lovely home on an acre of land with a huge goldfish and koi pond. Off the back of the house, a fourseasons room with a wood-burning stove and lots of windows offered a vista of perfect peace.

"It was everything I'd ever wanted," Cynthia says with delight. "After working 34 years for GM, I retired. Now I spend every day in my own Garden of Eden with Michael. I look back over my life and realize that until I fully committed my life to the Lord, I only existed. I had never really lived."

Since their journey began, Cynthia and Dawn have attended eight Believers' Conventions. On the last night of one of the conventions, Brother Copeland prophesied over Dawn and God used him to change the direction of her life. Following that word from the Lord, Dawn left her career as a mechanical engineer and attended Bible training and the School of Evangelism and Missions. Today, she's a volunteer children's church teacher at Word of Faith's sister church in Round Rock, Texas.

"One of the biggest blessings of my life was becoming a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries," says Cynthia. "It blesses me so much to send a check to KCM

and know that it's blessing so many people. My money is able to go and do through them what I could never go and do on my own."

Today, Cynthia Hall is living her dream, free of the bondage of debt. It happened because Jesus picked up her tab. When Jesus looked at her life, He saw death, hell and the grave. He saw the curse of spiritual death and material debt. He saw her sins and mistakes, her failures and her weaknesses. With joy unspeakable and full of glory, He drew a line through each and every one. Then, dipping His pen in His own blood, He wrote, PAID IN FULL.

He's done the same for you. VICTORY

partnership

Cynthia Hall with husband Michael and daughter, Dawn

Expanding the Kingdom

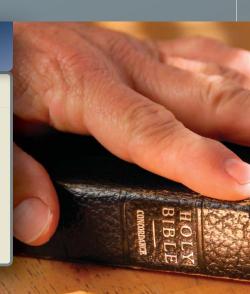
Cynthia Hall is blessed to be a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries and to know that her faith, added to the faith of all our Partners, is blessing so many people and expanding the kingdom—doing so much more together than anyone can do on his own.

We're here to help you be part of blessing people all over the world!

Ask the Lord if now is the time for you to become a Partner with KCM—to take your life to new places in the Spirit...to expand God's kingdom with us!

Become our Partner today!

To learn more about partnership, contact KCM today and ask for our free Partnership Information Pack which contains complete information about partnership, complimentary gifts and more. Simply tick the box on the enclosed form, call +44 (0)1225 787310 or visit kcm.org.uk and Be a Part of Something BIG!



NewsGazette

"For You have been my help, and in the shadow of Your wings will I rejoice." (Psalm 63:7, The Amplified Bible)

Faith Makes a Way

I was listening to a message from Gloria on the Internet and the subject was "Faith Makes a Way for Your Healing." When you and Brother Copeland started praying for healing, I began to pray with you. I first laid hands on my lower back and rubbed my hands down both my legs for healing in these particular places. Then Brother Copeland said, "There is a person sitting at their desk at work listening to this on the Internet who has lower-back pains and pain in their legs. Get up from your desk and walk around the room and thank God for your healing."

I was at work listening to the message and I received everything said. I got up, went to the bathroom and started thanking God for my healing in my legs and back. I am healed! God used Brother Copeland to call out the exact place I was sitting and listening to the service, and all the places on my body I had laid hands on to be healed. God is an awesome God! D.B. :: Alabama

God's Love Never Fails

I was a Christian for many years and then had a terrible relapse where I got involved in all sorts of dark things which I deeply regret. This was compounded by my mother becoming ill and my father dying. My mother is an aggressive person and kept me under her control for those years. I began borrowing and getting into debt, plus I got involved with the wrong people and spent literally thousands on things I thought would help. Of course they didn't, as

only Jesus can set us free.

Last Christmas a Christian friend of mine gave me a copy of the BVOV magazine and I realized how wrong my life had been. I had met this friend at church when I followed the Lord more closely and despite everything she remained a true and loyal friend to me. I gave myself and my life back to God. I have now received several copies of your magazine and get blessed by reading them. There is no end to God's love and while I feel so ashamed for leaving Him and getting into such a mess, I know with His help and love I can make up the lost time. I will complete the work He originally wanted me to do.

Thank you to all of you for always being there for people who are lost and in need of prayer.

A.M.L. :: United Kingdom

Promotion and Favor

I wanted to let you know about God promoting me to a supervisory position and how He moved me from the back of the line to the front. Another employee, who has experience as a supervisor, and I both interviewed for the job. But God chose me! I went from being a social worker to a supervisor. God not only placed me in charge of one specific discipline, but many. And along with the promotion, He gave me an increase in pay! And what is a true testament to God's faithfulness during a time of famine/recession is that He gave me a promotion and raise when my place of employment gave no raises this year to their employees due to the economy. Prior to getting the promotion I passed my licensure exam to become a licensed master social worker.

I was only working three and a half years as a social worker and God promoted me and has given me divine favor on my job. This is just the beginning!

Rachelle Wicker :: Georgia

Peace Be Still!

Our testimony is about Hurricane Felicia. We were concerned about the hurricane hitting the Hawaiian Islands. As the media kept broadcasting, we found out

it had changed course to hit Oahu about one day sooner than expected. Kenneth Copeland Ministries called us and prayed for us that we would be protected. Also, the prayer minister said in prayer, "We speak to Felicia in the Name of Jesus to disappear, and peace, be still!"

The Spirit of the Lord said it was done. Hours later, the media broadcast said the hurricane had fallen apart. Praise God! Thank you,

KCM, for your call and prayer of agreement. Thank you so much for your ministry and concern for us.

