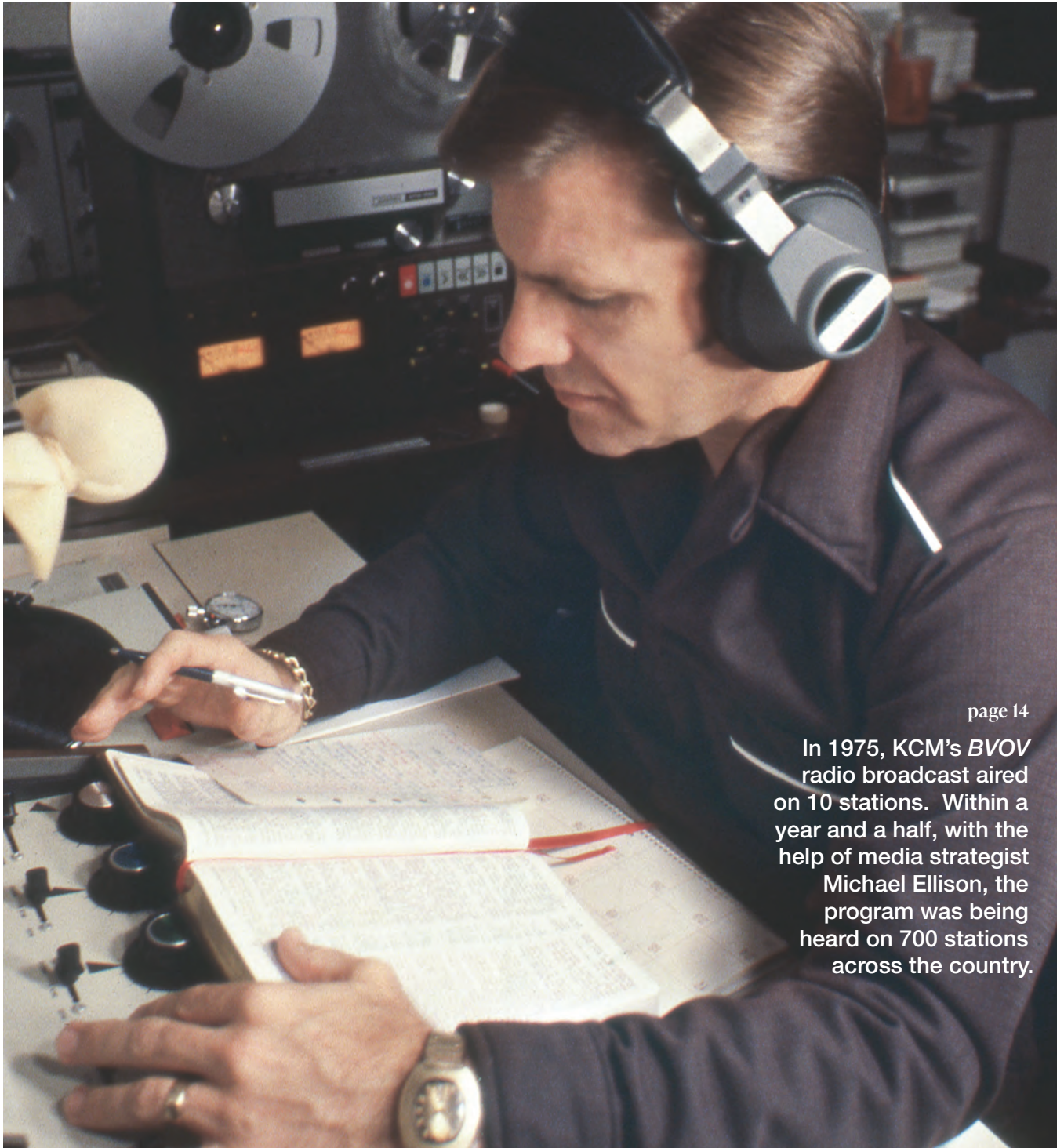


Believer's Voice of VICTORY™



page 14

In 1975, KCM's *BVOV* radio broadcast aired on 10 stations. Within a year and a half, with the help of media strategist Michael Ellison, the program was being heard on 700 stations across the country.

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VOL. 54 : N°7 : IN PRINT SINCE '73

From The Editor

SIMPLE FAITH!

We hear a lot these days about fear. Problem is, we don't hear nearly enough about faith.

That's why I'm encouraged every time I hear stories about someone who practices living a life of faith—someone who has learned how to trust God and not, out of fear, give in to the threats of the enemy.

A story I ran across recently about Matthew and Mae Bertha Carter, two sharecroppers living in Mississippi in the mid-1960s, is a prime example.

Following a 1954 Supreme Court ruling that called for the desegregation of all public schools, many Black families met resistance while trying to enroll their children in what had been all-white schools. Among them were Matthew and Mae Bertha, who were determined to get their 13 children out of the cotton fields where they themselves had worked for years. Their first five children had already graduated from the ill-equipped "colored" school in the Mississippi Delta town of Drew, and had left home either to join the military or to find jobs outside the state.

When the Carters showed up to enroll their seven children in the previously all-white school in the fall of 1965, they were the only Black parents in the Sunflower County School District to take advantage of the new "freedom of choice" law. An eighth child, the youngest in the family, entered first grade two years later.

As expected, the family met with strong resistance from whites. According to reports, their home was riddled with bullets one night, and the plantation owner canceled their credit at his store and threw them off the land. At school, the children endured constant threats and ridicule. Despite the treatment, Matthew and Mae Bertha stood fast. Relying on their faith in God for protection, and each other for strength, they kept their children in the schools.

In an interview years later, Mae Bertha talked

about the shooting incident, saying, "That's when I say, 'Thank You, Lord, for taking care of my kids.' We slept on the floor the rest of the night.... I was frightened, but I had trust in God."

All seven Carter children went on to finish high school, and later graduated from the University of Mississippi. Matthew Carter died on April 28, 1988. Mae Bertha, who became a prominent civil rights activist, died on the same date eleven years later—April 28, 1999.

The Bible says in Psalm 27:1-3, "...The LORD is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?... Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear" (*New American Standard Bible*-95). Any decision to stand for what is right is likely to be met with some form of opposition. Matthew and Mae Berta Carter apparently knew that, but they didn't allow fear to distract them from their faith in God. In the face of strong and threatening opposition, they showed strength, bravery and trust.

In his article this month, titled "The Power of Simple Faith," Kenneth Copeland challenges us, saying: "Have Faith in God! Keep believing His WORD in your heart, saying it, and believing those things you say will come to pass; and faith will work for you just like Jesus said. The mountain will move. The healing will come. The miracle will happen. Jesus Himself will see to it. It's as simple as that."

The Carters are proof!



