

Believer's Voice of

# VICTORY

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MINISTRIES



August 2016

P.10

## David Crank Jr.

As a young boy growing up, David Crank Jr. learned the blessing of giving while watching his father honor a commitment that began with him sending \$1 a day to Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

Today, as the church his father started has grown from a membership of 180 to over 18,000, Crank is living in that same blessing.



## America's Gift of Government

BY DAVID BARTON

## Five Revelations That Saved My Life

BY CREFLO DOLLAR

## When God Shows Himself Strong

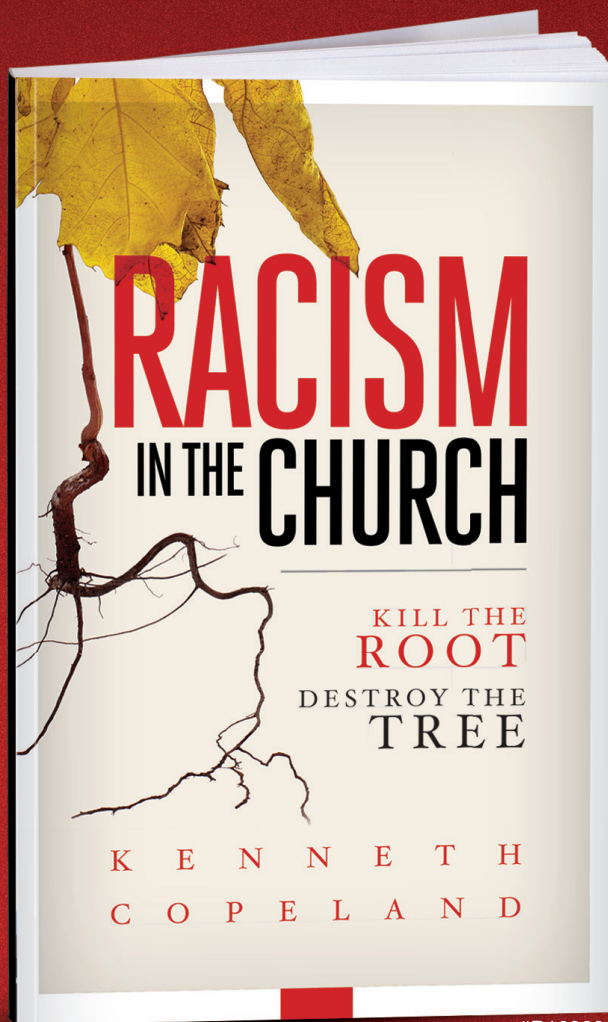
BY GLORIA COPELAND

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# August



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—David Crank Jr.

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# THE DECIDING WITNESS

IF YOU'VE BEEN WAITING...AND WAITING...AND WAITING FOR GOD TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOU THAT HE SAID IN HIS WORD, HERE'S A POSSIBILITY I SUGGEST YOU CONSIDER. MAYBE YOU'RE NOT REALLY WAITING ON GOD. HE'S ALWAYS FAITHFUL TO WATCH OVER HIS WORD AND PERFORM IT. SO ANYTIME IT DOESN'T COME TO PASS LIKE HE SAID IT WOULD, HE'S NOT THE ONE WHO'S BEHIND THE DELAY.




When you have two opposing witnesses—God and **THE BLESSING** on one side, and satan and the curse on the other—who decides how things will go? You will! So open your mouth and release God's power to work in your life. Here are some points to get you there:

**1** You aren't waiting on God to **BLESS** you, He's already done it and He's waiting on you to receive.  
2 Corinthians 1:20

**2** God is waiting for you to believe and speak His **WORD**.  
2 Corinthians 4:13

**3** You release your faith through your words just as God did at Creation.  
Genesis 1:3

**4** Follow the example of the woman whose son was raised from the dead by making your faith confession and refusing to talk the problem.  
2 Kings 4:23



od isn't sitting up in heaven right now trying to decide what He's going to do for you. He's already made His choice—and He chose to BLESS you! He chose to send Jesus to the cross for you, and to raise Him from the dead for you. He sent Him to be your Redeemer so that all the promises in the Bible can be to you, “Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God” (2 Corinthians 1:20, *New King James Version*).

That means when it comes to receiving those promises, you're not waiting on God, He's waiting on you. Having given you His WORD, He's now waiting for you to believe it and speak it. He's waiting for you to say what He said so that Jesus, the High Priest of your confession, can bring it to pass.

At the same time, of course, the devil and his forces are also waiting. They want to see what you have to say, too. But unlike God, they don't want you to declare THE BLESSING. Instead, they're

lobbying for you to talk the curse.

According to Deuteronomy 19:15, out of the mouth of two or three witnesses every matter shall be established. Right now you're in the middle of two opposing witnesses. On one side, you have God and the forces of heaven. On the other, you have satan and the forces of hell.

