

VICTORY

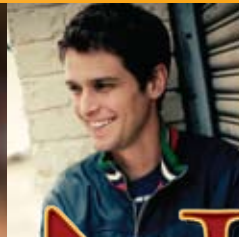
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July 2008



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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 35 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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Really LIVE THROUGH JESUS!

While ministering in the Far East in 2007, Gloria and I met an extremely successful pastor and businessman from unusually humble beginnings. This man had started out peddling toilet paper from a bicycle truck for a living.

Now in most Western economies, that does not sound like a career with much of a future. But where this man was born and raised, you earned a living doing whatever your father did. He did what *his* father did, who did what *his* father did, and so on.

“That’s what I did, and what I had planned to do the rest of my life,” he told us, pointing to one of the several trikes with carrier boxes his family had used to transport and sell goods. “That’s what I thought even after I found out about Jesus and made Him Lord of my life. I was

satisfied, from what I’d been told, that if you made Jesus the Lord of your life, then you’d get poorer the rest of your life.”

Then something happened. He found out about the word of faith. He got hold of our books and tapes, and some books by Kenneth Hagin, and began to learn who he really was in Christ Jesus. He found out about the privileges and rights available to him as a joint heir with Christ.

We rejoiced with him as he showed us a picture of the latest of several new homes. Today, he owns several businesses and is an overseer—or bishop—to an unknown number of churches representing more than a million people.

By every definition, he has become a prosperous man—one who has the ability to use the power of God to meet any need: spirit, soul or body. *To prosper* means “to be able to meet any need that exists in humanity with the power of God, and meet it to overflowing abundance.”

This is not an American doctrine. It is God’s goodness at work. It is a law that works the same for anyone, anytime. It is THE BLESSING in action.

This powerful man of God has learned to live through Christ.

DESIGNED TO LIVE THROUGH CHRIST

This man has discovered what the Apostle John wrote about in his first epistle: “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, *that we might live through him*” (1 John 4:9).

That is an absolutely outstanding statement. It means anyone on this planet can live in and become a distributor of THE BLESSING, if he or she will learn the secret of living through Christ. Not just enjoying the *blessings*, but living in the reality of *THE BLESSING*—God’s original, never-changing dream He first spoke to Adam: “Be fruitful...multiply...replenish...subdue...and have dominion...” (Genesis 1:28) as vessels of Love in action.

In recent years, the Body of Christ has gained some understanding of what living through Jesus means. Living through Jesus means much more than receiving eternal life through Him. For a long time, that’s the only thing I thought 1 John 4:9 referred to. I thought, *Yes, through Jesus we became born again and received eternal life. That is what it means to live through Him.*

But there is so much more to it!

Think about what it means to live *through* someone else. Imagine a child born to parents who absolutely do not want him—who just walk off and leave him at the mercy of the hospital. The doctors, nurses and administrative

staff don’t even know the child’s name. That child has no life—no heritage, nurture or connection with his natural parents. No parents. No family. No one to love, comfort, teach and help him through life.

Then a loving, Christian couple finds out about this little fellow and adopts him.

They lavish their love on him, withholding nothing. The moment those covenant adoption papers are signed, for all practical and legal purposes, that baby has been “reborn.” He has a new name, and with it an inheritance and a future.

Now he is living his life “through” his new parents, their heritage and provision. Through them, he is given every opportunity to live and dream and have the spiritual, emotional and physical provision to fulfill a destiny he could never have dreamed of.

As born-again believers, you and I have been given totally new lives through Jesus. And just as with that adopted child, it all starts for us with a completely new name.

We are called by the Name of Jesus—the new name Hebrews 1:4 says “he hath by inheritance obtained”—a name that is “a more excellent name than [the angels].” The Apostle Paul called it the “name which is above every name” (Philippians 2:9).

That is the name by which you and I are called (Ephesians 3:14-15). We live through the authority and benefits of the Name of Jesus. We are joint heirs with the One who has been appointed “heir of all things” (Hebrews 1:2; Romans 8:16-17). That is blessing beyond measure!

PRIESTS UNDER HIS PRIESTHOOD

In His Name is His authority and ministry to us as Lord.

But what we are just beginning to understand in more fullness is His ministry to us as High Priest.

Look at how Hebrews describes Jesus’ ministry to us both as Lord and High Priest:

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself

hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour [help, aid and assist] them that are tempted. Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus... (Hebrews 2:14-18, 3:1).

Jesus destroyed the power of death Satan had used as a weapon against man, delivering us from the bondage that came from the fear of death. Then as the merciful and faithful High Priest, He made reconciliation for our sins.



everything is richer with THE BLESSING

Ever feel like your day-to-day job, your ministry and your household are entrenched in the rat race of the world? Here's good news: As a believer, you don't have to live that way. Life can be a rich, rewarding and fulfilling experience...and it starts with THE BLESSING!

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Jesus is not just Lord over the curse, He is also High Priest over THE BLESSING! He is the One who administers THE BLESSING without measure to every man, woman and child who will by faith allow Him.

The Apostle Peter wrote that as born-again believers we are "a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9). We are priests under the priesthood of our High Priest. The Apostle John said Jesus has "made us kings and priests unto God" (Revelation 1:5-6).

So how do we start living through the high priestly ministry of Jesus?

By doing what Hebrews 3:1 instructs: "*Consider* the Apostle and *High Priest* of our profession, Christ Jesus." In other words, consider what it means that Jesus is High Priest of our profession.

The word translated *profession* here means "saying the same thing." In this verse, it could be translated *confession*.

Think about this in terms of how we use the term *professional*. A professional is someone who gets paid for what he does, such as a doctor, lawyer, teacher, athlete or businessman. We could say someone's profession is how he earns a living—his method of receiving, gaining, adding to his life.

Most believers either have jobs, are believing for jobs, or are believing for better jobs. But let me ask you this: Is the believer's occupation his primary way of receiving his needs met and adding to his life? No. That is the role of faith. The truth is, you receive all those things—salvation, healing, the meeting of emotional and financial needs—by faith *through* Christ. Jesus is High Priest of our profession—our words of faith. That is how THE BLESSING comes in and on us, and that is how we walk out the fullness of it.

We are faith professionals! And as faith professionals we recognize that Jesus is not appointed High Priest over just the words that come out of our mouths. He is appointed and anointed to be High Priest over God's Word in our hearts *and* in our mouths—our saying in faith "the same thing" He has already said.

Hebrews 3:2 says He was "faithful to him that appointed him," and Hebrews 1:3 says He upholds all things by the word of His power. To be upheld by His ministry as high priest, get on the Word. Speak it. Stand on it. Don't let it depart from your mouth.

WHAT WORDS ARE YOU GIVING HIM?

His role as High Priest of our confession gives us an indication of what kind of words He's upholding when we speak.

For one thing, He is not High Priest over words of fear, words of doubt or words of unbelief. We already

read in Hebrews 2:14-16 that through death, Jesus destroyed the one that had the power of death and delivered us who were in bondage to the fear of death and every fear that proceeds from it. That is His ministry as Lord.

Verse 17 tells us why He did it: "In all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

Did you get that?

Not only is Jesus High Priest over our words, He is also High Priest over things pertaining to God's plan of reconciling us to Himself. From the moment man fell in the Garden of Eden, God's plan was always to get THE BLESSING back to the highest object of His creation. He entrusted that to His own Son. Christ has "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 (or come on the rest of us)..." (Galatians 3:13-14).

How?

"...through Jesus Christ."

Through the high priestly ministry of Jesus—anointed and appointed to bring to pass THE BLESSING of God in our hearts and out our mouths—we are released to take God's love to every corner of this earth. That is why it is so important we "hold fast our profession" (Hebrews 4:14).

Like I said, if you are going to be upheld by the ministry of Jesus, you must get into God's Word and put His words in your mouth. Those are the words He has sworn to the Father He would uphold.

He can't uphold words of fear and self-pity. If He did, most of us would be broke or dead in no time at all. Our negative confessions would require Him to do something outside the boundaries of what He's anointed and called to do.

He also cannot uphold words that would have Him redo what He has already accomplished as Lord. Don't beg Him to do what He has already done and already purchased for us by the stripes on His back and His victory over death and hell. Instead, declare His authority and victory over things that proceed from death and fear.

Jesus is Lord over sin and death, and He is High Priest over the law of the spirit of life (Romans 8:2). He is Lord over fear, He is High Priest over faith. He is Lord over sickness and disease, and High Priest over divine healing and health. He is Lord over poverty and

High Priest over prospering in God in all ways of life.