R.B.P. :: Hawaii

Prayer Is Call +44 (0)1225 787310 for prayer

Powerful Agreement

We wrote and asked you to pray for our son. His head was growing too fast due to excess fluid around his brain. We are excited to let you know we canceled his followup scan, at the doctor's recommendation, after our son's head growth slowed and his large fontanel began closing up.

We went for his 15-month appointment and his head growth is now following the normal curve and his fontanel has closed up significantly. Thank you for praying and believing with us!

D.J.W. :: Washington

Prayers Greatly Appreciated

In the past I have received the automated calls and heard or read about the prayer team calls. Recently, I received a prayer team call. I was so appreciative for the prayer of agreement for the safe return home of my husband from England. He is in the military and had been there for two weeks training with the U.K. soldiers.

I was impressed with how full the prayer minister's coverage was over every aspect of the trip. And our conversation afterward was quite a joy. Thank you for the service.

Tonya Sturgill :: Texas

God Wants You Well

I have been a Partner with KCM for several years. About four years ago, I started having pain in my knees, muscles and joints so severe I couldn't move without pain. I had various tests, but doctors could not determine the cause

of the pain. I had no choice but to take strong daily doses of cortisone to relieve the pain and enable me to move normally.

I started speaking out my healing on a regular basis. I took my medicine by reading the booklet by

Charles Capps titled God's Creative Power for Healing, and started to build my faith that God had already healed me. At the same time, I began to gradually reduce the dose of cortisone as my faith grew and continued to read material about healing and speaking faith-filled words.

It took about three years, but now I am totally free of pain and cortisone. Now, no one can tell me it's not Jesus' will to heal! Thank you for all the wonderful teaching we receive from KCM via the magazines, CDs, TV, etc. It is truly life-changing!

R.P. :: Germany

No Lack

We are so fortunate to be Partners with you and other ministries where we can grow in the Word and in our faith.

The Lord has blessed my husband with a better job than the one he lost a year ago. He also promoted him to a higher position with better pay and the job itself is more satisfying. Even though there was no income for a year, we didn't face lack in the area of finances. Praise the Lord!

M.L. :: United Kingdom

A New Life From God

I wanted to write and thank you for your ministry. At one time I was in prison and received mail and books from you. I still have the books you sent me back then.

Through God I have not only gotten out of prison, but received a full pardon and now work for the city. The Lord has given me a life I never would have had without Him as my Savior. I thank God every day that Jesus died on the cross for my sins and for the love He has for me.

P.K. :: Alabama

KCM Web Site Is a Blessing

I wanted to let you know how much I enjoy the teachings on the Web site. Each morning when I get to work I am able to study a lesson. Also, several weeks ago I prayed the prayer for employment in the finance section on a Monday. By Wednesday I had a job! God is good and answers prayer! Sherrie Gregory :: Oklahoma

We Are Blessed

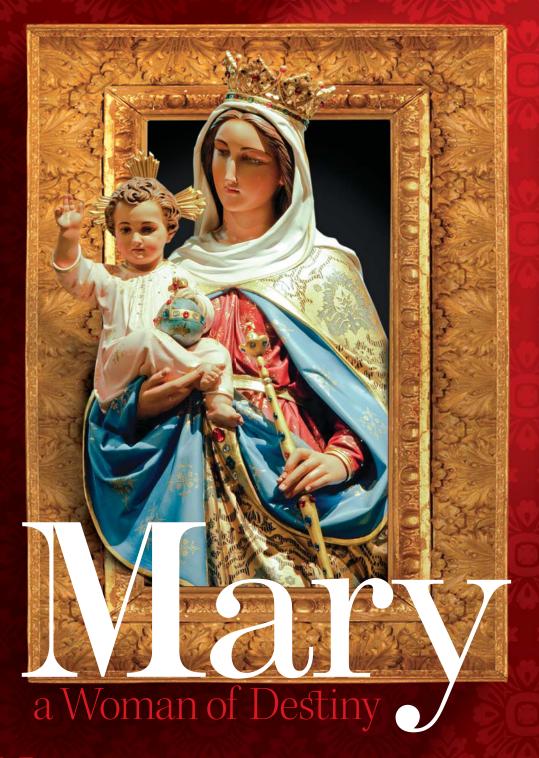
The year 2008 was the Year of THE BLESSING and the fullness of it. God blessed us and we are blessed.

My two daughters were both hired in very good places (a medical insurance company and a bank) and started working during April 2008. It is a real miracle because both were rejected for many years. In the place where I have been employed since 1979 I received a promotion in 1986. I waited for another 23 years to be promoted again and it was a real battle. A new CEO came in, Father God granted me favor in his eyes, and I was promoted. In a three-month time period I received two

salary increases and a threemonth bonus.

I am not only happy because I was promoted, but because I won the battle. I am promoted because I am blessed. I thank God for you and for greatly blessing me through your ministry. M.G. :: Arab Emirates





any Bible figures have been the center of debate over the centuries, but probably none any more than Mary, the mother of Jesus. | Someone once posed a question to my father, Kenneth Copeland, in what was obviously an

effort to push him into choosing sides in one of those doctrinal, denominational debates over Mary. Not really sure how to best answer the question in a way that wouldn't promote strife, he asked the Lord, "What about this?"

We do not create our own destinies,

we are simply privileged to discover and fulfill them.

God had an assignment...for Mary that literally only Mary could fulfill.

The Lord was quick to respond: Well, you will never get anywhere talking bad about a fella's mother!

How precious! As always, Jesus neutralized strife with love. But this was especially touching because it was clear He still has the utmost respect and love for His mother. Somehow that little peek into Jesus' attitude toward Mary made me want to know more about her. It seems she deserves to be treated with more respect than just a doctrinal issue.