Who will decide which way things will go?

You will.

You're the deciding witness. Yours is the voice that breaks the tie and releases God's power to go to work in your life.

That's what happened when you got born again. You broke the devil's hold on you by siding with God. You bore witness with what He did for you 2,000 years ago on Calvary, and chose to “confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead” (Romans 10:9, *NKJV*). Putting your faith in the Redemption God had already provided, you received it according to the pattern revealed in 2 Corinthians 4:13: “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.”

This is how faith is always released! It's the way you receive not only the new birth, but every other BLESSING God has provided. You find out what The WORD says—faith comes by hearing The WORD of God—then you put your faith to work with the words of your mouth. You do what Jesus commanded in Mark 11:22-23: “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.”

The phrase *have faith in God* can also be translated *have the God kind of faith*. What exactly is the God kind of faith? It's the kind you received when you were born again (Ephesians 2:8). It's God's faith and He gave it to you as a gift, and when you put it to work in your life it will work for you just like it worked for Him in Genesis 1.


You remember what the Bible says there, in verses 1-3: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light” (*NKJV*).

Those verses make it clear that God's power was present at Creation even before anything happened. He was hovering over the waters even while the earth was formless and void. Yet nothing actually changed until He released His faith with His words. It was only when He spoke and said, “Light be!” that the light broke forth.

The same principle holds true for us as believers. God's power is already present in us and with us. He's already spoken to us through His written WORD. Yet, for that WORD to come to pass in our lives we have to start doing some talking. We have to release our faith with our words.

### Powerful Examples You Can Follow

“But Brother Copeland,” you might say, “I'm not exactly sure how to do that.”



5 David cut off the head of Goliath with a sword and you can cut off the head of problems in your life with the sword of God's WORD.  
Ephesians 6:16-17

**"CHRISTIANS  
ARE TOO  
QUICK THESE  
DAYS TO  
GRAB THEIR  
CELLPHONE  
WHEN  
SOMETHING  
GOES  
WRONG  
AND START  
CALLING  
PEOPLE TO  
TELL THEM  
ABOUT IT.**

**THAT DOES  
DAMAGE TO  
YOUR FAITH.  
SO DON'T  
DO IT!"**

Then look in the Bible and see how others have done it. Both the Old and New Testaments are full of people whose examples you can follow—people who, instead of sitting around waiting on God, rose up in faith and did what God was waiting on them to do.

Take Jairus, for instance. One of the rulers of the synagogue during Jesus' earthly ministry, Mark 5 tells us about a time he faced an extremely urgent situation. His little daughter was critically ill and about to die. He needed help from God and he needed it fast.

What did he do? Having heard Jesus preach, he believed, got up and got moving. He went to Jesus and said to Him, "Come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live" (Mark 5:23).

With those words, Jairus released his faith, and after that he never said anything else. Even though on the way to his house someone came to tell him his daughter had already died, Jairus kept his mouth shut. He refused to fear and stayed in faith. He stuck with his confession, Jesus brought it to pass and his daughter was raised from the dead.

If you want to see another example of someone who released their faith and received a miracle, consider the woman who had the issue of blood. Her story is woven in right along with that of Jairus. Although her situation wasn't quite as urgent as his, she was just as desperate for God's help because she'd been suffering with that flow of blood for 12 years. She'd spent all her money on doctors and instead of getting better she'd only gotten worse.

When she heard about Jesus and His Anointing to heal, she decided

to believe it and released her faith the same way Jairus did. "She said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole" (verse 28). Then she went into action. (James 2:26 says that faith without corresponding action is dead.) She went to find Jesus, and while He was walking to Jairus' house she pushed her way through the crowd and touched the hem of Jesus' garment. Immediately, what she had said came to pass. "Straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague" (Mark 5:29).

Yet another example of a woman who received a remarkable miracle by speaking words of faith is the Shunammite woman in 2 Kings 4. She and her husband had a son who'd been born as a result of a word from God given to them by the prophet Elisha. One morning when the boy went out to help his father in the field, he fell ill and by noon he'd died in his mother's arms.

The mother, instead of collapsing in despair, laid the child's body on the bed in the room where Elisha stayed when he came to visit. Then she went looking for Elisha. She hooked her faith to the word he'd given her about that boy and calling to her husband, she said: "Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the [donkeys], that I may run to the man of God, and come again. And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well" (verses 22-23).

*It shall be well.* The woman's son just died and that's all she said! She didn't go into a big explanation. She didn't say to her husband even one time, "Our

boy is dead.” She called things that be not as though they were. She used her words to release her faith and refused to say anything else until she found the prophet on Mount Carmel.