Ronald C. Jordan
Managing Editor





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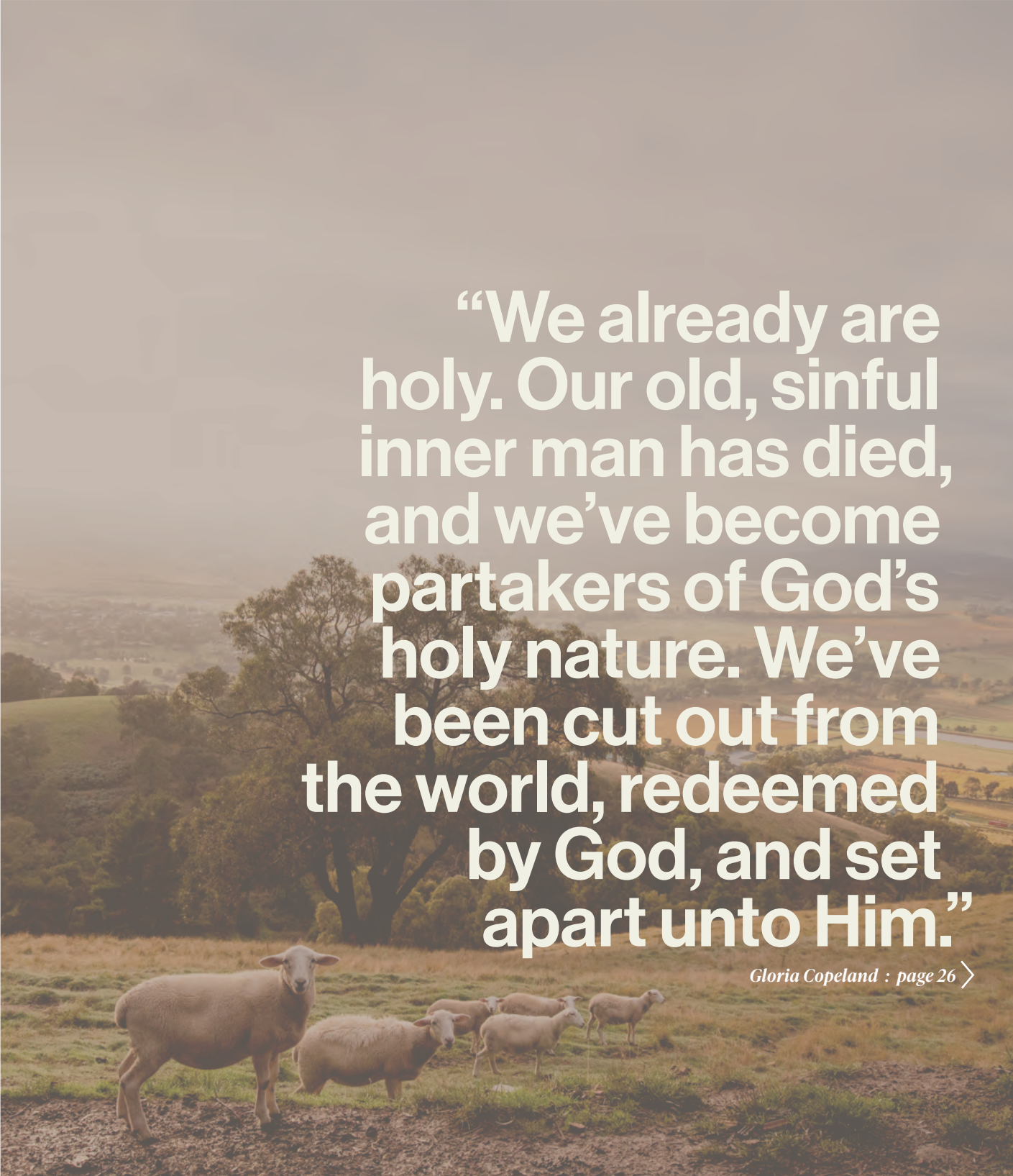
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“We already are holy. Our old, sinful inner man has died, and we’ve become partakers of God’s holy nature. We’ve been cut out from the world, redeemed by God, and set apart unto Him.”

Gloria Copeland : page 26 >

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The Power of
**SIMPLE
FAITH**

One thing that always thrills me about Jesus' teachings on Faith is how wonderfully simple they are. He never made receiving from God by Faith seem mysterious and incomprehensible. He never presented the process as complicated or difficult to do.

On the contrary, Jesus laid out the basic principles of Faith so simply that even a child can understand them. He made them so clear that anyone can put Faith to work in their life, just by doing what He said.

If you've read Mark 11, you probably remember how He did it. He began His teaching by speaking words of Faith to a fig tree. The fig tree should have had fruit on it, but it didn't. So, having gone over to the tree to get something to eat and finding nothing on it, Jesus said to the tree: "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever" (verse 14). Then He turned His back on it and walked away.

His disciples who watched this demonstration heard His words, but at the time they saw no change in the tree. The next day, however, they passed by the tree again and saw it had changed. Peter said to Jesus: "Master, behold, the fig tree



which thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith" (verses 21-23).

Talk about straightforward! That's so plain we've had to have help to misunderstand it. Jesus didn't say, like religious tradition does, that you just never know what God is going to do. He said that God does for you according to your Faith. "Have faith in God," He said (verse 22). (Or as it can also be translated, *Have the Faith of God, or Have the God kind of Faith.*) "Speak to the situations in your life that don't line up with God's WORD, just as I spoke to the fig tree, believing what you say will come to pass, and you'll get the same results I did."

"But Brother Copeland," you might say, "surely we can't do what Jesus did. He's the Son of God."

Yes, He is, but when He was on the earth,

“We just need to realize that words spoken in unbelief are no joke. They are ‘evil’ (Hebrews 3:12), or idle, because they don’t line up with The WORD of God.”

He didn’t operate as the Son of God. He operated as a man. That’s why He didn’t do any miracles until He was 30 years old. He couldn’t. He had to be baptized in the Holy Spirit with the anointing for service, just as we do, before He could do God’s supernatural works.

Jesus never did anything in His earthly ministry that is not available to us, as believers, today! He told us so Himself. In John 14:12, He said, “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

You see, although Jesus will always be the Firstborn Son of God, as believers, we’re sons of God too. Just as He was born of the seed of The WORD, we’re born of the seed of The WORD. In our spirits, we’re His exact duplicates. We’re spirit beings, created in the God class.

Unbelievers, although they haven’t been born again in Jesus’ image, are spirit beings too. That’s the reason when Jesus explained the law of Faith, He said it will work for “*whosoever*.” Faith is a

spiritual law and it applies to every spirit being. “*Whosoever* shall say...[and] believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith” (Mark 11:23).

Set a Watch Over Your Mouth

Let me repeat, this is a spiritual law. It’s always operating. No matter who you are, there is no way to get around it: What you have today is what you said yesterday. As Jesus said in Luke 6:45, “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.”

We live in a word-created, word-upheld environment. God used Faith-filled words to bring everything in this world into existence, and now we are using our words to create our world too. That’s been His plan since the beginning. He did not give us words primarily for communication. He gave us words to release power, and they’re always having an effect.

The Bible confirms it time and again: “Death and life are in the power of the tongue” (Proverbs 18:21). So, our words are serious business. As Jesus said, “Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment” (Matthew 12:36).

Jesus wasn’t saying we should never laugh and joke around. We, as believers, ought to be laughing and joyful all the time. We just need to realize that words spoken in unbelief are no joke. They are “evil” (Hebrews 3:12), or idle, because they don’t line up with The WORD of God.