Move beyond those crisis cries of "Lord, help me!" and enter in to His ministry of releasing THE BLESSING as High Priest of our confession. As High Priest, He is the minister—or administrator—of all things pertaining to THE BLESSING for you and for me.

Jesus is High Priest over those words God first spoke to Adam: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion..." (Genesis 1:28). He is High Priest over those same words spoken in covenant by God and through the high priest Melchizedek concerning Abraham: "And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth" (Genesis 14:19), "...all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him" (Genesis 18:18).

And as High Priest, Jesus is making that same covenant promise come to pass in the life of every believer who will receive it.

MINISTERS TO HIS WORLD

We are not called primarily to minister to ourselves or to get our needs met. Jesus has made us "kings and priests unto God and his Father" (Revelation 1:6). We have the same calling, the same anointing, the same name—everything—Jesus has on Him. We are called as priests unto Him. In His Name and in Him, we have His authority over death, so we lord over sickness. We lord over disease. And that is *not* in ourselves, but in His lordship. As priests under His priesthood, we are called—anointed, supplied, empowered—to minister THE BLESSING to others.

Letting Jesus manifest Himself in us and through us is our goal in life. Our mission is to take His Love to a lost and dying world; to take His light into places that now are dim and dark; to take His Word into places where ear has never heard what God has in store for those who love Him.

We're called to go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. If we lay hands on the sick, they'll recover. When we cast out devils, Jesus will be with us. As we declare what He has said, He will confirm and perform His Word in us. He is High Priest of God's Word spoken in faith out of our mouths.

This whole universe is subject to THE BLESSING in the hearts and on the lips of those who will make it their profession.

Go.
And take the Garden with you.
That is *really* living—*through Jesus!* VICTORY



Julie & Rick Carlson



Never Too Late FOR A MIRACLE

The persistent jangle of an alarm clock jarred Julie Carlson awake and she swung her legs off the bed. Her feet and ankles screamed with pain as she tied her robe and started breakfast. A 29-year-old wife and mother of two young daughters, Julie enjoyed good health and taught an aerobics class at church. *I must need a new pair of aerobics shoes*, she thought as she called the family to breakfast, wincing with each step.

When a new pair of shoes didn't stop the pain, Julie put a pad over the cement floor where she taught her aerobics class. Instead of subsiding, the pain moved up to her knees, hips and wrists. The family doctor thought she might have bone spurs or bruises, but when he examined her, he couldn't find anything wrong.

A woman in church listened to Julie's symptoms. "Sounds like you have rheumatoid arthritis," she said.

"But I'm only 29!" Julie exclaimed.

At the woman's urging, Julie went to see a specialist who diagnosed her with degenerative rheumatoid arthritis and prescribed anti-inflammatory drugs. Despite the treatment, the pain got worse, burning through Julie's joints like brush fire.

A few weeks later, the doctor was stunned when he examined Julie. "I can't find a single joint in your body that doesn't have arthritis!" He gave her cortisone shots in her shoulders and knees.

Although the cortisone shots gave her temporary relief, the disease destroyed her joints at such a relentless rate the pain became intolerable. At night, Julie had to wake her husband, Rick, to pull the sheet up over her body. Her gnarled hands could no longer manage that simple task.

Julie's transformation from a healthy, vibrant, young mother to a cripple suffering mind-numbing pain was so overwhelming, Rick's parents went with them to her next appointment. "I'm going to give you a blast of steroids that will make you feel better for about 10 days," the doctor told Julie before motioning Rick and his father into the hall.

"Look," the doctor said, "this is overtaking her body so quickly I can't keep up with it. If you have any plans for a vacation, I'd go as soon as possible and enjoy her while you can," he advised.

"The disease...the pain...the medication...will take her life."

Extreme Drugs or Extreme Faith

"My dad and I just stood in the hall and hung on to each other," Rick recalls. "We were devastated. It was hard enough to watch Julie suffer, but to realize she was dying was too much to bear. Julie and I met when we were 5 years old, and we'd been raised in the same church. We were best friends in high school and college sweethearts. She was my wife, the mother of my children and my best friend; life without her was inconceivable.

Steroids gave Julie a new lease on life for a while, then she would slip back into the same situation with pain that was beyond enduring. At her next appointment, the doctor offered her a new, extreme drug to reduce the pain. The potential side effects included infertility, cataracts and blindness.

"Although we were Christians, we didn't make it a matter of prayer," Rick remembers. "The church where we'd been raised had believed in prayer with the stipulation 'if it be Thy will.' Although the teaching had since changed, those old mind-sets were so strong in us, we just assumed this *was* God's will."

When they told family members about Julie's decision to take the extreme drug, they got a surprising response from Julie's sister, Penny. "You don't have to do that!" Penny exclaimed. "You can be healed!" Penny had come across some teaching tapes by a woman named Gloria Copeland. She was convinced that if Julie would just listen to them she could reclaim her health.

When There Is Nothing Left to Lose

Although he wanted nothing more than to see his wife healthy, after years of working at a nuclear weapons plant, Rick lived his life by evaluating facts and data. He saw no point in raising unrealistic hopes.

He had relatives, however, whose perspective was more

like Penny’s. His grandfather, for instance, was a man of great faith. Diagnosed with congestive heart failure as a young boy, he had been supernaturally healed and became a pastor at 15. Friends with Brother Kenneth E. Hagin, he had also helped Oral Roberts with his healing services.

Rick took the family to visit his grandfather in Washington. The water off the coast there was frigid, but Julie stood in the freezing waves anyway. It provided temporary relief from the pain in her feet, ankles and knees. Before they left, Rick’s grandfather gave them a tape series by Kenneth Copeland called *Revelation Knowledge*.

Back home, Julie lay on the sofa one sunny July morning watching her children play. Soon the painkillers kicked in and she fell asleep. Later, she woke in a fog. Pulling herself up, she rubbed her face and took stock of her life. *There’s got to be more than this!* she thought. *Surely, God has more for me than this!*

Julie pondered her situation. She could take drugs that might leave her blind, infertile or dead. Or she could trust God.

What have I got to lose?

A New Kind of Medicine

Staggering across the room, Julie found the tapes by Gloria Copeland, a tape player and headphones. Turning on the tapes, Julie was surprised at what she heard. *God wants me to have a full life and healing is already mine? How?*

“I decided that with nothing to lose I wouldn’t just try God’s way 100 percent,” Julie remembers, “I gave it 110 percent. I listened to Gloria’s Healing School tapes around the clock. Many days I passed out from the effects of the drugs and woke to the *click...click...click* of the end of the tape. Each time, I put them in again and started over. As soon as I learned the Bible says God’s Word is medicine to our flesh, I made myself quote healing scriptures every time I took my medication. I decided against taking the extreme drug with all its side effects, so the doctor put me on gold shots to try and control the pain.”

Rick watched as Julie, now nearly bedridden, struggled to stay awake while listening to tapes around the clock. Family members came over to help take care of their two daughters, Candace and Kristel. Rick now fixed dinner and cleaned house.

“I listened to those tapes for so long that I believed,” Julie says. “In spite of the fact I couldn’t get out of bed, I believed I had already received my healing. One of the scriptures that came alive to me was Psalm 91:16 which says, ‘With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.’ I knew God would be faithful to His promise to satisfy me with long life.”

From Pain to Peace

Several times a day Julie made herself walk up the three steps to the kitchen. “By Jesus’ stripes I am healed! Body, line up with God’s Word!” she repeated as she walked victory laps around the kitchen table.

In spite of all she was doing, by the end of October 1989, Julie’s pain had accelerated and was worse than anything she’d ever imagined. On the trip to Denver for her next appointment, Julie propped her head against the car window and closed her eyes against the unrelenting pain.

“How’s your pain?” the doctor asked.

“Unbearable.”

“Where are you hurting?” Julie put her hands on her lower back.

“There aren’t any joints in that area of your back. The pain you’re feeling there is coming from your kidneys! The gold shots are destroying them! Which of your joints hurt?”

Julie searched her memory. She hadn’t had pain anywhere except in her lower back for weeks. How odd. After further testing, Julie’s doctor told her that one of her kidneys was shutting down. She would need to have the kidney removed and almost certainly need a kidney transplant.