“And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite: Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well” (verses 25-26).

Think about that! Even when she was talking with Elisha, the Shunammite woman didn’t mention death at all. She stayed with her confession of faith and the prophet got in agreement with it. As a result, before the day was over her child had been raised from the dead and sure enough, all was well.

### **Cut That Giant’s Head Off**

As you can see from all three of these powerful examples, when it comes to receiving from God, not only is it important that you believe what He said and move on it with corresponding action, you also have to make sure your words line up with His WORD. For better or for worse, your words matter! They are the means by which your faith is released.

That’s why, like Jairus and the Shunammite woman, you want to stop talking about the bad situations you might be facing. The more you rehearse the sickness, or the calamity, or the problem to other people, or even to yourself, the bigger it gets. With every rehearsal, you’re crippling your soul, weakening your will and undermining your faith.

Christians are too quick these days to

grab their cellphone when something goes wrong and start calling people to tell them about it. That does damage to your faith. So don’t do it!

Don’t talk the bad news. Don’t talk about the activity of the devil. Talk The WORD. Say about the situation what the Scripture says. Call your best faith buddy and, rather than describing in detail whatever demonic crisis might have cropped up in your household, just say, “The devil has attacked me today, and I want you to agree with me that everything in my life is well!”

If you’re up against a giant in your life that will take a miracle from God to overcome, talk like David did when he came up against Goliath. He didn’t moan around about how tough the battle was going to be. He didn’t run to his friends and cry about how the giant had cursed him and threatened to feed his flesh to the birds and the beasts. No! When Goliath threatened David he answered with stout words of faith. He drew near to that Philistine and said:

Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel (1 Samuel 17:45-46).


Talk about a faith confession! David

knew how to make one, didn’t he? He also knew how to follow it up with corresponding action: He ran toward Goliath! Launching a stone from his sling, he dropped Goliath like a tree and then finished the job by cutting Goliath’s head off with his own sword.

“But Brother Copeland, when you’re talking about David you’re talking about a king and a prophet of God!”

I know it. But Jesus said that the least of those of us who’ve been born again into the kingdom of God are greater than the mightiest prophet who ever lived (Matthew 11:11). That means no matter how small you may feel in the natural, there’s no devil in hell that’s a match for you. You’re a joint heir with the King of kings. You’re a blood-covenant brother of the One who defeated satan himself, took his keys away from him, and said, “All power, all authority has been given unto Me, both in heaven and earth!”

You not only have more authority than Jairus and the woman with the issue of blood had when they received their miracles, you have more authority than even David and Elisha did. So what are you waiting on? Rise up and use the authority you’ve been given!

Speak the word of faith to the devil, to cancer, to financial lack or any other demonic enemy that’s trying to rob you of God’s promises. Say to them with the boldness of David, “You come at me with symptoms or with a bad report or negative circumstances, but I’m coming at you in the authority of the Name of Jesus!” Take the sword of God’s WORD and cut that giant’s head off. Become the deciding witness, side with God and declare, “ALL IS WELL!” 



# STIR THE POT!

## Superkid, do you like to cook?

I have always enjoyed cooking. My grandmother Ma Dear was a great cook. She didn't really even need a recipe!

I loved to go to her house and cook with her. In her pantry, she had everything we needed to make just about anything. She could take even the most basic ingredients and make something totally divine, marvelous, glorious, excellent and great! I wish you could have tasted the goodness!

It's funny, Superkid, because those words are the exact same words that Peter used in the Bible to describe the faith and the God-filled life that the Father has blessed us with. He has called us to know Him and to daily grow in our relationship with Him. In His Word, He has given us, not only a recipe for greatness in Him, but all the necessary ingredients to make us!

Look at it this way Superkid, God is the Master Chef. He knows what He wants you to be and He knows what ingredients it takes to make you into His own image. God intended for us to look just like Jesus, our Big Brother. I know that sounds like an impossibility, and it would be except for the main ingredient: JESUS HIMSELF living inside us.

So, you may be wondering: *Why don't we look more like Him today than we do?*

Well, I can think of two possibilities: First, the Bible says don't despise the day of small beginnings! We are all growing up into God's image. Ephesians 4 tells us that Jesus gave us teachers and

ministers to help us grow up into Him. Don't get impatient while the cake is baking! Right now you are becoming all that God has planned for you. But there is still some growing up to do. So, what about those other ingredients I mentioned and how do we put them together? We need a recipe.

I have found 2 Peter 1:1-11, *New Living Translation*, to be a powerful recipe. I call it **The Great Eight**. Even though it isn't talking about food, it is talking about your very life. When you start with a recipe, you know what you want to end up with, just like God knows what He wants you and me to be. The following recipe, taken from the verses I mentioned in 2 Peter 1, includes the ingredients necessary for you to become what God wants you to be.