We don’t have any business saying stupid stuff like, “Yeah, I’ll be there if a train doesn’t hit me first. Ha-ha.” Those kinds of words aren’t funny. Whether they’re said jokingly or in all seriousness, they license the devil to bring them to pass. So, stay away from them. Pray as David did: “Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips” (Psalm 141:3), and make a quality decision

Jesus illustrated how Faith works by speaking to the fig tree. (Mark 11:14)

By the next day, what He said to the fig tree had come to pass. (Mark 11:20-21)

Jesus told us to follow His example. (Mark 11:22-23)

The world says, “Seeing is believing,” but the God kind of Faith says, “Believing is seeing.” (Mark 11:24)

Faith works by Love, so when you pray, make sure you’re walking in Love and forgiveness. (Mark 11:25)

before God to speak only words of Faith.

“But Brother Copeland, when I’m dealing with difficult situations, I don’t always feel like speaking words of Faith.”

It doesn’t make any difference how you feel. If you want to change those difficult situations, you must believe and say only what God says about them. Instead of talking about how you feel, you must follow the simple instructions Jesus gave in Mark 11: Speak words of Faith and believe that what you say will come to pass.

But let me warn you in advance, to do that, you will have to take dominion over yourself because flesh is carnal. It gets its information from this natural realm. So, it wants to see *and feel* before it *believes and speaks*.

Left to itself, your flesh (and mine and everyone else’s) will behave like Thomas did in John 20. When he heard that Jesus had risen from the dead, he said, “Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, *I will not believe*” (verse 25, italics added).

Thomas chose to side in with his natural senses rather than the word he had heard. He chose doubt over Faith, as an act of his will. A few days later he saw Jesus in person and exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!” (verse 28). He believed what he saw, but because his Faith was based on natural evidence, Jesus said it was not the God kind of Faith. “Thomas,” He said, “because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed” (verse 29).

It is impossible to receive Abraham’s BLESSING with Thomas’ Faith! So, don’t follow Thomas’ example. Don’t say, like he did and like the world does, “Seeing is believing.” Have the Faith of God that says, “Believing is seeing.” Follow the example of Jesus and say with the Apostle Paul: “We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak” (2 Corinthians 4:13).

Start With What Is Written

Notice that verse says the spirit of Faith is “according as it is written.” In other words, you get Faith by going to The WORD of God first. “Faith

“My responsibility

where my Partners
are concerned is to pray for
them...to support them.... I’ve
committed my life to seek God
and receive revelation from God
that I can preach and teach
to my Partners.”



EXPLORE THE BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP

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cometh by hearing...the word of God" (Romans 10:17). So, start by finding a Bible promise or fact that guarantees you what you desire, and believe it on purpose as an act of your will.

Do the opposite of what Thomas did and declare, "I will believe this good news! I don't care what I feel or see to the contrary, I choose to put my Faith in what God said and not to be moved by emotions or circumstances. I choose to be moved only by God's WORD."

Once you've taken that stand, take the next step and follow the instructions Jesus gave us in Mark 11:24-25: "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

Once you've done that, maintain your stand of Faith. Keep believing you receive and keep saying so. Keep declaring God's WORD and believing what you say will come to pass, and it will. Maybe not instantly or in 24 hours, but eventually, if you stay with the program, you will have what you say.

I really enjoy some of the testimonies about this that Brother Kenneth E. Hagin used to share. One

was about a pastor he knew who had suffered with diabetes for 30 years. Brother Hagin ministered a number of times in his church, so when he and his wife were in the area one day, they stopped by to pay the pastor a visit.

Greeting them with surprising news, he said, "I haven't had a shot of any insulin for two years!" They asked him what happened, and he replied, "It finally dawned on me what you've been preaching about Faith, or rather, what Jesus taught about it in Mark 11:22-24. I saw that what I needed to do was to believe I receive my healing, and Jesus will see to it that I have it.

"Every morning during my prayer time, I'd walk the floor and say, 'I believe I receive my healing from sugar diabetes.' Every time I gave myself a shot of insulin, I'd say it again. 'I believe I receive my healing from sugar diabetes.'"

As I recall, he did that for two years. Then, one day when he was at the doctor, they did a blood test on him. "I've never seen anything like this in my life, particularly in someone your age!" the doctor said. "Your pancreas is making quality insulin. You are completely healed of sugar diabetes."

Brother Hagin went back to Rhema and told the students about it. A number of them who had been diagnosed with diabetes did the same thing and got the same results.

A woman Brother Hagin knew who was born cross-eyed had a similar testimony.

When she was born, her eyes were so badly crossed the doctors wanted to do surgery on her. Her parents had said no, so at 6 months old, they strapped glasses on her head to keep her eyes straight.

After she became an adult, she came up in the prayer line in one of Brother Hagin's meetings, still wearing thick glasses. He laid hands on her, and afterward she took her glasses off as a way of acting on her Faith. She had the right idea. It is vitally important to act on The WORD and not be a hearer only. But when she tried to drive without her glasses, because her healing had not yet manifested, it proved to be dangerous. Plus, she was breaking the law. Her driver's license required her to wear glasses.

"What should I do, Brother Hagin?" she asked.

"Keep wearing your glasses," Brother Hagin said, "but every morning as you put them on say, 'I



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KCM Canada: Celebrating 50 Years!

believe I receive healing for my eyes.' Then every time you think about it during the day, say it again. 'I believe I receive healing for my eyes.'"

She committed to do it, and a few years later when Brother Hagin saw her again, her eyes were just perfect. He asked her what happened, and she said, "Every day, many times a day, I said it and said it: 'I believe I receive healing for my eyes.' Three months passed, and I couldn't tell any difference. But I kept at it and during the next three months I began to notice change. At the end of another three months I went to the doctor, and he said I had 20/20 vision."

Think about that! She could have given up after those first three months, when she didn't see any results. She could have given up at six months. But praise God, she didn't. And as a result, what she said came to pass—in nine months, 20/20 vision.

I remember one time the flu symptoms came on me and I could not afford to wait nine months to receive my healing. I needed to have it immediately because I was about to go preach. I was hurting so badly I just wanted to stay in bed, but instead I paced the floor saying over and over, "By Jesus' stripes I am healed. I believe I receive my healing. By Jesus' stripes I am healed. I believe I receive."

I even kept track of the number of times I said it. (I don't know why, but now I'm sure glad I did.) I said, "I believe I receive my healing," 229 times, feeling so sick I wanted to quit every time. Then, the 230th time I said it, the power of God hit me right behind my heels, shot up through my body, and every symptom instantly left.

"But Brother Copeland, it's hard to stick with the Faith program in those kinds of circumstances!"

I know it. But it's worth the effort. So, do it and don't quit! Whether it takes six seconds, six minutes, six months or six years for what you're believing to manifest, have Faith in God! Keep believing His WORD in your heart, saying it, and believing those things you say will come to pass; and Faith will work for you just like Jesus said.

The mountain will move.

The healing will come.

The miracle will happen.

Jesus Himself will see to it.

It's as simple as that. ⑦



"We're finding new ways to reach a generation that thinks Christianity has nothing to offer. Whether through digital platforms,

discipleship programs or creative outreach, our goal is to make the Word accessible and relevant."

—Joe Weiss, executive director KCM Canada

In 1967, when the Lord called Kenneth and Gloria Copeland to preach His uncompromised Word and bring believers from the milk to the meat of the Word, He commissioned them to take that message to the nations. Challenging and equipping an entire generation of believers to take God at His Word was an assignment of worldwide proportions. And the Copelands did not take the call on their lives lightly.