Many of us were deeply affected a few years ago by the movie "The Passion of the Christ." Though I am sure no man could ever fully capture the scope of His suffering, the vivid images of Jesus paying the price for our sin will forever be imprinted on my mind. For me, telling the story primarily through the eyes of His mother greatly deepened the emotional impact. I could identify with a mother's love—something all of us relate to on one level or another. I became hungry to know more about her and exactly what her life speaks to us today. What I discovered was that Mary's life is a divine example of the goodness of God, not only to her but to us all. She was so right when she declared in Luke 1:46, "My soul magnifies the Lord" (New King James Version).

Many Unfavorable Circumstances

It didn't take much effort to learn about Mary's life and the circumstances surrounding it. I don't know why I hadn't heard more about her before. We so often focus on the glory of the angel's visit and forget that there were nine months between that day and the delivery of her Child.

There were many unfavorable circumstances surrounding Mary's life that might have caused a weaker, less-devoted woman to crumble. The Galilee area was then, and had for a long time been, a hotbed of revolt against the Roman government. Mary had most likely been witness to some very violent situations. The pressure and probable persecution from family and community concerning the suspicious timing of her pregnancy may have stayed with her even into Jesus' childhood.

The dangerous journey to Bethlehem in the final days of her ninth month was, at best, harsh on both body and soul. There were phenomenal events surrounding Jesus' birth that she didn't understand and prophecies she couldn't interpret. But through it all, she was unmoved, never complaining or giving voice to question the plan of God. She never gave her mouth to words of doubt or fear. Instead, she pondered those things in her heart and pressed forward, obviously raising Jesus in the fear and admonition of the Lord. That is, until Jesus' ministry began to challenge the hypocrisy of the synagogue leaders. At that point she and Jesus' brothers would no longer attend His meetings but would call to speak to Him from "without" (Matthew 12:46-50; John 7:1-9).

It would be easy to criticize her for those actions and indeed she should never have backed away from Jesus' ministry. On the other hand, she was probably under a kind of pressure few of us could ever relate to. The social as well as religious implications were hard to reconcile as part of the plan of God that she had so long envisioned.

Instead of Jesus embracing the religious community, He was challenging it head-on. It's possible that there is no further record of her presence in His ministry because she just couldn't bear to face what she could not understand. But then, glory to God, there she is at the foot of the Cross (John 19:25-27)! She was no doubt there for Him, loving Him and letting Him see that she had not abandoned Him. What she most likely did not know was that she was there for herself as well. Surely what she saw that day still did not fit the picture of God's plan that she had imagined. But then, maybe the word of Simeon the prophet came back to her: "A sword will pierce your very soul" (Luke 2:35, New Living Translation).

Maybe those words comforted her that somehow, in a way she could not yet comprehend, this was part of God's plan. But whatever her thoughts that day, the important fact is that she was at the Cross and she was in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. She was one of the 120 who were filled with the Holy Spirit. She staggered into the streets of Jerusalem with the others, drunk on new wine. No doubt that day the Day Star dawned in her heart and the plan that had been hidden from her for all those years suddenly became clear.

History tells us that she actually became part of Timothy's church in Ephesus. I can picture the young women gathered around her time and again pleading with her to tell the story once more. How glad she must have been to recount the glories of God and His work of grace that rested on her life. How thankful to God she must have been that she had finally seen the plan of God, not only for herself but for all mankind.

An Assignment Only She Could Fulfill

Though it's true that Mary's moral and spiritual quality is worthy of great recognition, her life bears testimony to a greater message that specifically impacts our lives. There's a lingering idea that God searched and searched all over Israel to find a woman who could be worthy enough to be the mother of His Son, and that her worthiness created her opportunity for greatness. But the beauty of it is that we do not create our own destinies, we are simply privileged to discover and fulfill them. God had an assignment, an appointed plan for Mary that literally only Mary could fulfill. That plan was

Destiny Revealed PELAND There is so much more to this remarkable young woman's life than most Christians ever consider. Terri Copeland Pearsons goes beyond the traditional Christmas story as she combines scripture and historical information to paint an intimate picture of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

As you listen to this striking message, you'll sense the fortitude, perseverance and love that brought Mary through the perils of a pagan world. Your heart will be touched as you are drawn in to her life of faith, doubts and fulfilled destiny.



kcm.org.uk/mag: +44 (0)1225 787310 Offer and price valid until May 31, 2010. initiated when He created Adam and followed a bloodline down through the centuries (Luke 3:23-38). Think of all the family infighting, wars, displacements and general craziness in the Old Testament. Think of the odds He had to overcome to produce a little girl in Nazareth with the perfect, royal DNA, with ideal stamina and fortitude, with the right parents to teach her to love God and hear His voice and to be the mother of our beloved Savior. Only He could see to it that *everything* that was necessary for Mary to fully complete her destiny was instilled within her. By divine design she was born fully equipped to carry out the plan of God for her life. The good news is: So were you! Thank God she yielded to His plan and thank God, we can too!

None of us can live a life so good and so holy as to earn our destiny. Your destiny is set before you ever arrive here. And it, like Mary's, is a destiny of greatness. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us that God has a plan for us and it is for good, not evil. There's no need to ever try to embrace another man's destiny. Yours is wonderful and everything you need to fulfill it is in you. God made it to be that way.

In Luke 1 the angel told Mary she was highly favored of the Lord. This doesn't just mean He liked her a lot. The word *favored* in English is from a Greek word also translated "grace." He was actually telling Mary that because of the favor of the Lord she was highly graced, or highly equipped to carry out the assignment she was about to be given.