**The Recipe for a Godly Life:** (verses 3-4, *NLT*) "By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires."

**Step One: Begin with faith in His promises:** "In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises" (verse 5).

**Step Two: Stir in generous portions of moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, patient endurance and godliness:** "Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness" (verses 5-6).

**Step Three: Mix in plenty of brotherly affection:** "and godliness with brotherly affection" (verse 7).

**Step Four: Top this off with love for everyone:** "...and brotherly affection with love for everyone" (verse 7).

**Step Five: Let it bake for the rest of your life!** "The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (verse 8).

**Serves: EVERYONE YOU COME IN CONTACT WITH!** Superkid, I hope this illustration helps you see that, just like my Ma Dear's pantry, your spirit contains all the ingredients

needed to make something special out of your life. God intended us to pull them in and add His power and goodness to our lives. When your life, or even your day, is not going like you want it to, stir in those ingredients! All the fruit of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23, *NLT*, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (or, as they are listed in the *King James Version*, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance), are the right ingredients for your life.

There is NOTHING that can beat these life ingredients! They make your life turn out great! Just like the best-tasting dish your mother or grandmother makes.

So, stir it up. When you begin to complain, stir in patience (and some thankfulness, too!) When you are tempted to be disobedient, stir in faithfulness and self-control. Angry? Grab a pinch of peace and gentleness off the shelf! It changes everything. Just like chocolate chips change flour, eggs and sugar into something amazing, joy and patience can turn a grumpy, unhappy day into a Superkid adventure with Jesus that everyone around you can enjoy! Happy baking, Superkid! ♥



by Kellie Copeland

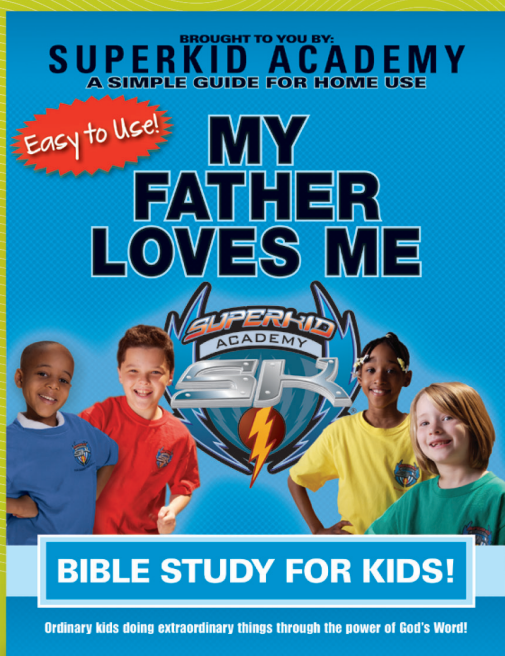


**Note to parents and leaders:** It is my hope that you will take this article as an opportunity to talk to your Superkids about the fruit of the spirit. Explain to them what they are, and what it means to be morally excellent. Our kids need these ingredients working in their lives as they grow up—SUPERKID STYLE!

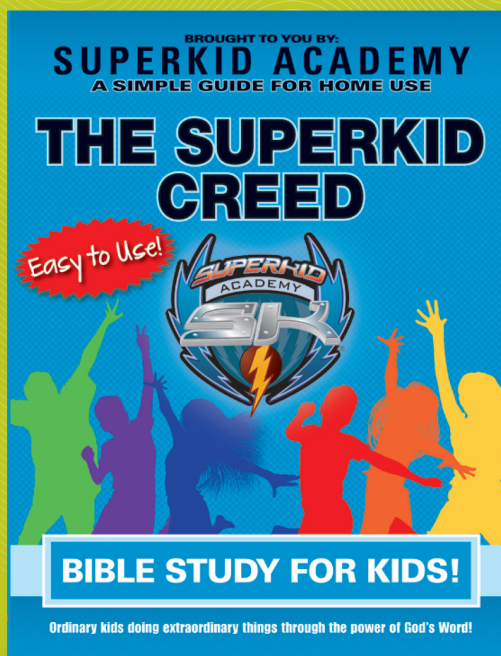
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# The Faith of Our Fathers

David & Nicole Crank

by  
Melanie  
Henry

David Crank Jr. unlocked the door to the church and slipped inside. The funeral was over and everyone had gone home, yet he half expected to hear his father's footsteps. To hear his dad's voice calling his name.

Stories had been told and the life of David Crank Sr. had been honored. But a lifetime of memories between a father and son couldn't be compacted into a memorial service. Alone in the quiet, David let his thoughts drift back to those early years.

His father had been raised in a ghetto where he'd witnessed the ugly side of life. As a young man, he'd become one of St. Louis' finest—a police officer. He probably would have stayed on the police force until retirement but God had intervened, calling him to preach the gospel.