Nine years later, in 1976, after becoming well-established at its offices in Fort Worth, Texas, Kenneth Copeland Ministries took a major step toward worldwide ministry by opening its first international office in Canada. The plan for international operations was a unique one for KCM. Instead of establishing post office boxes to serve as clearinghouses for incoming mail, >

“The Word works for anyone who applies it, and it never goes out of style. But the way we deliver that Word is evolving.”

the Canada office was staffed by local believers—a ministry team that could understand and respond to needs within its own country.

Today, as it celebrates 50 years in operation, the mission of KCM Canada remains the same: to teach believers who they are in Christ and take them from religion to reality.

“The Word works for anyone who applies it, and it never goes out of style. But the way we deliver that Word is evolving,” says Joe Weiss, executive director of the Canadian office. “We’re finding new ways to reach a generation that thinks Christianity has nothing to offer. Whether through digital platforms, discipleship programs or creative outreach, our goal is to make the Word accessible and relevant.”

Accessible and relevant. That’s been Weiss’ primary focus since taking the helm at KCM Canada seven years ago. Much of what he endeavors to accomplish at KCM Canada stems from his own experiences growing up as a Christian, and how coming to know God in a real way transformed his life.

“My journey to becoming executive director of KCM Canada wasn’t something I planned,” says Weiss. “It began with a call from my pastor and a desire to impact lives the way mine had been changed.

“I grew up in a Christian home, but it wasn’t practicing faith. I knew of God, but He wasn’t my Lord and Savior. My background was fear-based, not faith-filled. Everything changed when I stepped into a Pentecostal church as a young adult. That’s where my journey began. But the real transformation came years later when my wife started watching Kenneth Copeland on TV.

“Her faith grew quickly, and when we faced a

major challenge when she was pregnant with our son Caleb, the teaching we received from KCM became a lifeline. Through the Word, and resources from KCM, we learned how to stand, believe and apply God’s promises. From that point on, I realized something profound: I had always believed in God, but I didn’t understand the authority I had as a believer. Today, I walk in that authority, and it has changed everything.

“In Luke, Jesus says, ‘I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy.’ That revelation hit me hard. The enemy may have power, but he has no authority. We do.

“This truth has shaped my life,” says Weiss. “I’ve experienced miracles I wouldn’t have known to believe for without the teaching and discipleship I’ve received. And now, I get to watch my children grow up knowing what I didn’t learn until my late 20s—that they can trust God, apply faith and walk in victory.

“When I look back, I see God’s hand in my life every step of the way—taking me from a small town in Minnesota to leading a ministry that reaches across Canada and beyond. It reminds me of the scripture that says God lifts us from the dust and sets us among princes.”

Growing Through Partnership

Since opening in 1976, KCM Canada has made great strides in taking the uncompromised Word of God throughout the region—reaching thousands of people with the message of love and faith—teaching them how to apply the Word to their lives, find their unique voice, and live in victory. Every step has been a move forward in all the Lord has planned through partnership with people across the nation. Last year, the office saw more than 54,700 salvations, and answered over 40,000 prayer calls.

In July 2005, the ministry moved into its new,

debt-free ministry center in Langley, British Columbia. And on May 13, 2006, Kenneth and Gloria were in Canada to dedicate the new 18,000-square-foot center housing a large warehouse, office space and an extensive product display area for Partners and Friends to come and purchase KCM product.

When Kenneth Copeland Bible College launched in Fort Worth, Texas, it quickly became a hub for training believers in the uncompromised Word of God. But there was a challenge: Canadian students wanted to attend, yet U.S. visa restrictions made it impossible. That's when the vision for KCBC Canada was born.

"We saw a need—and an opportunity," says Weiss, explaining that the decision was made to launch KCBC Canada. "If students couldn't go to the U.S., then why not bring the experience to Canada? The goal was a satellite campus that could reach Canadian believers first—and, as the Lord opens doors, students from other nations as well. That vision hasn't changed: to equip men and women for ministry and life through the Word of God."

KCBC Canada has already graduated students who are making a difference.

Last year, 11 students completed the program, and some have gone on to further studies at universities like Oral Roberts University—with 100% of their credits transferred. That's a savings of up to \$20,000 per year and a testimony to the quality of KCBC's curriculum, Weiss explained.

But the impact isn't just academic—it's transformational. Students grow spiritually and personally.

"One graduate came to KCBC shy and reserved, unable to make eye contact. Today, he's confident, bold and thriving in ministry. His mother once told us: 'Thank you—I can hear the growth in my son.' That's what KCBC is all about: developing leaders who know the Word, live by faith, and walk in victory.

"In a world moving fast, standing still means falling behind," says Weiss. "KCBC Canada is committed to helping believers move forward—spiritually, academically and practically. We're not just teaching theology; we're equipping students to lead, serve and impact their communities with faith that works."

One other venture KCM Canada is excited about is Victory Coffee + Kitchen—a vision that came to



**"That's how
Victory
Coffee +
Kitchen was
born. It's
more than
coffee—it's
ministry in
action."**

fruition as a result of a simple question: "What happens to inmates after they leave prison?"

"A national ministry leader asked me that one day, and my honest answer was, 'Not much.' Once inmates were released, we lost contact. That conversation revealed a gap—and a need to help people take the next steps toward a new life."

Not long after, while walking through the bookstore, one of the staff remarked: "Can you imagine if this were a café?"

"Something clicked inside me. Yes—a café. But not *just* a café. A space that furthers our mission: mentoring, discipling and reaching the local community. A place where the Word of God meets real life.

"That's how Victory Coffee + Kitchen was born. It's more than coffee—it's ministry in action. We envisioned a café that offers employment to men and women with barriers to employment, giving them a fresh start and a future. Through prayer and discernment, we've welcomed people who've faced incredible challenges, and seen lives transformed.

"For years, we did ministry across Canada, yet in our own backyard many didn't even know we existed. If KCM Canada had moved out of Langley, the community might never have noticed. Now, they know we're here—and they love what's happening. In fact, we've had more people walk through the café in one day than we saw in 20 years of running a bookstore.

"Victory Coffee + Kitchen is proof that ministry can happen anywhere—even over a cup of coffee. And we're just getting started."

For five decades, KCM Canada has stood with Canadians who've taken God at His WORD, believing for healing, trusting Him for provision, and agreeing together for the salvation of loved ones. That hasn't changed, and it won't. Healing is still for today. God is still faithful to meet every need. His mercy is still pursuing those who have yet to know Him, and He is still honoring the promise of wholeness and prosperity in every area of life for Partners and their households.

Faithful to its calling, KCM Canada is doing today what it set out to do 50 years ago: teaching believers who they are in Christ and helping them walk in victory. The next chapter is just beginning, and Partners and Friends across Canada are writing it with us. 📖



Michael Ellison: A Pioneer Behind *BVOV* Radio & TV



For more than half a century, and with the support of hundreds of thousands of Partners and Friends around the world standing in faith that Jesus is Lord, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland have remained steadfast and committed to obey God's commission: *Preach the uncompromised Word from the top of the world to the bottom and all the way around the middle, and share the uncompromised message of faith on every available voice.*

Over the past 60 years, Kenneth Copeland Ministries has tapped into every stream of media God has made available—from audio to print to television, from the internet to multiple forms of social media—to reach millions with the saving message that Jesus Is Lord!