Julie continued to listen to God’s Word while the doctors did further testing. November 7, the tests came back. Her kidneys were fine. What’s more, there was no inflammation in any of her joints and Julie was pain free!

“You’ve gone into remission,” the doctor explained. “But don’t have any more children because a pregnancy would pull you out of remission and you’d never recover. If you want more children, adopt.”

A Step of Faith

Julie was healed. She knew it as well as she knew the sun would come up in the east. She *knew* she would never deal with this enemy again. Rick was in awe. In spite of the facts, everything had happened just as Julie said it would. He had his wife back, alive and vibrant. And she wanted another baby.

“I’d always wanted to give Rick a son,” Julie admits. “So we decided to go against the doctor’s advice and have another baby. I conceived and had a normal pregnancy—none of the doctor’s dire predictions came true. I delivered a healthy baby girl and my obstetrician gave us some advice.”

“Don’t get greedy,” the doctor warned. “You’ve got three wonderful daughters, so be happy, and let me tie your tubes.”

Rick and Julie agreed—they would adopt their son. They named their daughter Rikki, after her father. During the procedure to tie Julie’s tubes, the doctor noted her tubes required two hulka clips instead of one.

The Sweet Life

Life at the Carlson home was hectic with three daughters. Rick felt very grateful: for his life, for his healthy



Rick held his son of promise and knew he had a vow to keep.

Several months after Julie’s tubal ligation, she called her obstetrician, a Christian doctor from their church. “Julie, you can’t be pregnant!” his nurse laughed when Julie told her that a home pregnancy test was positive. At the doctor’s office, the shocked doctor reported that a blood test proved Julie was indeed going to have a baby.

April 30, 1993, following a normal pregnancy, Julie delivered a son, Samuel, by C-section. After the delivery, the doctor checked the four clips he’d put on her tubes. The two on one tube were intact. The other two were nowhere to be found. The doctor even X-rayed her pelvic area. They had vanished.

Rick held his son of promise and knew he had a vow to keep. How, he wondered, could he change careers and go to seminary while supporting a family of six? Rick felt the soft skin on Samuel’s cheek and drank in the scent of him. *He’s a God of miracles.*

Fulfilling a Vow

“After Samuel was born, I pulled out the tapes my grandfather had given me of Kenneth Copeland’s teaching on revelation knowledge,” Rick recalled. “I listened to those tapes over and over until I got the revelation of faith. I understood healing and how Julie had obtained it. I knew that when we started our church the flagship would be healing.

“I’d started work at the nuclear weapons plant as a grunt worker, but Julie prayed for favor with each promotion and I was made foreman, then shift manager, then building manager, manager of waste operation, then I negotiated the company’s contract with the union, was made manager of the whole plant and labor manager. Now, the office where I worked was closing its doors. In order to prepare for my next job, the company offered to pay for any training I needed, pay my salary and provide medical benefits while I attended school. In other words, a nuclear power plant paid my way through seminary!”

True to his promise, two years later, Rick moved his family to Wellington, Colo., where they planted River of Life Church. Julie, whose hands had been too gnarled to pull the covers over her at night, learned to play the piano. She has been healed for almost 19 years now, and enjoys running, often entering 3K and 5K races.

“We’d never heard of Kenneth or Gloria Copeland when my sister gave us those healing tapes,” Julie says. “They offered us hope when there was no hope. Today we’re Partners with them because they taught us it’s never too late for a miracle.” **VICTORY**

For more on how to receive healing, see the **Healing and Wholeness Package** offered on page 30.

Partners in Hope...and Healing

Julie Carlson was living on the brink of life and death. She needed hope...and she needed healing. Throwing caution to the wind, Julie partnered in faith with the teaching of the Word and soon discovered her miracle had come. As a result, her life, her husband’s life, and the lives of her children will never be the same.

At Kenneth Copeland Ministries, we don’t take partnership lightly. We know that when someone partners with us, they may need immediate healing, a restored relationship or their finances turned completely around. And that’s what partnership is about: Joining our faith with yours so when we pray for you—each and every day—and when you pray for us, our anointings link together. And suddenly, we can each do far more as a team than either of us could do alone.

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Rikki, Candace, Samuel and Kristel

BY JERRY SAVELLE

the Power of the Prophetic Word

The first words Kenneth Copeland ever spoke to me were prophetic. It was 1969, when I met him at my mother- and father-in-law's house. I had just come from my business and was wearing my Jerry's Paint and Body Shop uniform. My wife, Carolyn, made me remove the cigarettes from my pocket before I walked into the room. I wasn't yet serving the Lord. | I was standing near the back door when Brother Copeland waved at me as he got a glass of water. Thinking that was it, I opened the sliding door, ready to walk back out to my truck when he said, "Wait a minute." I stopped and turned, and then he said to me, **"God is going to prosper you."**

You can't be passive about the prophetic word and expect it to come to pass in your life. Believe is an action word.

Then he finished his water and went back to the bedroom to pray before the service that night. When we returned home, I angrily asked Carolyn, "Have you been talking to that preacher about me?"

She said, "No. I haven't said a word to him about you."

"Then why did he say I'm going to prosper? Did you tell him about my business?"

She shook her head. "I haven't said a word to him about your business."

"Then why did he say God is going to prosper me?"

"Apparently," she said, "God told him to tell you that!"

Not long after that, I surrendered my life to the Lord. But I certainly was not prospering. We were in debt up to our eyeballs and didn't have any solutions. But we got hold of the Word through the Copelands' ministry.

We had the opportunity to watch them live the Word in front of us and watch it work for them. Carolyn and I began to live it, too. Even though we didn't start prospering overnight, we knew on the inside that something had changed. We didn't see ourselves as being in debt for the rest of our lives anymore. We saw ourselves as covenant people. We began to believe the prophetic word.

BELIEVE IS AN ACTION WORD

The Bible has a lot to say about prophetic words. In fact, your entire Bible *is* a prophetic word. It's God-breathed. God moved on men and they wrote as the Holy Spirit inspired. Look at 2 Chronicles 20:20 and you'll see something God specifically said about prophetic words: "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper."

That's a powerful verse. The word *believe* means "to take as being true and real." The word *prosper* can also be translated as *succeed*. So it's literally saying, "Believe His prophets—take what they say as being true and real—and you will succeed."

Why should we take what a prophet says to be true? The answer is in Deuteronomy 18:18. God says, "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth." God said He would personally put His words in the prophet's mouth.

In other words, the true prophetic word does not derive from man, but from God. So when you hear a prophetic word from a true prophet of God, you take it as being real and true, and you refuse to let go of it, then it will come to pass in your life and cause you to succeed.

Now you can't be passive about the prophetic word and expect it to come to pass in your life. *Believe* is an action word. Someone might say, "Well, if it was a true prophetic word, then it will come to pass regardless." No. The Bible said you have to believe it. That's your responsibility.

The Apostle Paul told Timothy, "This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare" (1 Timothy 1:18). Paul was saying that even though the prophetic word had been spoken over Timothy, it was Timothy's responsibility to take that prophetic word and war a good warfare with it. It's not automatic. Timothy had to take action.

Shortly after we heard that first prophetic word from Kenneth Copeland, we went into action. We paid close attention to that word (2 Peter 1:19) and began confessing that God was going to prosper us. Even though we didn't see results right away, we held fast to our confession, kept sowing and acting on the Word of God. Soon, we began to get out of debt. We began to prosper. We began to increase. Doors started opening. Walls started falling. Barriers started coming down and success became a part of our lives.

A PROPHETIC WORD FOR 2008

Now with all that in mind, let me ask you: Are you believing God to open some doors for you?



There's no room for giving up. You need to be unyielding and uncompromising.



Just One Voice

Our nation's history and the history of God are filled with accounts of how one person has the power to affect the destiny of a nation. Caesar Rodney was just such a person. In his story we find out just how important one vote can be. For each of us, it's our God-given right, our privilege and our solemn responsibility to cast our one vote—to make our voice heard.

Caesar Rodney was just one voice. History books scarcely mention his name. He didn't enjoy the notoriety of Thomas Jefferson or Benjamin Franklin. Yet, if you listen today, his voice still echoes from sea to shining sea.

Caesar Rodney's signature is one of the 56 affixed to our Declaration of Independence. But how it got there is a reminder of the power of a single voice...and a lesson in personal responsibility.