The move into ministry had been anything but easy.

In the beginning, the family had to live in a travel trailer, with David's dad pawning their belongings for gas money to get to the next town to preach. They'd been in Batesville, Ark., in May 1975, when a man had asked David Sr. if he'd ever heard of Kenneth Copeland.

"No, can't say as I have."

"You sound like him," the man said, handing him an audiotape.

A year later, in Granite City, Ill., the family heard Brother Copeland speak live. During the service that night, he'd invited people to become Partners with his ministry.

David Crank Sr. had known the Lord wanted him to partner with Kenneth Copeland soon after he began listening to his teachings. But what could he give? He'd pawned his guitar for gas to leave town after his last meeting. He'd already pawned his watch and they needed food.

David Crank Evangelistic Association had a whopping \$5!

He'd dropped it in the offering. Then he heard the voice of the Lord.

*I want you to sow \$1 a day into KCM. It's good ground and I want you to plant faithfulness and consistency. Whatever you sow, you'll reap.*

David Sr. shared with the family what God had said to him, and young David jumped on board. Along with the rest of the family,



I never had a poverty mentality. I didn't even know we were poor until years later. My earliest memories involved sitting in that little travel trailer and listening to messages on faith by Kenneth Copeland.



he scoured the ground for coins to send to KCM. He and his little brother collected and sold empty soda bottles. Some days his dad sent a dollar from the offerings he received when he preached. Some days he mailed the coins they'd found in the dirt. But every day, David Crank Sr. mailed a dollar to KCM. Many nights they drove around a strange town looking for a post office before midnight.

After 40 days of giving \$1 a day, the Lord told David Sr. to increase his giving to \$2 a day.

The family had been in Salem, Mo., when the pastor of the church said, "Brother Crank, you won't believe what's happened! Someone put a \$100 bill in your offering!" He had never even seen a \$100 bill.

But that wasn't all. There were *five* crisp \$100 bills and another \$311.46 in smaller bills and change.

Soon, those types of offerings became common. God surprised them with checks in the mail. People brought bags of groceries and left hundreds of dollars as surprises. Someone bought them a car, and God helped them buy a house.

Then, Nov. 4, 1976, the Lord spoke again.

*I want you to give KCM \$10,000.*

"David, that can't be God," his wife had insisted. "We've never even seen that much money."

"He knows we don't have \$10,000," David Sr. had explained. "He wants us to give it by faith." The family held hands and prayed: "Father, today by faith we give Kenneth Copeland \$10,000 in Jesus' Name." Then David Sr. sat down and made a payment sheet with a place for each amount given and the resulting new balance, so they could keep track of their giving.

A few minutes later, someone

knocked on the door of their travel trailer.

"Hello," the man said. "I was praying and the Lord told me to give you this." He handed them a check for \$500 and walked away. That day, David Sr. mailed \$502 to KCM.

Blessings abounded to them in amazing ways, and by the end of that year he was giving \$5 a day and had made a huge dent in the \$10,000.

In 1980, David Sr. started a church. From the day it opened its doors, the church gave \$1 a day to KCM. From his personal account, David Sr. was giving \$17 a day...then \$18...then \$20. By the mid-1980s, he was sending \$25 a day—\$750 a month.

For 20 years, David Crank Sr. remained consistent and obedient to God's instruction to mail an offering to KCM every day. In 1996, the Lord allowed him to switch to sending a weekly gift. By that time, David Sr. had been the pastor of Faith Christian Ministries Church in St. Louis and had a television ministry. He owned a beautiful new home and God had given him a third son. The blessings of God had overwhelmed him.

And now it was over.

In an unexpected turn of events, David Crank Sr. had died.

He was only 57.

Unsure how to process the loss, David Jr. had one question.

*Why?*

### The Next Generation

"I was stunned by my father's death at such a young age," David remembers. "Brother Copeland heard that he'd died and asked me to go to the Branson Victory Campaign. I went and he said, 'Your dad died at 57—but don't question it. In Deuteronomy 29:29 the Bible says

that the secret things belong to the Lord our God. This is one of those secret things. Let go of your questions and do this—expect great things.'

"That helped set me free. I released all my questions and just trusted God. Still, I hadn't expected to take over his ministry for years to come. How could I begin to live up to his legacy?"

"When I stepped into the pulpit, I tried to be like Dad. I wore a nice suit, dress shirt and tie. It felt awful—like David trying to wear armor that didn't fit him. One Sunday I ditched the coat. Another Sunday I ditched the tie. Eventually I stood in the pulpit in jeans. Before long I was preaching on bouncing back from adversity while jumping on a trampoline.