But long before global Christian broadcasting became commonplace—before multiple streams of communication ever came into existence—KCM was already making its presence known and its voice heard to millions over the airwaves, thanks to the faithful work of one man.

As millions welcomed the voice of Kenneth Copeland and the *Believer's Voice of Victory* radio broadcast into their homes and vehicles, Michael Ellison, a pioneering force in Christian media strategy, worked quietly behind the scenes—helping shape how the gospel would reach

millions. At its peak, the radio broadcast would be aired over 700 stations across the nation.

Eventually, Ellison's work would play a defining role in helping Kenneth Copeland expand from a traveling minister into a dominant voice across radio and television.

Ellison, founder of Ellison Media in Scottsdale, Ariz., was then, and remains today, deeply involved in placing Christian programming on major radio outlets across the country.

Thinking back to that time more than five decades ago, Ellison credits the late evangelist Jimmy Swaggart with connecting him with Kenneth Copeland.

"I was representing Jimmy Swaggart on his radio and television at the time," Ellison recalls of his first meeting with Kenneth around 1975. "I was not personally acquainted with Kenneth, but I was familiar with him through his association with the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, where he often spoke. Even then I recognized there was something unique about his preaching.

"One day Jimmy called me and said, 'You've got to reach out to Kenneth. He's got incredible potential to be on radio,'" Ellison recalled. "I called Kenneth and proposed something practical—a demonstration broadcast. We did a demonstration program, and that's how we got connected."

“I believe God called me to go all out and take every radio station that we can.”

—Kenneth Copeland

KCM launched its *Believer's Voice of Victory* radio ministry in May 1975, broadcasting on 10 stations. Because Ellison had gained access to a vast network of stations through working with Swaggart, as well as other ministries, he knew what it took to generate measurable response.

“We started at the top and we had immediate response,” says Ellison.

About six months into their partnership, Kenneth made a defining decision that would accelerate everything. Ellison remembers very clearly the call he received from Kenneth: “I believe God called me to go all out and take every radio station that we can,” Kenneth told Ellison. “If you feel that is too much of a risk, then I understand. But I believe God connected us and this message needs to get out.”

Ellison embraced the vision, and what followed was an unprecedented growth.

“We went on over 700 radio stations within a year and a half,” says Ellison.

To put that in perspective, Ellison said, other established Christian programs had only reached 250 to 300 stations over decades. “Jimmy did it in five years,” he said.

Beyond Radio to Television

With radio now conquered, Ellison turned his attention to TV, introducing Kenneth to weekly television broadcasting—another available voice.

One of the most significant milestones came through large-scale broadcast events, including global Communion services like the World Communion Service. The service, conducted via satellite in August 1982, brought

together churches in 200 locations in the United States and 11 other countries, including South Korea, for a first-ever worldwide simultaneous Communion.

“There were over a million people who saw the service,” says Ellison. “At a time when satellite distribution was still developing, these broadcasts positioned Kenneth Copeland as a global voice.”

In the years since, KCM has stepped up to explore and take advantage of a number of social media platforms, acknowledging them all as available voices by which we are fulfilling the 1975 mandate to preach the Word of Faith on every available voice!

Michael Ellison’s impact on Christian media cannot be overstated. From representing Jimmy Swaggart to launching Kenneth Copeland across hundreds of stations, his work helped redefine what is possible in Christian outreach.

Through Ellison Media, he continues to help shape how ministries approach broadcasting on radio and TV—combining faith, strategy and measurable results. In recent years, Ellison has also become engaged in a mission of wellness through establishing TriVita Wellness—a wellness company dedicated to helping people experience an abundant life through daily habits, nature-

inspired nutrition, and whole-person health. The company views health as more than the absence of disease—it’s about vitality, purpose, joy and alignment with God’s design (for more information, go online to trivita.com).

Ellison’s insight, boldness and willingness to act on potential turned a growing ministry into a global voice. And it all began with one simple conviction: “This message needs to get out.”



Testimonies of Real-Life VICTORY

Destined for Greatness

I love receiving my Victory magazine—it is so inspirational. My favorite part is the real-life testimonies; they are truly encouraging. I believe God has a plan for my life and that I am destined for greatness. As Kenneth says, “In your hands you hold the Book that can bring that destiny to pass.” This Book has changed the destinies of men and women from prison to throne rooms, and from

bar rooms to banquet halls. It’s not the ink or the paper that does it, but God’s Word planted in their hearts and confessed from their mouths. My responsibility is to make the decision and put the Word first. The decision is mine. I choose life! Remember, Jesus is Lord! I shared this message with my cellmate, and he found it powerful as well.

A.P. | Ontario

God is Always on Time

Thank you for praying with me for my son and for his financial needs. I’ve been believing God for increase and favor in his life, and he has received a raise at work. Praise the Lord!

M.S. | Ontario

Accepted and Blessed

I had been standing in faith, believing God for finances and favour for my daughter as she pursued her dream of getting into dental school. During that time, I called the KCM Prayer Team, and together we stood on God’s Word

in faith and prayer. Today, I am so grateful and blessed to share that my daughter was accepted into dental school and received a \$25,000 scholarship. God is faithful, and His favour is real. Prayer works!

N.M. | Alberta

The Power of Praise

I had been struggling with employment, so I called the KCM prayer team. A prayer minister encouraged me to begin praising God ahead of time, so I took that to heart and spent the evening doing just that. Soon after, I received three callbacks for job opportunities. I’m so grateful for God’s faithfulness and the power of praise. Praise the Lord!

J.L. | Quebec

Better Than Expected

I’m so thankful to share that my husband’s stomach surgery went very well. I called the KCM prayer team, and they stood in faith with me for a speedy recovery and for everything to go perfectly. The surgery only took one hour instead of the two

hours that were originally expected, which is such a blessing. I’m so grateful for how well everything went and for God’s faithfulness through it all. Praise the Lord! And thank you, KCM family, for your prayers.

G.S. | Ontario

Faith, Favor, and First Place

I spoke with a KCM prayer minister asking for prayer for some horse shows I was going to compete in. One of the prayer ministers stood with me in faith, praying for protection, peace, and favour over the entire event.

I wanted to call back and share this testimony of God’s goodness. At the horse show, my horse, Atti, and I won six first-place medals along with several other awards, and everyone stayed safe and unharmed throughout the event. I am so grateful for God’s protection, favour, and faithfulness over every detail.

D.B. | Manitoba

Do You Know Jesus?

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

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

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

Prayer is Our Priority.

If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision.

Call or go to kcmcanada.ca/salvation. We have a Free Gift to help you begin your new life in Jesus!

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6 a.m.-4 p.m. PT, Mon.-Fri.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE AUGUST



“There are 8.3 billion people on planet Earth, and with today’s technology we have the ability to reach them all. But if we want it to happen in our lifetime, we *have* to advance.”

During a conversation I once had with the Lord, I said, “Lord, what would You have me to do this year?”

The Lord replied with a question: *If you could define Christianity in one word, what would it be?*

I stood up and began pacing.

I thought a good answer might be “healing,” or “the Holy Ghost” or “salvation.” But the Lord beat me to it.

Advancement, He said. *I love babies, but I expect them to grow up.*

Then He added, *The whole armor of God is for your front. There’s nothing for your back because you never turn around and you always go forward.*

That reminded me of Jesus’ last words: “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). That’s advancement!