I believe being a mother is one of the weightiest assignments given by God to any woman. It, of course, is so much more than just giving birth. Somehow we are to impart into and draw out of our children all that is needed for them to fulfill their God-given destinies. We are accountable before God to do so in the might and power of His Word and His Spirit. That is an awesome task. But, thanks be to God, we have within our very being all DNA, both spiritual and natural, to get the job done! The same holds true for all the varying assignments from heaven that our lives hold.

Even though Mary had been distant from Jesus during much of His earthly ministry, His glorious grace brought her to the foot of the cross, just like it did you and me. And it took her to the upper room, just like it did you and me. And if you and I will do what Mary did and simply say, "Be it done to me according to Your word" and then obey what He tells us to do, we too will have the opportunity to step up to greatness in the kingdom. VICTORY

Terri Copeland Pearsons is the eldest daughter of Kenneth Copeland. She and her husband, George, pastor Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. For information or ministry materials write to Kenneth Copeland Ministries, PO Box 15, Bath, BA1 3XN, UK.

You can be in prison but prison does not have to be in you



The power to be forever free is witnessed everyday in the life of Kenneth Copeland Ministries Europe prison ministry, as testimony after testimony is received from people being set free by the power of God's word:

"After reading some of the materials I got from KCM I have learnt how to pray and anyone who learns how to pray effectively is a free person". Inmate Italy

"Thank you KCM for the good work you do. I am now drug free after 17 years of addiction and I am very close to the Lord" Inmate UK

The prison ministry here at KCM Europe ministers to those in prison through:

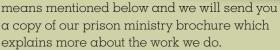
- I. Sending out the regular Believer's Voice of Victory magazine.
- II. Providing free teaching material on request.
- III. Offering prayer agreement.
- IV. Responding to letters and bible questions within the realm of the ministry gifts of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland.
- V. Leading inmates to the Lord Jesus Christ during prison visits.

The prophecy spoken by Kenneth Copeland at Eagle Mountain International Church in 2001 is certainly coming to pass before our very eyes. 'I am beginning now and will increase my appearing in prison' says the Lord 'and the greatest revival of all shall be in the prisons of the land.'

- Over the last 12 months the prison ministry of KCM Europe has grown by over 24% in the number of prisoners we are ministering to.
- In the fifteen years of this work over 4280 inmates in 27 countries have welcomed life-changing materials free of charge.
- Over 740 inmates are currently receiving the Believer's Voice of Victory magazine.

• In the six months up to the writing of this article KCM Europe's prison ministry has sown around 1700 bibles and 5300 other life changing products, including books, CDs and tapes, into the lives of prisoners, either directly or through chaplains and prison ministry teams.

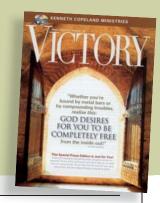
Chaplain, or involved in ministry to people in prison? Then please contact us by any of the



Do you have a relative or friend or know someone else in prison? Send us their details

and we will write to them direct with a copy of our prison edition *Believer's* Voice of Victory magazine.

Alternatively check out the prison ministry at **kcm.org.uk** by clicking on the prison ministry tab on the homepage.



Testimonies

Life on the outside begins on the inside

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at KCM Europe for upholding me in prayer. There have been great changes in my life, no more sleepless nights and headaches. I am so happy, Glory to God."

Inmate Italy

"I would like to testify to God's goodness in my life. Since I have been in prison God has led me to himself and I am having a renewed relationship with Him."

Inmate UK

"I thank God for his love and mercy upon my life and for coming to know him in my life while here in prison."

Inmate Italy

"Receiving KCM books and teaching material changed my life and helped me to know who I am in Christ Jesus. Praise God I have surrendered my life to Him."

Inmate Italy

Prison Ministry Department Kenneth Copeland Ministries P.O. Box 15 BATH, BA1 3XN

Tel: +44 (0)1225 787310 9.00–16:30 Monday-Friday.

Email: prison@kcm.org.uk

un us t these events

Enter into these meetings as a place of rest, laying aside your own works and expecting THE BLESSING to meet every need in your life.

-Kenneth Copeland

Homecoming 2010

August 2-7

(Southwest Believers' Convention)
Fort Worth Convention Center 1201 Houston St. | Fort Worth, TX 76102

Venezuela VictoryCampaign 2010

September 3-4 Sports Center "Pedro Elias Belisario Aponte" Ave. 25 con Prolongación

Circunvalación 2, con Ave. 5 de Julio Maracaibo, Estado de Zulia, Venezuela kcm.org/es (in U.S.) | 261-786-4213 vicentemora.org (in Venezuela)

2010 Word Exp

October 14-16 Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center 1101 Lincoln St. | Columbia, SC 29201

Washington, D.C. November 11-13

Victory Campaign

Hylton Memorial Chapel 14640 Potomac Mills Road Woodbridge, VA 22192

Admission is Free

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Join Kenneth and/or Gloria at:

Word of Faith **Conference: June 18**

Word of Faith International Christian Center 20000 W. Nine Mile Road | Southfield, MI 48075 248-353-3476 | woficc.com

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion: June 22-27

Living Word Christian Center 9201 75th Ave. N. | Minneapolis, MN 55428



Join Dr. Stephen and/or Kellie Swisher at:

Awesome Church: May 23

223 Great North Road | Five Dock NSW 2046 Australia | +02 9713 8990 awesomechurch.com

ICFM Convention: May 23-27

Mantra Legends Hotel Gold Coast Highway and Laycock Street Surfers Paradise | Queensland 4217 Australia | icfm.org.au