"I loved my dad. I respected him. But I couldn't *be* him. Somehow I had to find my style and be true to myself. The amazing thing was that the church started growing. Pretty soon we had 200 members...then 300.

"As I pondered our differences, it occurred to me that Dad had spent most of his adult life breaking out of a poverty mentality. But I never had a poverty mentality. I didn't even know we were poor until years later. My earliest memories involved sitting in that little travel trailer and listening to messages on faith by Kenneth Copeland. Dad had hundreds of things to unlearn, but I didn't.

"As time passed and the church exploded in growth, I realized that I had a whole different paradigm than my dad. Because of the way I was raised, faith was as easy to me as breathing. I knew I was standing on his shoulders. I'd watched him sow financially into KCM for years. Because of that, I had the wisdom to stay connected to KCM."

### Childlike Faith

As a child, one of David's first faith prayer projects had been a bicycle. He could see it in his mind's eye. The bike was orange. It had high handlebars with

streamers and a banana seat.

David released his faith, believed he received and thanked God every day for his new bike. Weeks passed without it manifesting. Then one day his dad stuck his head in the travel trailer and said, "David, I've got your bike!"

Breathless with expectation, David ran outside.

It was green. The handlebars were rusted. The seat was ripped.

"That's not my bike!"

"Yes, it is!"

"No, it isn't!"

"This is your bike!" David's dad shouted while trying to straighten the tire that he'd accidentally run over with the car.

Both father and son were depressed when they arrived at their next stop in Arkansas. A man from the local church said, "Brother Crank, would you walk with me to my house? My dad owned the Western Auto store and it went out of business. Everything in the store sold except this. I wondered if your son might have use for it."

It was a brand new orange bike. With tall handlebars, streamers and a banana seat.

"My bike!" David shouted with joy.

His dad blinked back tears. "I spent my last \$10 on an Ishmael," he admitted.

Sometime the next year the bike had disappeared. Had it been stolen? David didn't know. Years later, David's dad had come to him in tears. "I got in a bind and pawned that bike for gas money to get to the next town."

David forgave his dad, but the lesson had already been learned.

*God responded to the prayer of faith.*

#### Faithful Friends

"When I was little, Rick Shelton, one of my dad's friends, came by and found me crying from hunger," David recalls. "He bought milk for me and then rocked me. Rick always called me 'Young David.' He went into the ministry too, and when Dad started his church, Rick started one nearby. Being

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very gracious, the morning of his first service, Dad announced that we were all going to attend Rick's service that night to support him.

"While his intentions were good, a lot of Dad's members left his church and went to Rick's. It frustrated Dad to no end. He decided he needed to move to put distance between his church and Rick's. He moved 20 miles away. A few years later, Rick moved his church to within five minutes of Dad's. To make it worse, Rick's church was growing like crazy.

"Back then, Joyce Meyer was Rick's secretary. She launched Life in the Word from there. In 1980, Rick bought 37 prime acres close to Dad's church. Dad was so upset! Years passed and Rick's church was no longer growing like it had been.

After Dad passed, our church just exploded. It went from 180 to multiple thousands in a short period of time. A prophet who didn't know either of us gave Rick a word from God. She said, 'This church doesn't belong to you. It belongs to Young David.'

"Rick knew exactly who Young David was. We bought his location on 37 acres and put \$10 million into renovations. He took our church, got out of debt and was able to retire."

### Faith for Aviation

For years, while attending conferences at KCM in Fort Worth, David's dad would see airplanes owned by other ministers parked at the small airport at KCM. "Someday I'm going to have a plane sitting

there," he would say to family members. "Let's close our eyes and imagine it."

At home preaching to 30 people, he'd say, "I'm going to have an airplane."

Everyone laughed at him.

In 2003, that dream came true when father and son landed at that little airport in Fort Worth in a Saratoga single-engine plane. It might have looked like a toy beside some of the larger planes and jets, but David Sr. was excited beyond words.

When Kenneth Copeland was believing for a Citation X, David Jr. and his wife, Nicole, gave \$10,000 toward the new jet. By the time Kenneth got the plane, the Cranks had given another \$10,000 toward fuel.

Nine years ago, when the Cranks had expanded their ministry to three locations in St. Louis, the Lord directed David to start a fourth church in West Palm Beach, Fla. Knowing he would need a jet to fly back and forth, David called Pastor Keith Moore in Branson, Mo., and asked what kind of plane he needed.

"I suggest a Citation S2," Keith explained. "They're economical, but hard to find."

David found a Citation S2 in excellent condition in Springfield, Mo., and paid cash for it. The money was put into an escrow account in Oklahoma City, and the owner told David to use the plane free for 30 days. David ended up flying the plane free for 237 days before completing the sale.

David realized he'd been sowing into his own Citation when he'd given toward Kenneth's aircraft.