There are 8.3 billion people on planet Earth, and with today’s technology we have the ability to reach them all. But if we want it to happen in our lifetime,

we *have* to advance.

What would God have me do this year? The answer was clear: *Advance*.

Advance In What Really Matters

The goal of Christianity is to advance.

Word of Faith people get this. We believe for things we can’t see. We have a deep desire to move forward in life, in ministry and in the Word. The key is that we must advance in things that really matter.

I’ll never forget when I heard the Lord say to me one day, *Jesse, make Me wealthy.*

It nearly stopped me in my tracks.

I said, “Uh...God? It looks like You’re doing pretty well. I mean, You own the universe. You’ve got gold streets and no shortage of diamonds, jasper, onyx or rubies.”

I don’t count My wealth that way, Jesse, He

replied. *I count My wealth by the number of souls I possess. I told you to go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature. That's how I create My wealth: through people.*

If you and I want to advance—really advance—it means reaching the world around us. Remember, the only Jesus many people will ever see is the Jesus in you and me. We are each a representative of who Christ is, and must reflect Him in all we do.

Advance With the Holy Spirit

To advance and be a reflection of His love, we don't need help from anyone but the Holy Ghost.

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). The Holy Spirit is our Helper. We should be following Him and stepping in His footsteps.

In Philippians 3:13, the Apostle Paul specifically says how he relied on the Holy Ghost: "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

That's very revealing. Paul advanced in his life through doing those two things: forgetting the past and reaching toward the future. Sadly, most believers never do either.

He continues, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect [or mature], be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you" (verses 14-15, emphasis mine). In other words, the Holy Spirit isn't going to leave us in the dark. We will know *what* to do, *when* to do it, *where* to do it, and *how* to do it—no matter what happens—when we're following the Holy Ghost.

We should never say we can't do something! We have to believe the unbelievable. We have to receive the impossible. Why? Because in Christ, it's *all* doable. All we've got to do is get in line and start advancing.

Advance for the Future

Advancement isn't about the here and now. It's about the future. We advance into the future. As Paul said, we're "reaching forth." So, as a believer, the first thing you need to do is create *with your mouth* an atmosphere, or a channel, through which you advance toward the future.

"Your future is at stake, so don't hang around people who want to drag you down or undermine your faith with words of doubt. You know better."

What do you believe about your future? What do you believe about your advancement? What are you willing to do? What are you willing to receive?

Your future is at stake, so don't hang around people who want to drag you down or undermine your faith with words of doubt. You know better. Commit to speak God's Word and pray God's Word. That is what Paul meant when he said, "I press toward the mark." You advance when your faith is activated. Advancement brings revelation, revelation brings inspiration, and inspiration produces manifestation.

Most people's faith is dormant, and that's why they're stuck in place. You have to agree with the Word, even the parts you may not like, such as "Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you" (Luke 6:28). No one *wants* to do that. But if you want your faith activated—if you want to advance—that's exactly what you'll do.

Advance Through Tough Times

Of course, advancement isn't always easy.

We all face times when we don't know what to do. There are times we don't know how to advance. That's not the time to seek out other people's opinions, to try and get a "word" from someone. Instead, that's when you must pull on the power that's within. Instead of seeking a "word," go to *the* Word. Then, when someone gives you a word, what you'll hear is simply confirmation that you're on the right path. No matter what life throws at you, the God inside of you will not crack or break.

There came a point when I realized I could only go as far as my own intelligence and talent could take me. Then I got saved and realized I could go as far as God goes! If you're going through tough times, it may sound like an old Texas cliché, but it's true: *Tough times don't last; tough people do.*

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Stand on your foundation, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

Advance With Vision

When you understand that the goal of Christianity is to advance, something happens. When you advance, a quickening power of vision comes upon you—as well as the energy to act on it.

God is not just telling you to do something you can't do. He's broadening your vision. Before you know it, you'll be able to advance inwardly, outwardly and upwardly.

Advance Inwardly

You must advance inwardly. You must recognize the presence of God in you. I'll never forget the first time—35 years ago—when I heard Kenneth Copeland say, "God loves me as much as He loves Jesus."

I thought, *No way that's true*. But of course, it was. Brother Copeland had advanced inwardly. I hadn't. I still had to receive the revelation, inspiration and manifestation to understand that God loved me that much.

Advancing inwardly means you recognize the presence of God in you.

Sometimes when I'm out having a meal with someone, they may say to me, "Jesse, you're a great tipper." I reply, "I am because I have Christ in me, the hope of glory...and He's not broke!"

Sometimes my tips are bigger than the cost of the meal. I just like being a blessing. And so many times that opens the door for me to be a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ. Prosperity does that. To the person receiving, it's a money thing. But to me, it's a God thing. Money is just one small facet of prosperity, and you recognize revelation like that when you advance inwardly.

Advance Outwardly

You must also advance outwardly, because people notice you from the outside. But you can't advance outwardly if you're carrying excess baggage.

Hebrews 12:1 says, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." You can't advance if you're carrying weights and sin.

You *must* lay those things aside so when others see you, they see your advancement.

There have been so many times when I've been believing for something for my ministry and the devil has tried to mess with me. Suddenly, out of the blue, someone from the bank will call and say, "Reverend, we know your finances. It's in the bank. Go buy the plane. We know you can handle the note." But again, 35 years ago, Brother Copeland preached something to me that hit me like a ton of bricks. He preached Romans 13:8: "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another."

Ever since I heard that, everything I've ever done has been cash—my car, my home, everything. I won't carry any weight, like debt, because I want to advance outwardly, and people take notice.

Advance Upwardly

Finally, you must advance upwardly. Colossians 3:1-2 says, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

"Things above" are things that are of supreme importance to God. When you preach, you don't preach for money; you preach because your affection is set on things above. The only two places where money isn't used is in heaven and on "Star Trek," and we should want His will done on earth as it is in heaven. When we do, we're advancing upwardly.

What is God saying to you? What would He have you do this year? I believe it's His will for you to advance in every way possible. Inwardly, outwardly and upwardly, this is your year to be a reflection of Jesus and set your future in motion. He's with you. Now, Christian soldier, *advance!* 🙌

Jesse Duplantis is president and founder of Jesse Duplantis Ministries, with international headquarters in Louisiana and offices in the U.K. and Australia. For ministry materials and information, visit jdm.org