It was the summer of 1776, and the delegates to the Continental Congress meeting

in Philadelphia had taken a preliminary vote on the proposed resolution for independence. Twelve of the 13 colonies had either abstained or voted for the resolution. But Delaware's vote was split because Caesar Rodney, one of three delegates from Delaware, was sick with a high fever from malignant cancer.

Recognizing it would surely

mean a bloody war with England, delegates had agreed that in order for the resolution to pass the formal vote, the decision had to be unanimous. Any one of the 13 colonies had the power to silence the Declaration.

With the formal vote scheduled for the next day, Rodney's vote was needed to break the tie. News of the vote made it to his bedside in Dover, Del. Caesar Rodney, feeling the weight of responsibility, rose from his bed, demanded a horse, and began the 80-mile journey.

Early the next afternoon he arrived at Independence Hall just as the vote was being taken. Too weak to dismount and walk inside, he was carried into the Hall of Congress on a stretcher. When General Washington put forth the question, Rodney responded, "I vote for independence."

And with those words the tie was broken. Independence was declared. Caesar Rodney's sense of personal responsibility to be present to vote prevented any possible trip to England for treatment of his cancer, which eventually caused his death.

Yet his legacy is of a single vote which echoes loudly throughout history. **VICTORY**

need to be unyielding and uncompromising. Hebrews 10:23 says, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)." You have to hold fast, no matter what happens.

How long should you hold fast?

Until you don't have to hold fast anymore.

A number of years ago, my dad was in the hospital dying. When I arrived, the doctor told me he probably wouldn't live through the day.

I looked at my dad and said, "Well, Dad, we can go one of two ways. We can believe what *they* say as final authority or we can believe what *God* says as final authority." Those were the only two choices we had. I said, "Your heart is functioning at 20 percent right now. I saw the report. However, what they're saying is not the highest form of reality because the Word says, 'Thy word is true' (Psalm 119:160). So who do you want to agree with?"

He said, "I'm choosing God." My dad was released from the hospital the next morning—not only healed of heart trouble, but also of arthritis! Praise God! And he lived another 15 years. Why? Because we chose to believe what God said. We were steadfast and unwavering.

Paul was that way, too, and that's why he later wrote, "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ" (2 Corinthians 2:14). It may not look like it right now, but God will cause you to triumph. He's working behind the scenes. Present circumstances may suggest otherwise, but you *will* triumph.

So no matter what it looks like, hold fast to the prophetic word. Believe. Take the prophet's word as being true and real. Say, "Doors are opening for me! Walls are coming down! Barriers are coming down! Increase is coming like I've never experienced before! It will come to pass!"

And you will succeed. **VICTORY**

Jerry Savelle is president and founder of Jerry Savelle Ministries International and founding pastor of Heritage of Faith Christian Center. For information or ministry materials write to Jerry Savelle Ministries, P.O. Box 748, Crowley, TX 76036; visit their Web site at www.jerrysavelle.org; or call 817-297-3155.

Are you believing for some walls to come down this year? If so, I have good news: *You have a prophetic word about that.*

In November 2006, during a service at Mac Hammond's church, the Holy Spirit said through Brother Copeland, "In 2007, God will open doors that you have attempted to go through, but to no avail. But now they will be opened to you and no man will be able to shut them."

Not long after that, the Lord said through Brother Copeland: "In 2008, that door's still open. The devil and no man can shut it."

Now I believe Brother Copeland is a true prophet. I surrendered my life to the Lord as a result of the Word he preached. After I was invited to move to Fort Worth and work with him in 1970, I was his

associate minister until the end of 1973. On January 1, 1974, I launched Jerry Savelle Evangelistic Association, now celebrating 34 years of ministry—all partnered with Kenneth Copeland. I know this man of God. I accept what he's said as being true and real.

If you're a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries, then this is for you, too. You are entitled to have every door opened in your life. That was the word of the Lord. *Every door that you've tried to go through to no avail*, God said, *they will be opened to you and no man will be able to shut them.*

Decree that. Declare it. Confess it. Embrace it. Hold onto it. Believe that every door will open, every barrier will come down.

Have you been believing for something for a while, but

not seen your breakthrough? Not every wall or barrier I've been believing to crumble has come down yet, either, but many of them have. And just because the others haven't toppled yet, I'm not giving up.

If you're in that same boat today, where it's already 2008, some doors still haven't opened, and you're not experiencing the kind of increase that God wants you to have, stand steadfast and get ready!

When those doors open, there's no devil that's going to be able to keep us from having what God has promised.

HOLD FAST THROUGH TROUBLE

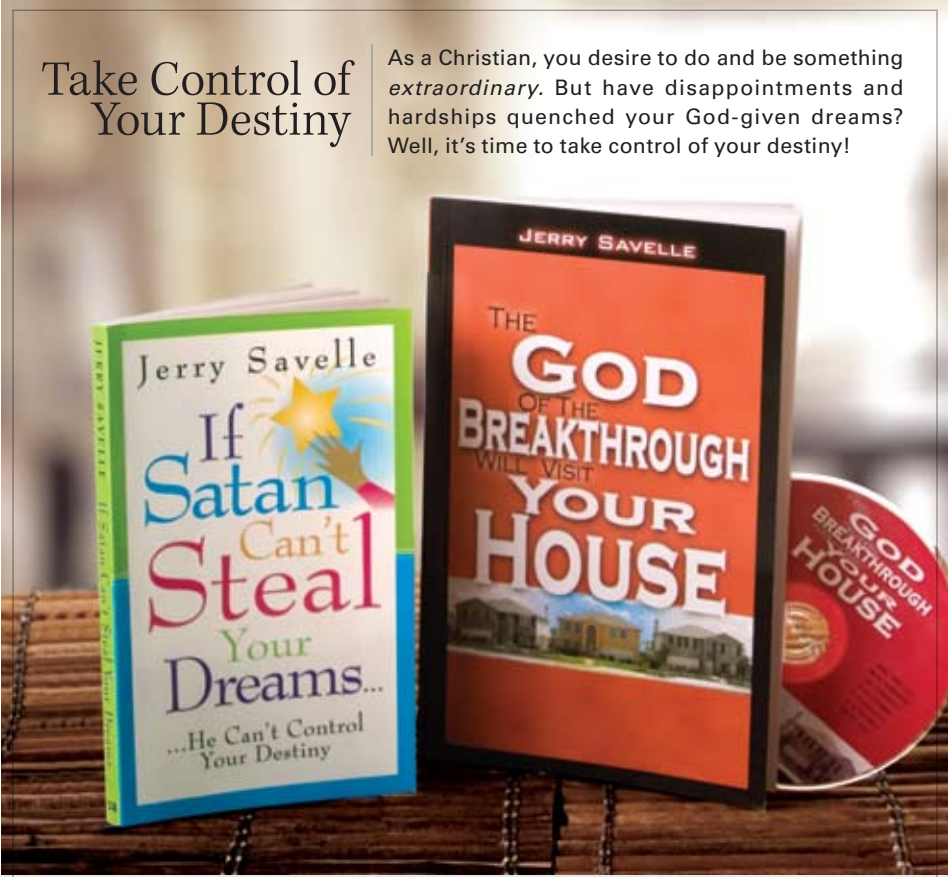
Don't think it's strange if it looks like doors are not opening and everything's going backward. That's Satan's way of trying to get you to give up on the prophetic word.

In 1 Corinthians 16:9, Paul says, "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries." Yes, God had opened a door of opportunity for Paul...but notice what came along with it: "many adversaries." In other words, *trouble*.

So even though God wants to open some doors for you, that doesn't mean Satan is going to leave you alone. He wants to stop that prophetic word from coming to pass. That's why you have to war a good warfare!

There's no room for giving up. You

As a Christian, you desire to do and be something *extraordinary*. But have disappointments and hardships quenched your God-given dreams? Well, it's time to take control of your destiny!



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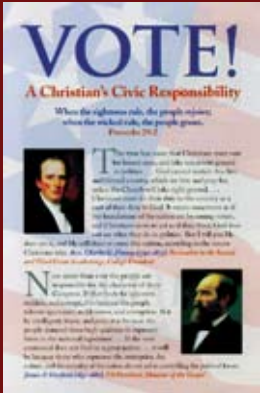
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GoodNewsGazette

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. (Colossians 3:17)

Perfect Protection

I want to let you know what an awesome God we serve! I'm a surgical assistant in an oral surgeon's office. Last year, as we were finishing a surgery, the suture needle stuck my finger. The patient, it turned out, was HIV-positive.