### Generational Multiplication

"The blessing of God is generational," David explains. "I believe my dad was blessed not only for his faithfulness to KCM, but also for teaching his children to serve the



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Lord. The blessings on my father's life have multiplied to me in ways that he could never have imagined.

"Although my father only met him once, Kenneth Copeland was his spiritual father. Because I'm a Partner, I know his anointing rests on me. I have blessings being poured out to me from both of my fathers—my biological father and my spiritual father. It feels as though the windows of heaven have opened over me.

"Recently, I noticed our finances go down and had no idea why. I preach on the BVOV Network and Brother Copeland had watched me. He called and said that he'd heard me joke that if I bought a Cadillac Escalade the media would kill me. I was driving my car when he called and there was a Cadillac Escalade next to me. When he repeated what I'd said, the Cadillac next to me was hit by a truck.

"Kenneth said, 'You're at a level where you can't get away with saying things like that. It tore down your financial walls. I repented for you and put them back up, but you need to repent now and deal with it, too.' As soon as I did, our finances went back up. To me, that's a perfect picture of partnership. People are watching over you in prayer and repairing broken places in your walls that you didn't even know were there."

David and Nicole Crank pastor FaithChurch.com, a megachurch with three locations in St. Louis and one in West Palm Beach. The church his father started has now grown from one location to four—and its membership increased from 180 to 18,000.

That's the power of multiplied generational blessings from two fathers.

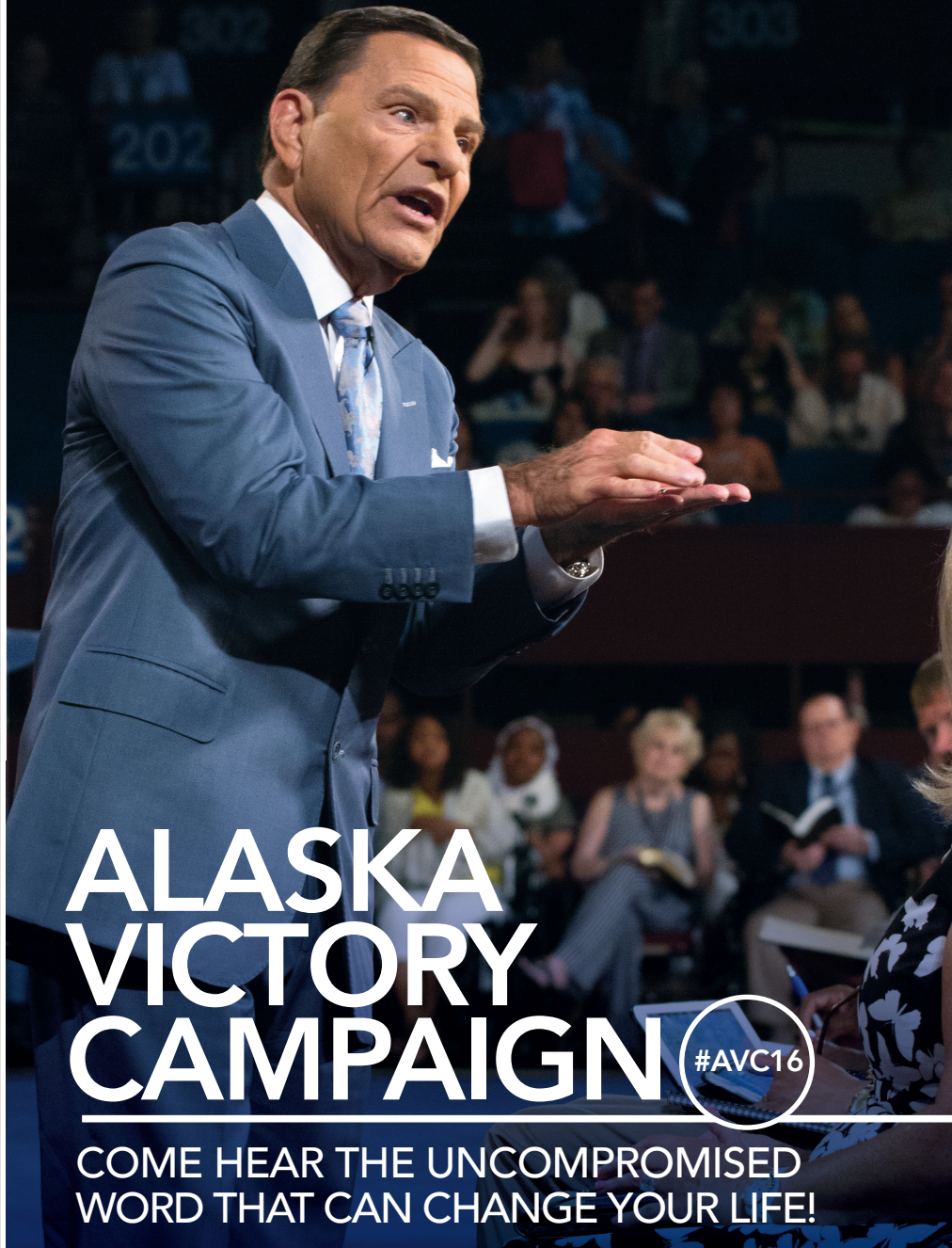
Inside his office, David has a gift that was custom-made for him—an orange bike with high handlebars, streamers and a banana seat. It serves as a reminder that faith moves God—all the way down the generations. ❶