Rhema Family Church: May 28-30

16 Queens Road | Slacks Creek Brisbane, Queensland 4114 Australia | +61 7 3290 3610 rhemafamilychurch.com

Abundant Life Centre: June 2-4

8 Kauvula Road | Nakurakua Nadi Town, Fiji | worldcovenantministries.org

Calvary Tremont Missionary Baptist Church: August 15

1255 Leonard Ave. Columbus, OH 43203 | 614-258-9933 calvarytremont.org

The Jim Bakker Show: August 23

Morningside Church 180 Grace Chapel Road | Blue Eye, MO 65611 417-779-9000 | jimbakkershow.com

New Life Fellowship: September 11-12

1211 N. 24th St. | Council Bluffs, IA 51501 712-332-1982 | gotnewlife.org

The Master's Touch International Church:

September 19

555 Markham Woods Road | Longwood, FL 32779 321-304-4111 | tmtic.com

Copeland Family Meeting



2010 CHANGE EXPERIENCE

27 September-2 October

London, England



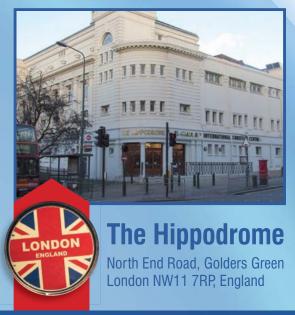
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Dr Creflo & Pastor Taffi Dollar



Kenneth & Gloria Copeland



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We're In for the Long Haul!

Kenneth Copeland Ministries and our Partners have been connected with the people of Haiti for nearly 20 years in regular support to ministries, orphanages and clinics. We have contributed funds, prayed and stood with them through many times of need.

And today, as that nation works to rebuild after suffering massive destruction following a devastating earthquake, we are still there—sharing the love of God and helping provide food supplies, medical assistance and whatever else we can to the people of Haiti.

We have been in Haiti for a long time, and we are there for the long haul!

God has called us to express His love to people all over the world. We don't just wait for a phenomenal event to do that. We have been doing it for 43 years and know, in the days ahead, we will have plenty more opportunities.

During such critical times as these, the whole world rallies to help people who have been devastated by destruction. We not only step up and complete the tasks the Lord calls us to do specifically in relief efforts, but as so many other Christian organizations do, we go into these areas knowing people's lives are





Haiti with \$2.7 million of medical supplies.

shattered, their hearts are broken and they are looking for lasting answers to their confusion and fear. We have the distinct privilege to proclaim to them the One who has all their answers—His Name is *Iesus*.

As far as the current recovery efforts in Haiti, we will be there for as long as it takes to ensure the people have every opportunity to know how much God cares about them.

PARTNERS HELPING PARTNERS...AND BEYOND!

In times like these, KCM reaches out and serves as a clearinghouse for financial aid to hurting nations. Through our Relief Fund we are here to receive the funds our Partners have been directed of the Lord to sow into relief efforts. This arm of ministry allows us to reach out to our Partners first and then others in the nation. Our Partners around the world are providing tremendous aid to their fellow Partners and others in Haiti.

KCM has been supporting the Haitian people for many years through monthly support to Partner ministries there. Recent disaster relief funds have also been provided to Christian Haitian Outreach, Operation Blessing, American Samaritan and Mission Harvest America.

Through our interministry partnerships we have transported medical supplies, food, water and shelter. These are always top priorities in such disasters, but so much more is yet to be done.

In February, KCM partnered with several ministries to send a flight to Haiti with \$2.7 million of medical supplies and 7,000 pounds of much-needed antibiotics. We joined forces with Pastor Keith Moore of Faith Life Church, Branson, Mo.; Billye Brim of Prayer Mountain in the Ozarks; Buddy Shipp of American Samaritan; Dale McCowan, a businessman from Tulsa, Okla.; and Glen Hyde, who coordinated this mission, to send an aircraft to Haiti to deliver the important supplies.

KCM Partners remain on the ground, ready to continue aid as ministry support and supplies come in. Recovery is a long process, and our goal is to provide a permanent source of ongoing support to help the people of Haiti get back to a place of normal living as quickly as possible.

The Haitian people are receiving God's love through His people!

HAITI WILL BE SAVED

In every outreach of Kenneth Copeland Ministries our main purpose is to do what the Lord Jesus tells us in order to demonstrate God's love. As we simply follow His direction, God gets all the praise and glory.

Everything we do worldwide, we do in faith, interceding for the people of the nations to come to their own saving faith in Jesus.

For the people of Haiti, the Lord gave Brother Kenneth Copeland this scripture from Acts 26:18: "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness."

Kenneth Copeland Ministries and our Partners and Friends remain dedicated to meeting the needs of people by putting feet to our faith and proclaiming to the world Jesus is Lord! As we continue to minister to the people of Haiti, we appreciate your participation as a member of the Kenneth Copeland Ministries family. Together we can take the following actions to stay connected with Haitians and see God do mighty things on their behalf:

- Confess: Haiti WILL BE SAVED— Acts 26:18.
- Go to kcm.org to learn more about KCM's Partners Helping Partners
 Relief Fund and see how we are truly making a difference by sharing our love, prayers and resources.

Ask the Lord how you can be part of KCM's ongoing Relief Fund for Haiti. Remember, every dollar you give to the Relief Fund goes directly to minister to the people. You may contribute at kcm.org/haiti or by calling us at +44 (0)1225 787310.

We're in Haiti for the long haul. Thank you for being there with us.





Patience and Prosperity

When Ken and I first began to walk by faith, we were in a terrible financial condition. It would have been very easy at the time to give up and quit. But as the laws of prosperity became a reality to us, the light at the end of the tunnel became brighter and brighter. Our debts were not taken care of immediately—it took some time for us to pay all of our bills. During this period, we had to put the force of patience to work and refuse to give up. And as a result, in less than one year, we were free from debt and headed on a path to victory.