A couple of months before this, Keith Moore had sent me his *Perfect Protection* CD series. I listened to it, almost memorizing the entire teaching, then sent it to my mom. When this incident happened, it shook me up and fear tried to take over. I didn't want a lot of people to know about it because I knew I needed to build up my faith or fear would move in.

I learned the power of my words and the power of God's Word. As sure as I was breathing, I knew choosing to believe God would protect me and my family. Psalm 91 and not relaxing into self-pity and fear was what did it. Because I chose God and His Word, I am HIV-negative!

Thank you for teaching God's Word to live by!

Kathy Botkin | Barboursville, Ky.



God's Unfailing Goodness

During 2005, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. I underwent several months of treatment, including radiotherapy. Toward the end of 2006, I was given the "all-clear" and commenced monthly tests. This consisted of giving a blood sample then visiting the consultant two weeks later.

At one of the routine visits during the summer of 2007, the doctor came in and solemnly told us that my blood count was very high and it was possible they had missed some of the cancer during treatment, which may have spread to other parts of my body. I would have to go through all the exploratory scans again before they could decide on the appropriate treatment.

Immediately we prayed in agreement that no cancer cells would be found and claimed healing through the stripes of Jesus—standing on the promises in His Word.

I went through all the tests and returned a few weeks later. The consultant came in and announced there was neither sight nor sound of any cancer cells *anywhere!* In fact, he was so pleased that he repeated it twice more! Were we surprised? Not at all! We have a mighty God who honors His promises. We give God the glory for lifting up KCM, which encourages so many to grasp hold of His truths and step out in faith.

B.B. | England

I Found God Through You

Years ago while channel-surfing, I came across the "religion channel." I hurried to push the button on the remote, because I wouldn't watch that channel to win a bet. There was some TV preacher pointing at his Bible, but this guy seemed different—laid-back, cowboy shirt, sipping on some tea and not yelling at me to send God money. That caught me off guard and before I could change the channel, you said something that made me think. A few days later while surfing again, there was that cowboy preacher. Again, before I could change the channel, you said something that made me think.

At this point I didn't even know your name, but I started looking for this "good old boy from West Texas" preacher on TV. It wasn't long before I could see you were teaching the truth and I became a regular watcher. One day I followed you in a healing prayer and my tennis elbow was healed. I stopped taking the meds and wearing the brace that day! Praise the Lord and thank God for Kenneth Copeland. A few months later, hypoglycemia, which I had for 30 years, was gone too!

I started looking for the truth you were teaching in a church in my hometown. Eventually I came upon Living Word Church of Muskegon, where Timothy L. Cross is pastor. Since then I've become an armorbearer, home-group leader and tither. I'm raising a God-fearing family, healed of tennis elbow, hypoglycemia, lymphatic cancer and arterial fibrillation. I'm standing in faith until God manifests the restoration of sight in my right eye. Brother Copeland, none of this would have happened were it not for you, Sir.

If I were to have one desire before I pass on, it would be to shake your hand, look you in the eye, and tell you face to face, "Thank you."

David Erickson | Muskegon, Mich.



Prisoners, Staff Are Blessed Beyond Measure

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the great ministry gifts you have blessed us with. I realize we ask for quite a bit of material every month and you are faithful to give as much and more as you are able.

I am the chaplain at Wilcox State Prison, which houses approximately 1500 prisoners. Many of these prisoners are searching for something to fill their lives and I want that "something" to be a love for Jesus Christ. Your materials are a great help in this ministry. Also, some of the materials go to the staff at the prison. I believe not only the prisoners need Jesus, but the officers as well. This makes for a better environment to rehabilitate the prisoners and brings light to the staff and their families. The men and women on staff eagerly wait for your materials.

You have blessed us beyond measure with your kindness and generosity. Thank you!

Chaplain Linda Taylor | Abbeville, Ga.

Supernatural Debt Cancellation

Last year, I had watched the *BVOV* program with Dr. Leroy Thompson where he prophesied that debts would be cancelled.

In October 2003, I had to pay back a government loan that I had received as a student. If it was paid back in a lump sum, the total amount would be reduced by 1000 euros. My parents graciously agreed to lend me the money, and I had been paying them back on a monthly basis.

I had it on my heart to increase my monthly payments so that I would be finished with them by the end of 2006. However, a large sum of my funds had to be directed elsewhere and as a result I knew I wouldn't be able to reach the goal I had set to pay back my parents. As a Partner of KCM, I stood on God's Word and reminded Him of my sowing and His promise to bless me.

I am delighted to let you know that God supernaturally cancelled my debt. Glory be to God! He has set me free and I continually thank God for KCM and the teaching I've been receiving through this wonderful ministry.

A.S. | Germany

Given the Desires of Our Hearts

For some time, my wife and I have believed God for the provision to attend a Kenneth Copeland Ministries convention. The Lord answered our prayers.

I was believing God for a better job. In January of last year, I applied for two positions. At the end of June I was offered a job, which pays more than one and a half times what I currently make. So, for the one and a half months before I reported to my new office, I was paid from two sources. Isn't our God good? We were able to attend the Great Lakes Believers' Convention in beautiful Milwaukee! Praise God!

T.A. | Canada

Diagnosis Denied

My sister requested prayer for me. About a year ago I was diagnosed with leukemia. The last visit with my doctor was exciting. She said, "Mrs. Blackburn, the thing that caused you to have leukemia is no longer in your blood!" Praise God, I am healed and giving our Lord the praise and glory. Thanks for your prayers!

Tommie A. Fowler-Blackburn | Lincolnton, Ga.

I Give God the Glory!

During the Great Lakes Believers' Convention last year, Brother Jerry Savelle preached a powerful message about walking in the Blessing Explosion. At the end of the sermon, Brother Kenneth ministered that debt was financial leprosy and the way God was going to deliver us from debt would be by blasting it out through the Blessing Explosion. Praise God, the Blessing Explosion I've been walking in since that day has started manifesting! I am giving you the tithe from the first of many financial miracles that are on their way to me!

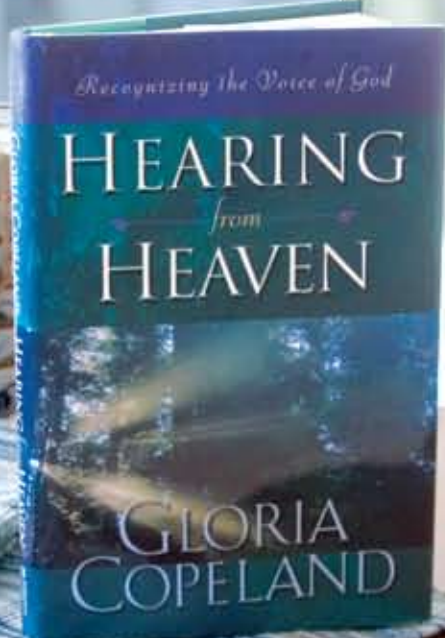
L.A.B. | England

Relationship Restored

Thank you, Kenneth, Gloria and KCM Partners, for standing in agreement concerning the relationship with my children and me. I have a praise report! I received a beautiful letter from my youngest daughter, whom I have not been able to have a relationship with because I have been in and out of prison all her life. She wrote to me that years ago she had forgiven me and always wanted to have a relationship. She also said she loves me very much, wants to start over fresh, and that God has given us a second chance.

This is an answered prayer and I thank God for KCM. I learned to put my trust in God, the Healer of all situations.

B.M.J. | Texas





God is in control

Believers Take Authority Over World Situation

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” Matthew 24:6-7

There is no doubt in my mind that Jesus was speaking and prophesying of the very days in which we live. He accurately describes all the terrible things that we are surrounded by in our daily lives. These surely are the very last days.

I want you to notice what He says right in the midst of describing all that trouble: “See that ye be not troubled.” This is not a mild suggestion. It is a command. See to it that you are not troubled! I am reminded here of what Proverbs 4:23 says, “Keep

thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues [or forces] of life.” Jesus is telling *us* to do something that seems impossible in such bad times; but always remember that you, the believer, can do whatever the Word says. You can’t do it in your own strength, but you can do it in the strength of God with Jesus as your helper.

Jesus says we are to see to it that we are not troubled. Let’s discuss some of the things we can do to keep from being troubled. First of all, you must take the time to get your thinking in line with the Word of God. That is an absolute must! You must continually feed on the Word instead of on the elements of this world. I have learned the importance of reminding myself that Jesus, the Lord-Head of the Church, is still in absolute charge and control. It is easy to think that the devil has control, but he does not. Satan makes a lot of headlines, but God always wins the wars!