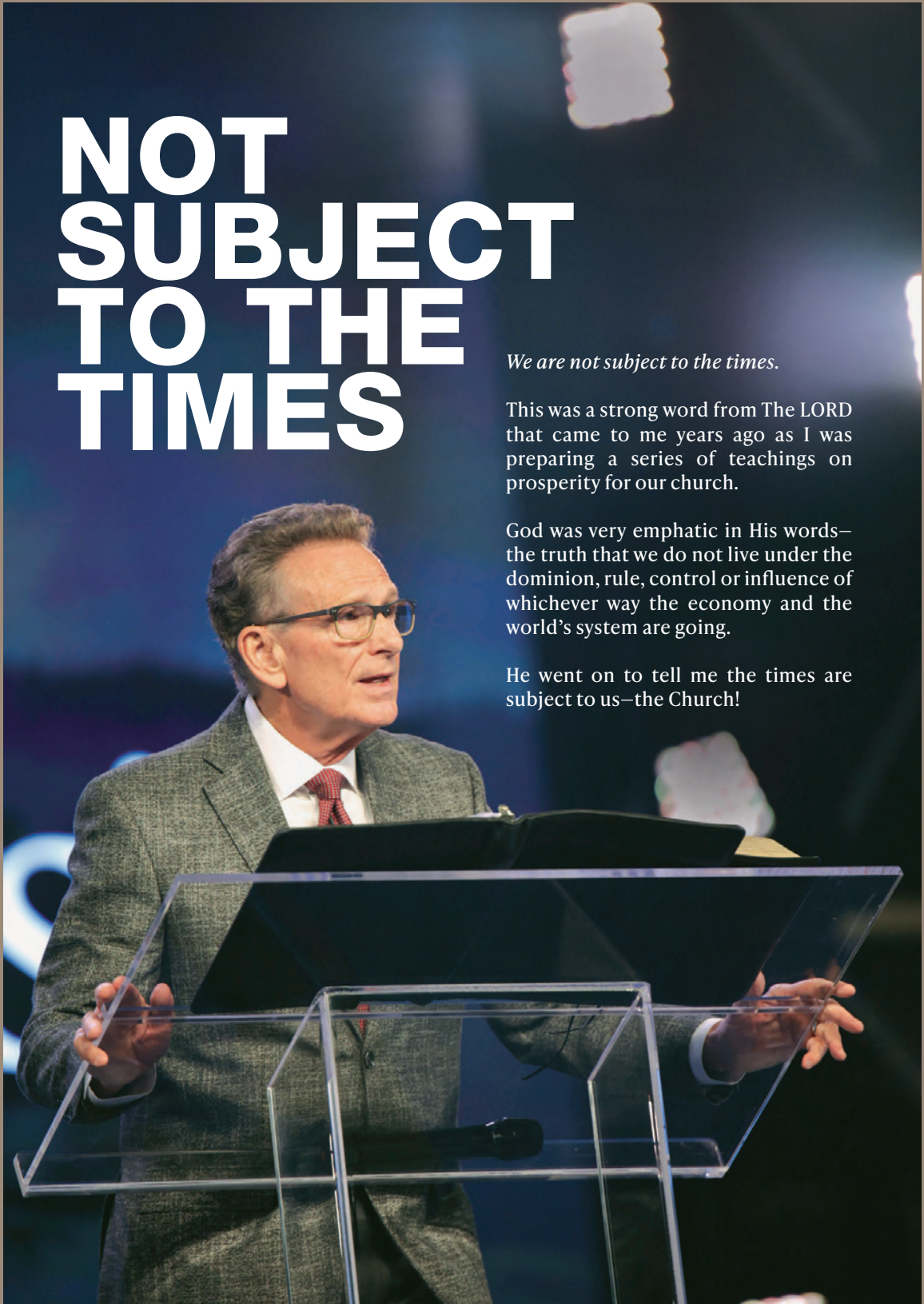
NOT SUBJECT TO THE TIMES

We are not subject to the times.

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

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

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



The times we are in are subject to the authority of God's WORD, the blood and the Name of Jesus that we activate through our Faith. Why? Because we are subject to and governed by another economy and another system—the kingdom of God.

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

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

Separated From the World's Failing System

We are to thrive and not just survive.

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

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

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

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

Matthew 6:13 says, "...deliver us from evil."

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

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

Jesus then asks the Father in John 17:17 to "sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is

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

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

The Wall of Redemption

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

If thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground whereon they are. And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

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

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

How does this apply to us now?

Look at Galatians 3:13-14: "Christ hath

"The ultimate purpose of our prosperity is to reach out to others. We need to be ready to receive them and assist them in building their new lives in Christ."



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

redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

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

Because of Him, we prosper!

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

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

Same Conditions—Different Results

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

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

Now, here comes the wall of redemption:

“But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”

Do you see that? Same conditions, different results.

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

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

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

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

Everything Is Going To Be ALL Right!

The LORD gave a very powerful word through Kenneth Copeland in 2010. In part, He said: *The world is in serious trouble. Some very hard things are coming in different places around the world. They are that way now, but they will not get better. They will continue to*

get worse and worse and worse. It is on a downhill run that the world cannot stop. But, for the household of Faith, everything is going to be all right. Everything is going to be all right.

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

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

Stand on this word, and stand on The WORD.

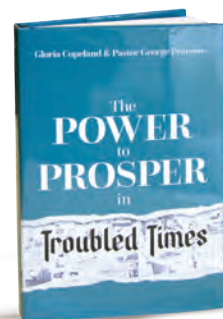
You and I are not subject to the times. We are separated from the world's system and live in the prosperity of God's kingdom of heaven right here on earth.

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

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

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

George Pearsons is senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of KCM. He is also vice president of Kenneth Copeland Bible College, also at KCM. For more information or ministry materials go to emic.org



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Set Apart



God operates on a timetable. Did you know that? All the way through the Bible, He appointed certain dates for important events to happen, and He always kept His appointments. He was never late.

He delivered the Israelites out of Egypt, for instance, exactly when He said He would. After telling Abraham, generations earlier, that He'd deliver them after they'd been afflicted there for 400 years, He brought them out, right on schedule. As Exodus 12:41 says, "Even the selfsame day it came to pass."

If you study the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus, you'll see that God has a timetable where He's concerned, too. There's nothing spur-of-the-moment about Jesus' first and second comings. He always keeps the Father's schedule.

He was born on a certain day.

He was crucified on a certain day.

He was resurrected on a certain day.

And He is coming back on a certain day!

He isn't sitting up in heaven right now thinking, *I wonder if this would be a good time for the Rapture*. No, that date has already been set. God has put it on His calendar, and when that day arrives Jesus will appear to us in the clouds. He'll keep His appointment and come back for His Church.

What He finds us doing when He gets here will be our choice. But the New Testament makes it clear that before He arrives, Jesus will have a group of people on this earth who have consecrated themselves to Him. He'll have a



group of obedient, faithful people who are walking in the power of God, doing signs and wonders, and bringing in the great end-time harvest of souls.

I intend to be part of that group, don't you?

I don't want Jesus to come back and find me born again but still thinking and talking and acting like the world. I want Him to find me separated from the world and living for Him—spirit, soul and body. I want Him to find me fitting the description of the Church in Ephesians 5:27: "glorious...not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but... holy and without blemish."

"Well," someone might say, "that's a nice goal but it's not realistic. As long as we're living in this fallen world, none of us can really be holy."

Yes, we can! In fact, as believers, we already are holy. Our old, sinful inner man has died, and we've become partakers of God's holy nature. We've been cut out from the world, redeemed by God, and set apart unto Him.

That's why the New Testament refers to us time and again as *saints*. Translated from the Greek word *hagios*, the word *saint* means "one who is sanctified or set apart for deity." It quite literally means "a holy one."

Saint isn't a religious title that gets bestowed on a person after he or she dies, because a group of people decides the person is worthy and votes to give it to him. Saints are just people who have put their faith in Jesus and received Him as their Lord and Savior. They are simply people who have been separated unto God through the new birth.

Everyone of us, as believers, are saints! We just need to live like it. We need to let who we are on the inside show on the outside, by doing what

God says and obeying the instructions He gave us in the Bible—instructions like what’s written in 1 Peter 1:13-15: “Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct” (*New King James Version*).