Perhaps you are questioning what patience has to do with gaining results in your life.

Well, patience is what undergirds and sustains your faith until the result is manifest. When you learn to release the power of patience, you can receive anything from God that agrees with His Word. Patience is the difference between *trying* and *doing*. It's the difference between *fishing* and *catching fish*. It's the difference between *attempting* to walk by faith and *succeeding*. Patience makes *all* the difference as we see in the following scripture:

Do not, therefore, fling away your fearless confidence, for it carries a great and glorious compensation of reward. For you have need of steadfast patience and endurance, so that you may perform and fully accomplish the will of God, and thus receive and carry away [and enjoy to the full] what is promised.... But the just shall live by faith...and if he draws back and shrinks in fear, My soul has no delight or pleasure in him. But our way is not that of those who draw back to eternal misery (perdition) and are utterly destroyed, but we are of those who believe...and by faith preserve the soul. Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality—[faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses] (Hebrews 10:35-39, 11:1, *The Amplified Bible*).

Your fearless confidence carries a great and glorious compensation of reward! And patience encourages fearless confidence in God's Word despite contrary evidence in the seen world. If Ken and I had continued to operate based on what we saw, we would still be in debt today. But we had confidence that God's Word would not fail and it produced great results.

So when Satan brings a test or trial against you, do not fling away your confidence in God's Word. This refusal to cast away your confidence in His Word is the power of patience at work.

Hold Yourself Calm

I like what Psalm 94:12-13 tells us about patience: "Blessed... is the man whom You discipline and instruct, O Lord, and teach out of Your law, that You may give him power to hold himself calm in the days of adversity" (AMP).

Patience is the power to hold yourself calm during adversity. Isn't that good?

According to this scripture, holding yourself calm is the result of being instructed by God's Word. It is being a doer of the Word and

not a hearer only (James 1:22). When you act on what God's Word says about your situation, the power of patience is released.

You need to stay calm and focused on the Word in the face of adversity when it looks like doom is inevitable—when Satan puts strong pressure on you to faint and give up. At that moment, you may be tempted to succumb to the pressure and let go of God's Word. Don't do it! You cannot succumb to Satan's pressure without flinging away your confidence in God's Word.

There is no middle ground.

When it comes to standing on the Word you are either *on* or *off.*Patience has the courage to refuse to believe what Satan tries to prove true in the natural world. When situations appear contrary to what the Word promises, you must take a firm stand in faith and say, "I will not succumb to pressure. I am moved by nothing except the Word of God."

When Satan's pressure says that God's Word is not working—patience rejects it as a lie.

Patience has no fear because it knows that God's Word has never failed. Patience knows that when faith is exercised to receive a promise from the Word, success is inevitable.

Pleasing God

We read in Hebrews 10:38, "The just shall live by faith." If you are to please God you must operate in faith. And faith not only believes that God exists but faith also believes that God rewards those who diligently seek Him. And then we read that "if he draws back and shrinks in fear, My soul has no delight or pleasure in him" (AMP).

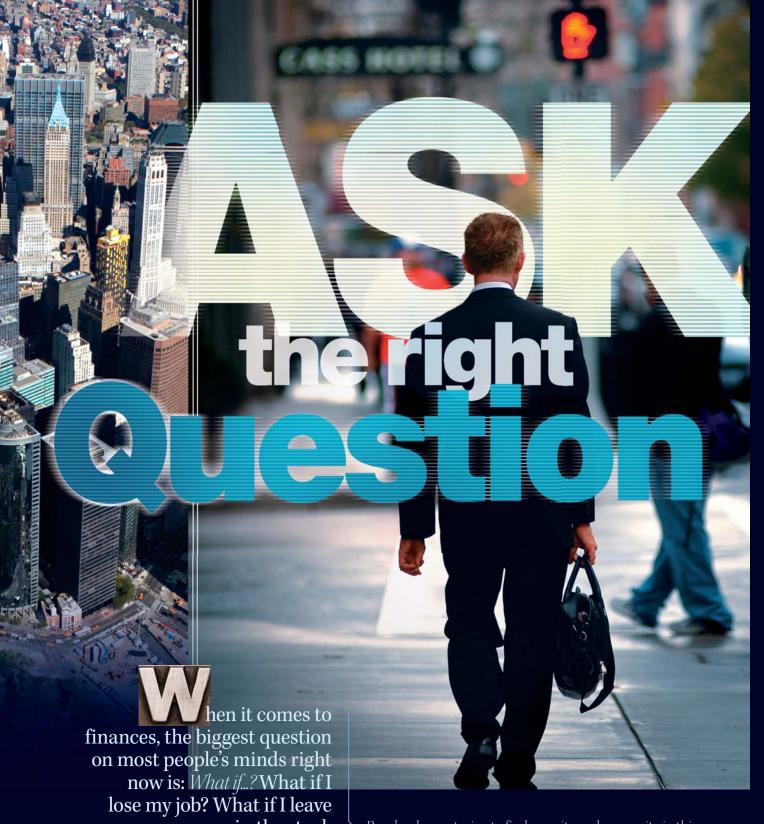
So why is it that God takes no pleasure in you if you draw back in fear?

Because the instant you draw back in fear, you quit operating in faith. And faith is the assurance (the title deed) to the things you are believing for. God desires to bless you. He takes pleasure in the prosperity of His people. But He takes no pleasure in—and cannot bless—fear.

Jesus tells us: "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32).