You need to learn to keep your priorities in proper order. A good way to do this is to check your heart and see if you are troubled on the inside. Are you troubled over our school system? Is there fear deep in you because of the obvious failures of our educational system? If the answer is yes, then your priorities are in the wrong place. Education has never been our salvation. You need to spend time in prayer for our teachers instead of worrying about them. Is there fear and trouble in you because of our political failures? If so, then your priorities are not right. Political power is not the key to our salvation—Jesus is! Begin to take the time to pray for our leaders instead of criticizing them. According to 1 Timothy 2:1-2 we are to pray first of all for the men in authority over us. When we do, the result will be a life of quietness and peace.

Jesus said, “See to it that you are not troubled!” To do so requires that you make a firm, quality decision and stick to it. After you have made this decision and have begun to pray over these things in faith, remember again Proverbs 4:23, “Keep thy heart with all diligence.”

What Are You Hearing?

In Mark 4:21-24, Jesus said to His disciples:

Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

Jesus said, “Take heed what you hear!” What are you hearing? There are all sorts of information being published

abroad. What are *you* hearing? Are you hearing talk of financial disaster? Are you hearing reports of sickness and disease? Are you hearing of wars and rumors of wars? The plain fact is you are hearing whatever you have decided to hear.

Look again at verse 24: “Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.” What you decide to hear is exactly what you will have.

I have noticed that you can talk the principles of faith to some people and they will look you right in the face with a blank expression. They don’t hear a word you are saying. It is just as if you were not speaking at all. However, if you change the subject and start talking

What Moves You?



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about how hard times are and how bad things are going, you get an immediate response.

It is easy to hear death. It is all around us. I don't like to surround myself with the world's bad news. I almost never read a newspaper. I make it a point to surround myself with God's Word and what He is doing.

Some people might say, "But Brother Copeland, you never know what is going on." Oh yes, I do! Most of the time, I know long before it takes place. John 16:13 says, "When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth... and he will show you things to come." I believe that!

In Mark 4, Jesus spoke about "the cares of this world." They can be easily heard with the abundance of television and radio programs, and newspapers and magazines, pumping them at us 24 hours a day.

Just about everywhere you look these days you see signs of shortage, disaster and general despair. Thank God, this is not the attitude of the believer who is actively living by faith. We need to be careful how we react to surrounding circumstances. The key is to respond to God's Word, not in fear or worry or anxiety. Through His Word, we draw strength from Him.

The first thing we should do is remember we are not of this world and we are not governed by its lack. Our God meets our needs "according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). We should keep watch over our attitude toward giving. This is the time to be a giver. Your testimony in a fearless, giving attitude may be just the tool the Holy Spirit needs to testify to the world of the great supply provided by Almighty God.

Cares of This World

The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or

persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred (Mark 4:14-20).

Jesus gave a parable and His disciples asked Him to explain it. In His explanation, He brings out some important facts about victorious living.

God's Word is sown in our hearts the same way seed is sown in the ground. Whether or not the Word grows and brings forth fruit depends on the condition of the ground, or the heart, in which it is sown. In each situation, the Word was doing its work. It was releasing its life-giving, fruit-bearing force. However, for different reasons, that force was being wasted or unused or stolen away.

I want you to notice particularly verses 18-19: "And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful."

The cares of this world. This is a very effective method Satan uses to choke the Word of God in our hearts and keep it from becoming fruitful. But notice what has to happen before these cares choke the Word: They first have to enter in. It is not just a matter of the cares being around you. They have to enter into your heart before they can do their job. How do they enter in? Through your ears! Again, I refer to Jesus' words, "Take heed what you hear!"

First Peter 5:6-7 says humbling yourself in God's sight is casting your care on Him. Don't wait another minute. Open your Bible right now and make the quality decision to roll all your cares over on the Lord, never to touch them in your thought life again. Then relax and enjoy watching your Lord unravel your problems and smooth out the road before you. **VICTORY**

Salvation Prayer

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

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

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

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From Faith to Fit Spiritual Teaching DVD & CD

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Believers' Convention | August 4-9

Fort Worth Convention Center | 1201 Houston St. | Fort Worth, TX 76102

Great Lakes

Believers' Convention | August 18-23

U.S. Cellular Arena | 400 W. Kilbourn Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53203

Thunder Over Texas

August 29-31

Granbury Historic Town Square | 100 E. Pearl St. | Granbury, TX 76048

New England

Pastors and Ministers Conference | September 9-10

Faith Christian Center | 95 Sagamore Road | Seekonk, MA 02771

Days of Refreshing

September 14-19

Eagle Mountain International Church | 14355 Morris Dido Road | Newark, TX 76071
(not a mailing address)

King's Daughter

2008 National Conference | September 19

Cornerstone Church | 239 N. Loop 1604 West | San Antonio, TX 78232

Word Explosion

October 9-11

Crown Arena | 1960 Coliseum Drive | Fayetteville, NC 28306

Prayer Mountain

Conference | October 23-27

Hilton Convention Center | 200 E. Main St. | Branson, MO 65616

Washington, D.C.

Victory Campaign | November 13-15

Hylton Memorial Chapel | 14640 Potomac Mills Road | Woodbridge, VA 22192

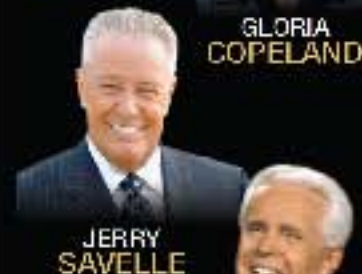
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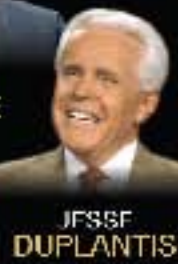
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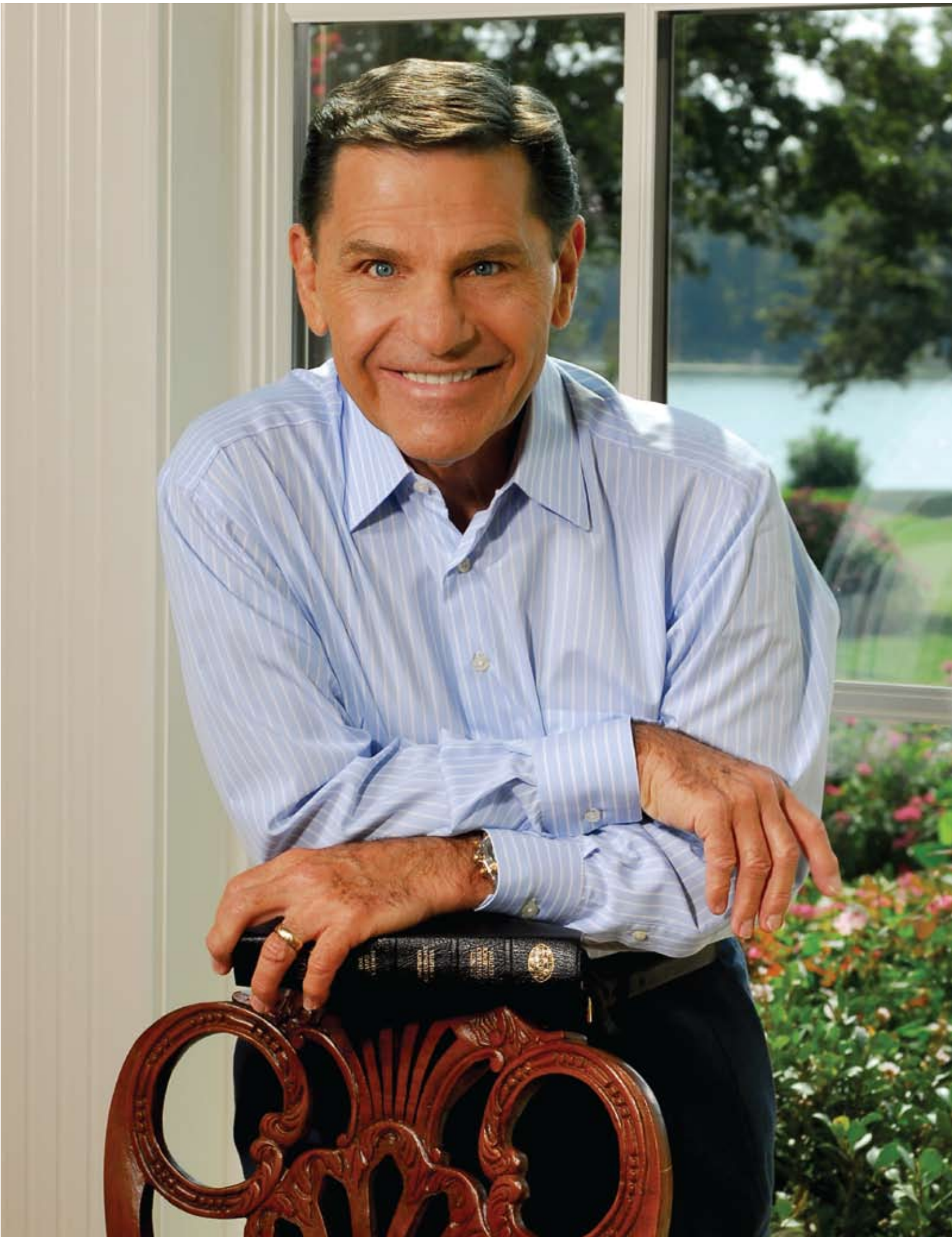
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“The day everything changed.” That's what some are still saying about that tragic day in 2001 when terrorists struck New York City. | Yes, it was for sure a day that changed a lot of things in our nation. But I can assure you there is one thing that didn't change that day: God didn't change! | He didn't change then. He isn't changing now. And He won't change tomorrow because He Himself said, “I am the Lord, I do not change...” (Malachi 3:6, *The Amplified Bible*).