Be His Special Treasure

God has always wanted to have a people who would live that way. He’s always dreamed of having sons and daughters who would come out from among the people of the world and be His holy treasure; who would obey His voice and let Him be God in their lives.

He spoke to the Israelites about it back in the Old Testament. After He delivered them from Pharaoh’s army, God said: “Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation” (Exodus 19:4-6).

Notice, God said He freed the Israelites from Egyptian bondage so He could bring them to Himself. He didn’t just bring them out to get them to the Promised Land. He wanted them to be able to worship Him freely, to walk and talk with Him and experience His manifested presence.

That’s always been God’s heart. As Andrew Murray wrote, “The Father longs to have back again the man He lost in Paradise.” He longs to

enjoy once again the closeness of relationship He had with His family in the Garden of Eden. Restoring that relationship is what the whole Bible is about! It’s about God getting His family back. It’s about Him redeeming His people so that He can fellowship with them in all His holy glory, without that glory coming into contact with their fallen nature and killing them.

To the degree it was possible under the Old Covenant, that’s what God had planned all those thousands of years ago for the Israelites. He planned to come visit them in person! As He said to Moses: “Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee.... Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, and be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai” (verses 9-11).

To me, those instructions parallel what God is saying to us in the Church today. He’s saying to us as New Covenant believers, “Be ready! For I’m coming down in great glory to manifest Myself among you and through you in signs and wonders.”

We’ve already seen Him do that to some extent. Just in the past couple of years, we’ve been seeing more miracles and greater displays of the presence of God. As we get closer to the return of Jesus, those things are going to increase. The manifested power and glory of God in the Church is going to get intense, and we need to be ready for it.

We don’t need to be messing around with sin, and talking and acting like the world. We need to be living a sanctified lifestyle and keeping our spiritual clothes washed. We need to be living by faith in Jesus, and walking in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7).

Otherwise, we’ll be like the Israelites were at Mount Sinai. They missed out on the wonderful experience God had planned for them. Because they weren’t ready to meet with Him, they didn’t get to behold His glory and hear His marvelous voice. Instead, they ran away from Him. They got scared because when He

KEY POINTS

Holiness is one of the marks of the glorious Church in these last days. (Eph. 5:27)

The more you draw near to God, the more He can manifest His glory and His power in your life. (Jas. 4:8)

As a believer, you are already holy on the inside because Jesus made you holy when you were born again. (1 Cor. 1:30)

Today, God is telling us to get ready for Jesus’ second coming. And He’s saying much the same thing He said to the Israelites before He came to meet them in the wilderness. (Ex. 19:11)

All you have to do now is act on the outside like who you already are on the inside. (1 Pet. 1:15)

“SAINT ISN'T A
RELIGIOUS *title* THAT
GETS BESTOWED ON A
PERSON AFTER HE OR
SHE DIES. SAINTS ARE
JUST PEOPLE WHO HAVE
PUT *their faith* IN JESUS
AND RECEIVED HIM AS
THEIR LORD AND SAVIOR.”

began to manifest Himself in this natural realm: “There were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.... And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly” (Exodus 19:16, 18).

Take the Limits Off

“Gloria, are you saying God is about to manifest Himself that way in our day?”

No, I’m saying He’s about to finish what He started in Acts 2, and “show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath” (verse 19). He’s about to “pour out of [His] Spirit upon all flesh” (verse 17) in the greatest move of God this world has ever seen. When that outpouring of the Spirit hits its apex, people are going to meet God in ways they haven’t before. They’re going to feel and see and experience Him even

with their natural bodies, and multitudes are going to come to Jesus.

I believe the time is coming when some churches will have to stay open 24 hours a day because people will constantly be coming to get born again, healed and delivered. I believe a time is coming when the glory of God is going to roll into many churches like a cloud (2 Chronicles 5:13), and it will be so thick people won’t even be able to see each other through it. Folks will hear about it and come to those churches from all around just to see what’s happening.

Oh, just think of what God has for us in these last days! It’s going to be thrilling, and I want to be right in the middle of it. I want to be part of that group that Acts 2 says will be prophesying, seeing visions, dreaming dreams and walking in the power of God.

I’m sure you do too—and you can be! All you have to do is dedicate yourself 100% to the Lord. All you have to do is put Him first place in your life.

In a nutshell, that’s what He told the Israelites to do at Mount Sinai. When He spoke to them

about how to walk in His presence and His blessings, the first command He gave them was, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exodus 20:3).

The Israelites could never consistently keep that command back then, because they weren’t born again like we, as believers, are today. They were still under the dominion of sin, so they kept wandering away from God and worshipping other gods. Even so, God still made a way for them to come back to Him. Even under the Old Covenant, He set up a system of animal sacrifices to atone for their sins and make it possible for them to draw near to Him once again.

God didn’t set up those sacrifices because He wanted to punish the Israelites. He didn’t do it because He wanted them to give up something for Him or because He thought they should suffer some kind of loss. That concept springs from the English definition of the word *sacrifice*. The Hebrew word *korban*, which is translated *sacrifice* in the Bible, means something very different. It quite simply means “to draw near.”

God has always wanted His people to draw near to Him! It’s why He sent Jesus to offer Himself on the cross as “one sacrifice for sins for ever” (Hebrews 10:12). It’s why, when we made Jesus the Lord of our lives, He washed our sins away with His precious blood, and made us righteous with His own righteousness.

He wanted us to be able to live in unbroken fellowship with Him and be His own special people. He wanted us to be able to love Him above all, walk with Him, and obey His voice. He wanted us to draw near to Him so He can draw near to us (James 4:8).

There are no limits to what God can do through us if we’ll do that. The only thing that limits the flow of His power and glory in our lives is how much we give ourselves to Him. That’s why He’s saying to us what He said to the Israelites: “Don’t have any other gods before Me.”

Having other gods isn’t just worshipping

idols. It isn’t just committing big sins like adultery or murder. It’s anything that gets in the way of obeying God.

It might just be giving in to your own fleshly preferences, for instance. It might simply be drawing back from something God puts on your heart because you don’t particularly want to do it.

I remember some years ago, I got into that situation when the Lord spoke to me about making the closing remarks and praying for people at the end of our Russian television broadcasts. I’d previously delegated that responsibility to one of our prayer ministers, but the Holy Spirit let me know He was delegating it to me! I didn’t like the idea of spending more time in the television studio, so I kept procrastinating. I’d say, “Lord, I am going to do that,” but then I wouldn’t follow through.

After about six months I really got under conviction about it. I realized I was putting my own desires before God’s, so I repented and recorded those closes. Afterward I felt so good! I can’t tell you how happy I was to be rid of that disobedience. It had hindered my fellowship with God.

This is why God tells us to be holy in all our conduct and manner of living. For those of us who love Him, walking in holiness means walking in happiness. It isn’t a burden, it’s a blessing. Even when it looks in the natural like putting Him first place is going to cost us, in the end it always pays in blessing.

So, let’s go for it 100%! Let’s remove from our lives everything that we know displeases the Lord. Let’s do those things He’s spoken to us about in our hearts and do them quickly, because time is running out.

Jesus is coming soon, and when He gets here, we don’t want Him to find us off wandering around out there in the world. We want Him to find us drawing near to Him and doing our part in this last, great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We want Him to find us shining with His power and occupying our place in His glorious Church! 🙏



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