Faith, undergirded by patience, will defend and protect your soul from Satan's attacks—from fear. Faith in God's Word is your proof that you have received, even though you cannot yet see it with your natural eye. That kind of faith comes only through God's grace and the "power of patience."

So remain steadfast. Don't give up. Continue to put the Word first place in every situation. It is God's good pleasure to prosper and bless you in every area of your life. VICTORY



my money in the stock market and it crashes again? What if this happens? What if that happens?

BY KENNETH COPELAND

People who are trying to find security and prosperity in this world's economy have asked those questions until they've come to a point of confusion. They don't know what's going to happen next, so they can't figure out what to do. >> "I know it, Brother Copeland!" someone might say. "Have you ever seen anything like it?" >> Yes, I have. In my 73 years of life, I've seen it again and again because the system of commerce mankind has come up with is unstable. It goes through cycles. Sometimes it's up and sometimes it's down.

If you'd like to know why, read in Genesis 11 about the tower of Babel because that's where this world's economic system originated. It started when mankind stopped asking the right question—What has God said?—and came up with their own idea of how to meet their needs apart from Him and His Word. It started when they tried to use God's method of creation—imagine it, believe it, say it and it will come to pass—to build a tower that would reach all the way to heaven.

As preposterous as the idea might seem to us today, the fact is, they would have successfully finished that tower if God hadn't intervened, because His method of creation always works. It works for man just like it works for God. But He stopped them by speaking one word: the Hebrew word *babel*, which means "confusion."

With that word God put a permanent cap on man's ability to do anything without Him.

What Did You Say?

What's happening economically in the world today has everything to do with Babel because God did more there than just mix up people's speech. Although different languages eventually did come out of the confusion, the first and most important thing that happened was this: Natural man without God lost control of his imagination.

At Babel, mankind's ability to build things became limited. Man's mind slipped out from under his own control. As a result, when he set about to build a tower, a business, a city or a nation, it would reach a certain magnitude and then fall apart because man's imagination would start working against him. He'd start seeing himself failing instead of succeeding.

He'd imagine himself in trouble, believe those imaginations, then start saying, "Oh, what if this or that bad thing happens? I'm just scared to death that I'm going to lose everything. I'll never be able to solve these problems. This thing is just too big. It's going to come down and take me with it." Although he'd still be using God's creative system of *imagine it*, believe it, say it and it will come to pass, instead of the man controlling his imaginations, those imaginations would be controlling him.

What's worse, after Babel it became impossible for even two or three people to imagine the same thing. Forty people could hear the same word and all of them would have different ideas about it. That's why the people in charge of this world's system can't agree on a solution to the economic problems they've created. Even people of the same political party can argue endlessly—all of them talking at once saying different things.

Talk about confusion! No wonder this world is in such a mess.

Don't Join In

As believers, however, we aren't subject to that mess. We don't have to partake of it. "We have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16) and we are no longer bound to that Babylonian confusion: "(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

Notice verse 5 doesn't just say we bring our thoughts and imaginations captive. It says we bring them into the captivity of Christ, the Anointed One who is the eternal, living Word of God. We align our imaginations with God and with each other by lining them up with The Word. We answer every question—about the economy or anything else—by setting our minds on what God has already said about it.

If we'll do that, we don't have to participate in this world's economic ups and downs. We can opt out of them and follow the instructions the Lord gave me a few years ago during one economic downturn. He said, Write your Partners and tell them not to join in on the recession. It doesn't belong to them.

"But, Brother Copeland, exactly how do you not join in on a recession?"

You quit looking at it for one thing! You stop focusing your attention on all the bad news about the economy and obey the instructions in Proverbs 4:20-26:

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. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

The Eden System

Those verses reveal what I call the Eden system of how to *imagine*, *believe*, *speak and bring things to pass*. It's the process God used at Creation, the process He intended mankind to use to expand the Garden of Eden until it filled the earth. The first step in that process is attending to God's Word. When you *attend to* God's Word, you put it first. You make it the principal thing in your life—not *a* principal thing but *the* principal thing—final authority.

The second step is to incline your ear to The Word. You can't do that while you're inclining your ear to the news media's negative reports. You can't do it while you're

having worried, anxious conversations with friends about how awful things are. Confusion always comes from having an alternate choice. When one is single-minded on The Word, there is no confusion (Babel).

"But, Brother Copeland, that's just reality. Things really are awful!"

Not at my house! Things at my house are great because Gloria and I have trained ourselves to attend to The Word and incline our ears to it. We've learned to take authority over what we hear. We choose to listen to and agree with God's Word—not just when we feel like it but all the time.

I'll warn you though, it's not always easy. When the pressure is on and you're facing circumstances you can't see any natural way out of, the last thing you'd choose to hear sometimes is what the Bible has to say. But that's when you exercise your will and say to yourself, "Self, we are going to incline our ear to The Word. We're going to attend to it and do what it says because God's Word is the answer whether we like it or not."

Worldly people aren't capable of doing that. They don't have the power to control their minds. But by the power of God that dwells within you, you do. You can choose to think God's thoughts. You can choose to "keep them before your eyes and in the midst of your heart."

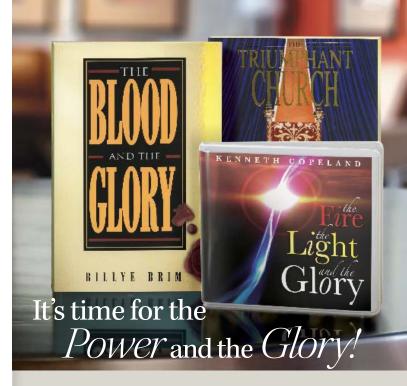
Say What God Says

Once you've made that choice, the next step in the Eden system is this: "Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee" (Proverbs 4:24). Speak in agreement with (and not contrary to) God's Word.