BY GLORIA
COPELAND

That's good news! In a day when evil men are attacking innocent people without mercy, it's good to know “the Lord...is [still] good; for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever!” (Psalm 118:1, *The Amplified Bible*). In a day when natural systems of security aren't as secure anymore, it's good to know that “The name of the Lord is [still] a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe” (Proverbs 18:10).

In a day when the threat of chemical and biological weapons has driven some people to stockpile antibiotics in hopes of protecting themselves, it's good to know God still says, “...I am the Lord that healeth thee” (Exodus 15:26). It's good to know one of the benefits of our loving God is still this: He “...healeth all thy diseases” (Psalm 103:3).

No Such Time

Some people think that aspect of God has changed. They acknowledge that God healed people in the days the Bible was being written, but they don't think He heals today. “No,” they say, “healing has passed away.”

That's so unthinkable it almost makes me laugh. Just imagine what would have to happen for healing to pass away.

There would have had to have been a morning when God woke up—which, of course, would be impossible because the Bible says God never sleeps—and changed His mind. There would have had to have been a day when God said to Himself, *I am tired of being the Healer. I've been the Healer for thousands of years. I've put up with ungracious, unthankful people and I'm not going to do it anymore. I quit. Midnight tonight it's all over. No more healing.*

We know that didn't happen because God doesn't change. He could not possibly have quit being the Healer because He called Himself “the Lord that healeth thee.” He couldn't have resigned that role and still be God. So that's impossible.

What's more, we'd have to have scriptural evidence of some dispensation when God refused to heal people. You can read the Bible from front to back, but you'll never find such a time.

If you read the Old Testament, you'll find God healed His people all through that dispensation. In fact He made promise after promise, reassuring them that if they would obey Him and keep His Word, not only would He heal them, He would keep sickness away from them. He would keep them in a state of divine health.

In Exodus 15:26, He said to the Israelites: “If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.”

Again in Exodus 23:25 (*The Amplified Bible*), He told them, “You shall serve the Lord your God; He shall bless your bread and water, and I will take sickness from your midst.” And in Deuteronomy 7 He said:

Know, recognize, and understand therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, Who keeps covenant and steadfast love and mercy with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations. And the Lord will take away from you all sickness, and none of the evil diseases of Egypt which you knew will He put upon you, but will lay them upon all who hate you (verses 9, 15, *The Amplified Bible*).

It Didn't Change When Jesus Came

Someone might say, “Yes, I know those promises are in the Bible, but those are Old Testament promises. Things changed when Jesus came.”



God is never behind the devil. He's always ahead of him!

Faith for Your Children
BY KENNETH COPELAND

Q: My husband and I would like to have children. But despite our hopes and prayers over the years, we remain childless. Could it be that we are trying to believe for something that may not be God's will?

A: It is *never* wrong to believe God for something He has already promised. And His promises concerning children are spelled out clearly in His Word. For example, in Psalm 127:3, the Scripture says that “children are an heritage of the Lord and the fruit of the womb is his reward.”

Psalm 113:9 says, “He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children.” And Exodus 23:26 promises that “none shall lose her young by miscarriage or be barren in your land” (*The Amplified Bible*).

God's Word always reveals His will, and as you make these scriptures part of your prayer life, you can pray confidently for a child of your own. For we are assured in 1 John 5:14-15 that “if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.” **VICTORY**

If they did, apparently Jesus didn't know it because healing was the hallmark of His earthly ministry. In fact the Bible sums up His ministry by saying, He "went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him" (Acts 10:38).

Healing didn't stop when Jesus came—it increased! Matthew 4 says:

Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken

with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them (verses 23-24).

I want you to notice that verse says they brought to Jesus "all" people who were sick of "all" kinds of diseases. He wasn't selective in His healing.

He didn't say, "OK, this person I'll heal...but not that one over there." He healed all who came to Him. And we see Him doing the same thing in Matthew 8: "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (verses 16-17).

Again in Chapter 9 we read that "Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people" (verse 35).

I love the words "all" and "every" in those verses because Jesus is "the same yesterday, and today, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). That means if He healed all who came to Him then, He'll heal all who come to Him now. If He was able to heal every sickness and disease then, He can heal every sickness and disease now!

"But Gloria, we have diseases now they didn't have then. Those terrorists might be coming up with something that's new to us."

That may be so. But I can guarantee you one thing, they aren't coming up with anything that's new to God! They aren't going to catch Him by surprise. God is never behind the devil. He's always ahead of him!

Psalms 91 proves that. It says, "A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come near you" (verse 7, *The Amplified Bible*).

When those words were written, there was no such thing as a weapon—chemical, biological or otherwise—that could kill 10,000 people at once. People who read that years ago probably wondered what God was talking about. But He was ahead of them. He was promising protection not only for the things the devil came up with in that day, but also for the things he would come up with in our day.

I'm telling you, the same Jesus who healed every disease 2,000 years ago can and will heal every disease today.

From the Book of Acts to Today

Of course, there are those who think that just because Jesus isn't walking the earth now, He isn't healing anymore. But the Bible proves that's not the case.

After Jesus was crucified, raised from the dead and seated once again in heaven, His ministry of healing was just as strong as ever. In Acts 3, we see a crippled man healed. In Acts 5, we see God's healing power operating so strongly that "They brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one" (verses 15-16).

All the way through the book of Acts we see not

only the apostles, but also believers like Stephen and Philip healing multitudes. In Chapter 28, we find Paul ministering to the sick on a certain island where he had been shipwrecked, and the Weymouth translation says they were "all" healed.

Finally in James 5, clear instructions were given to the Church at large to continue in the healing power of God:

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed (verses 14-16).

God hasn't changed. You can search the Bible from cover to cover and you'll find He is the Healer—yesterday, today and forever. The New Testament says this about Jesus, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever!" (Hebrews 13:8). This is an extremely important scripture!

You Need a Clear Conscience

If you'll look back through many of the scriptures I've included in this article, you'll find out there's something else about God that hasn't changed. And if you want to live in divine health, it's important you understand it.

From the Old Testament through the New, God told His people that, if they wanted to live a healed life, they would have to obey Him. They would have to listen to His Word and act on it.

God told Israel all the way through the Old Covenant, "Observe and do what I command...and you'll be blessed." In other words, you can't live in sin—in disobedience to God—and live in divine health. Sin opens the door to sickness.

Does that mean every time sickness comes, it's because you've sinned?

Not necessarily. Sometimes it's simply an attack of the devil.