When people around you are saying, "We're in so much financial trouble we'll never get out of it. No one can save us now!" you should be quoting The Word. You should be saying, "God promised me that because I've set my love on Him, He will be with me in trouble, deliver me and honor me! He said I wouldn't lack any good thing! He meets all my needs *not* according to this economy but according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!"

And don't just talk the talk—walk the walk. As Proverbs 4:26 says, "Ponder the path of thy feet." Make sure your actions line up with The Word. When you're making decisions, ask yourself, "Am I doing this in obedience to God? Am I doing it to fulfill the lusts of the flesh or am I being led by my spirit?"

I'll never forget when I began asking those questions where my finances were concerned. Gloria and I had just gotten started in the ministry and we'd made a commitment to put The Word first place in our lives. We had agreed together before God that we would never alter The Word to fit our lifestyle, but we would change our lifestyle to fit The Word.



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Just a few weeks after we made that commitment, I was reading my Bible and preparing to preach when I came across Romans 13:8, "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another." In my mind, the only way to get anything done financially was to borrow money, so I figured that verse must have another meaning. I'll read it in a different translation, I thought.

I got *The Amplified Bible*. It said, "Keep out of debt and owe no man anything...."

Suddenly, all the what ifs started clicking across my mind. What if I need to build a building to house this ministry, how will I ever do it? What if the worthless car I'm driving breaks down? How will I replace it without borrowing money? What is God trying to do to me?

Back then, the only system I knew about was the Babylonian system of commerce the world uses. I didn't know the Eden system even existed. But I'd committed to obey God's Word so I called Gloria in and showed her what I'd found. "Look at this verse," I said. "It tells us not to be in debt."

We stood there looking at each other, kind of crestfallen. Without borrowed money, the future looked bleak to us. We couldn't imagine how we could ever prosper and be financially blessed without going into debt.

Why couldn't we imagine it?

Because in those days we didn't know what the Bible said about prosperity. We didn't know "the blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it" (Proverbs 10:22). God's Word about wealth wasn't in our hearts yet, so we couldn't imagine it.

Even so, we stuck with our commitment. Gloria said, "If The Word says to stay out of debt, that's exactly what we're going to do." Then she turned and walked out of the room.

"Yeah," I said, "that's what we're going to do."

Just a Few Hours Later...

On the very same day, the Spirit of the Lord said to me, I want you to get a more advanced tape recorder and begin to tape your services because I want you to make them available to people.

I already knew which recorder to get and who had it so I called the man and told him I was ready to buy it. "Sure, I'll pack it up and put it on a bus to you today, Brother Copeland," he said. "I'll send a note for 90 days or six months or whatever along with it. You can just sign it, send it back to me and make payments on it."

I was so accustomed to the debtor's way of doing things I just said, "OK." After I hung up and walked into the other room, it dawned on me I'd just violated

the commitment I'd made a few hours earlier to put His Word first in everything. *Oh, Lord!* I thought, what have I done?

Once again, my mind buzzed with questions. How am I going to obey God and start recording our services without that recorder? And how do I get the recorder without the money? If I can't borrow, what am I going to do? My Babylonian head was running in circles. It was confused. So I started praying in the spirit. Then I said, "Lord, what should I do? I've made a mess out of this the first day."

Immediately, I knew the answer. God said don't borrow and that's the end of it. If I have to look bad and be embarrassed, so what? It makes no difference what other people think of me. I'm not preaching me, I'm preaching Jesus.

I called the guy back and said, "I can't do it. I can't sign that note. Keep the recorder until I can get the money to you."

"It's too late," he said. "I've already shipped it. Just throw away the note, and as the Lord blesses you, send me the money."

I didn't know what to say to that, so I said, "Yeah, that will work."

The minute I hung up the phone, the Lord said, No. "But, Lord, it sounds like a good deal to me!" No.

There was no question—I had to send the recorder back. Since it was scheduled to arrive during the service when I would be preaching, I asked my dad to go to the bus station for me, pick up the package and return it.

"Is it the wrong equipment or something?" he asked.

"No. There's just a conflict in my spirit—something God is dealing with me about."

Once the matter was settled, I felt a weight lift off me and I was free. I had no desire to disobey The Word. I had no idea how I was going to get that tape recorder but I figured if I obeyed God, He would help me. So I rolled the care of it over on Him, went to the service and preached about faith. While I was preaching, I realized what I had to do. I had to develop my faith in owe no man anything but to love him, and in give and it shall be given unto you again (not loaned unto you), pressed down, shaken together, running over (Luke 6:38).

On the way home from the service, riding in the car with my dad, I said, "Did you get that package sent back?"

"No," he answered.

"What?"

"Just let me tell you what happened," he said. "The bus wasn't coming in until late so I went to the service first. When I walked in, a woman came up to me and handed me some money. She said, 'Mr. Copeland, I want you to give this to Kenneth. The Lord has instructed me that he is not to know where it came from. Just tell him it came from Jesus and he'll know what it means."

It was exactly the amount I needed for the tape recorder, plus the tithe.

That was my first step out of Babylonian financial

confusion and into the Eden system of God...and I've been learning how to live in that system ever since. Over the years, I've found it always works. Despite the world's economic ups and downs, it has brought me to a place of financial blessing that's beyond anything I once dreamed of—a place where the question is not What if...?, but What has God said? VICTORY

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11

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13

Living Long and Finishing Strong—The Bible Way to Live
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into Scripture to build your faith for the long and victorious life
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