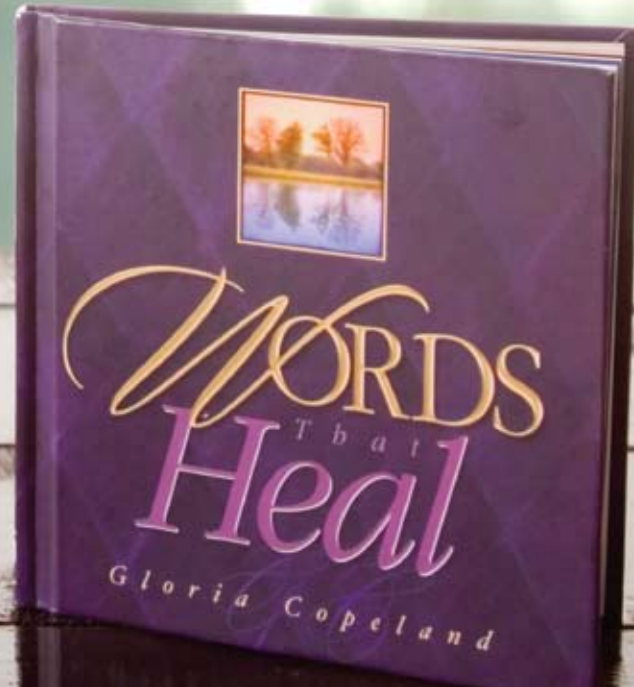
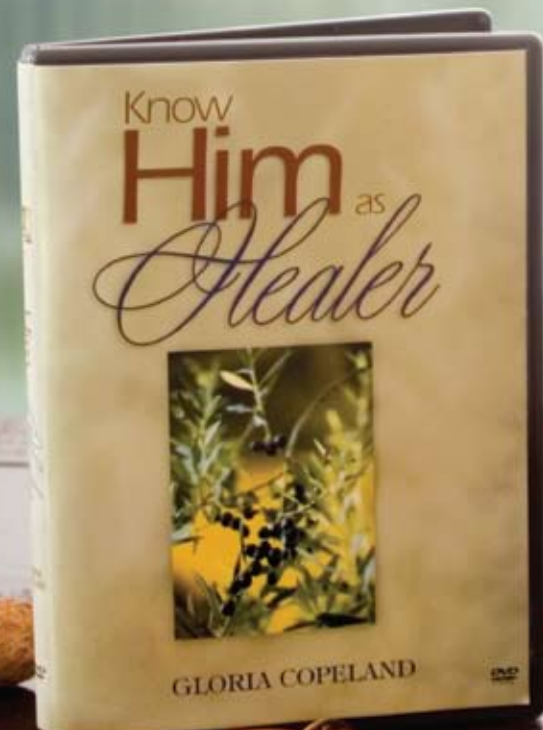
At those times, you just stand on the Word of God, keep it in your heart and your mouth in abundance. Then resist that devilish sickness until it flees from you.

But I can tell you this, if you aren't living a godly, obedient lifestyle, you won't be able to stand on the Word. Your heart will condemn you and your faith will continually fail.

It helps to have a clear conscience in receiving the

God Still Heals

God hasn't changed. The same Lord who healed the blind, the sick and the lame 2,000 years ago is healing people today! Learn the scriptural truth about healing in this special **Healing and Wholeness Package** from Kenneth Copeland Ministries.



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Healing School

did you know?

A simple prayer of commitment! I That’s what Gloria Copeland quietly whispered to the Lord early one summer morning in 1979. That’s when she told Him: “Lord, You know I’ll do anything You want me to do. Just tell me what it is.”

Moments later, she heard the voice of God in her spirit in a way she had never heard it before. It was strong and powerful. But what was really shocking was what God wanted her to do.

I want you to start teaching on healing in all the meetings, Gloria heard God say.

The instruction surprised her. But she loved the Lord and His Word more than anything, and was willing to do whatever He asked.

In September 1979, three months after that encounter with the Lord, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland added a Healing School to each of the meetings they had scheduled for the rest of that year—and Gloria began to teach on healing. The following year, the Lord had another word for Gloria.

In a prophesy delivered by Brother Copeland, He said: *I want My people to know how to take My Word, and stand on My Word, and receive My healing power and know that I am the Lord. I want My people to walk with Me in health and life and know the good things that I have prepared for them...I am the Lord God that heals you...I will have My people well... Continue this Healing School...until I return.*

Today, nearly 30 years later, healing services continue as Gloria Copeland ministers to countless numbers of people around the world—stepping out and boldly declaring Jesus is Lord, and He is always present to heal.

Thousands have received God’s Word on divine healing and applied it to their lives—and thousands have seen the results. **VICTORY**

healing power of God. That’s why James said we need to confess our faults and pray for our sins to be forgiven when we need healing.

Sometimes I hear Christians shrug off the importance of holy living and say, “Oh, I think I’m living a pretty good life. After all, no one is perfect.”

It bothers me when I hear that. Christians aren’t supposed to live “pretty good lives.” We’re supposed to live obedient lives. We’re supposed to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect, to be holy as He is holy.

When we stumble or fall into temptation, we are to wholeheartedly repent and receive the cleansing of the blood of Jesus. Then we get back up in the power of God’s righteousness—that’s already been given to us—and live again as obedient children of the Most High God.

God’s mercy is new every morning. He is not One to hold things against you. If you will come to Him, you can be cleansed of any sin.

But I’ll be honest with you, once you’re cleansed, God expects you to surrender yourself so fully to His will that you actually present your body as a living sacrifice to Him (Romans 12:1-2).

Some people might think that sounds extreme, but the Bible doesn’t say it’s extreme. The Bible says it’s our “reasonable” service.

It’s What God Thinks That Matters

That same scripture says we’re not to be conformed to this world. We’re not to base our ideas of right and wrong on the world around us or what it thinks, because the world is ungodly and becoming more ungodly every day.

If you fill your heart with the things of the world instead of filling it with the Word of God, you’ll start thinking wrong and acting wrong. That’s because the world doesn’t know God or His ways and therefore lives in darkness. Then you’ll get sick and wonder why because sickness is part of that darkness.

You might say, “Well, I don’t think I’m doing anything wrong and it’s what I think that matters.”

No, it’s not. It’s what God thinks that matters. Remember what Exodus 15:26 said? “If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee.”

Notice that verse didn’t say you should do what is right in your sight. It says to do what is right in God’s sight, and He doesn’t change. If God says something was an abomination to Him yesterday, He won’t change His mind today just because that thing has become “socially acceptable.”

Drugs aren’t right. Pornography isn’t right. Adultery isn’t right. Engaging in homosexuality isn’t right. Bitterness and unforgiveness aren’t right. Lying and cheating aren’t right—in business or in personal relationships.

I don’t care how many laws are passed or how many magazine articles are written explaining why sin is OK. Sin is still sin and it puts you in bondage. Given enough time, it will kill you.

That was true when the book of Genesis was written and it is still true today. Some things never change.

Maybe you’re reading this today and you want to receive the healing power of God, but you know you haven’t lived in obedience to His Word. If that’s your situation, let me assure you, God is waiting for you with open arms.

If you will confess that sin to God, ask Him to cleanse you of it and help you overcome it, He will do it. He will wash you with the blood of Jesus and it will

be as if you never sinned at all. The righteous, perfect life that Jesus lived will be credited to you as you trust in His Name.

Then God will make you righteous with His own righteous nature, He will strengthen you with His own

power and deliver you from that sin—and from the consequences of it.

God will transform you inside and out. And you will find that, in the midst of this changing world, He is now—and always will be—your Healer. **VICTORY**

Believer’s Voice of Victory Broadcast Calendar

July



Kenneth Copeland



Jeremy Pearsons



Creflo A. Dollar



Bill Winston

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30 Mon	1 Tue	2 Wed	3 Thu	4 Fri
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6	7	8	9	10
<i>Living in THE BLESSING of God</i> Kenneth Copeland and Creflo A. Dollar continue their discussion on how walking in THE BLESSING is a light everyone will see!				
13	14	15	16	17
<i>Daily Application of Living in Faith</i> This week, Kenneth Copeland and Jeremy Pearsons discuss the ins and outs of walking by faith in your day-to-day life, ministry, relationships and calling.				
20	21	22	23	24
<i>The Mighty Power of the Word—for You!</i> Kenneth Copeland welcomes Bill Winston for a week of practical insight and encouragement you won’t want to miss!				
27	28	29	30	31
<i>Faith Brings the Victory Every Time</i> Kenneth Copeland and Bill Winston continue their series, sharing how you can overcome by the power of the Word and faith.				

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(Great Lakes) (Great Lakes)

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FREE!**

August 18-23

2008 Great Lakes

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