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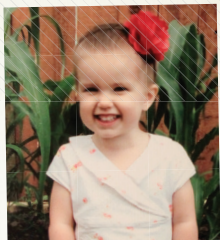
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# GoodNEWSGazette



## 'LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE!'

This picture is our 2½-year-old granddaughter Natanielle (Natty), six months after completing the last of nine rounds of chemotherapy for stage 4 cancer. Look what the Lord has done! Thank you for all your prayers.

Gerry and Marsha K.  
Lethbridge, Alberta



I attended Healing School at the Great Lakes Believers' Convention. As I was standing in line to have hands laid on me, I felt a "pop" in my back as God healed my spine from an injury sustained when I was a teenager. I was awed that God would do that for me.

N.C.  
London, Ontario

## BLESSED BY 50 DAYS OF PROSPERITY

I would like to share my testimony about the *50 Days of Prosperity* package. I am so blessed by this ministry. I am in day nine of the 50 days and I received a

supernatural provision by receiving a \$1,000 check in the mail today. I love this teaching because it teaches you how the focus should be on God and not on the world's resources. I have already learned to trust God and be obedient to

His Word. Thank you for showing me who I am in Christ, and the meaning of seek God first and all things will be given unto you. I am so excited to see what more God has in store for me.

Vanessa B. | Atlanta, Ga.

## 'GOD HAS RESTORED'

God has restored my lost home, my job and my finances. All the glory should be to Him, as I prayed with KCM four years ago and I believed in my heart that it would come to pass, and it has truly come.

Charlie | South Africa

## FROM VOLUNTEER TO PAID STAFF

Recently, I asked KCM to agree with me in prayer that I would begin to receive a salary. I had been working as a volunteer for over five years. And now, at the end of October, I have joyfully sown my entire first salary as a firstfruits offering to KCM for the Lord, in love and appreciation.

Rudae | Namibia

## 'PROTECTED BY ANGELS'

I was protected by angels on a busy Florida highway. I lost control when I tried to avoid a car that was going to hit my car on the side, but somehow, after turning around twice in the middle of the road, I ended up safely in the embankment. Glory to God!

Aida H. | Clermont, Fla.

## I Got the Job!

I just want to thank you for praying for me. I called on Dec. 2 for prayer because I was going to a job interview. I had been believing God for a job as a teaching assistant in the public school system. On Dec. 14, I got the call that I had the job. Praise God! Thank you, because you really were there when I needed prayer. God bless you richly, KCM.

Zenaida G. | Edcouch, Texas

## 'NO CANCER!'

Thanks so much to everyone who stood with us. My 36-year-old daughter had discovered a lump in her breast and was going for a mammogram and

an ultrasound. We were believing God for total healing and no cancer. We asked you to stand with us that God's Word would prevail. The biopsy results are in. NO CANCER! May the

prayers you prayed for us rebound to your account in a tremendous way! Love you all and thank you for your prayers.

Gwendolyn P.  
Shreveport, La.

## FREE FROM FEAR—AT LAST!

I'm 84 years old and have been battling fear all my life. On Friday, I rang KCM for prayer. I have had a fear of doctors since I was a small boy and would awake with nightmares of doctors operating on me. I was also left-handed, and throughout school I was smacked over the knuckles continually and told to use my right hand. Over the years, counselors and professional people have all told me to get over it. So I lived with it. I was at the end of my rope when I called KCM as I have been continually tormented by fear and haven't slept through the night for over five years. I am also in a wheelchair with symptoms of severe arthritis. Well, it's Monday morning and I had to call to say that I am on top of the world. I slept through the night all weekend and am feeling on cloud nine! All this time people told me to get over it. Praise God for KCM, who knew what to do. I am so thankful for this ministry. My faith is encouraged and I will be enforcing my freedom. No going back.

Laurie S.  
Victoria, Australia



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testimonies

## *salvation prayer*

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

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

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

“  
**FAITH IS RELEASED  
TWO WAYS: BY OUR  
WORDS AND BY  
OUR ACTIONS.**

” —Kenneth Copeland

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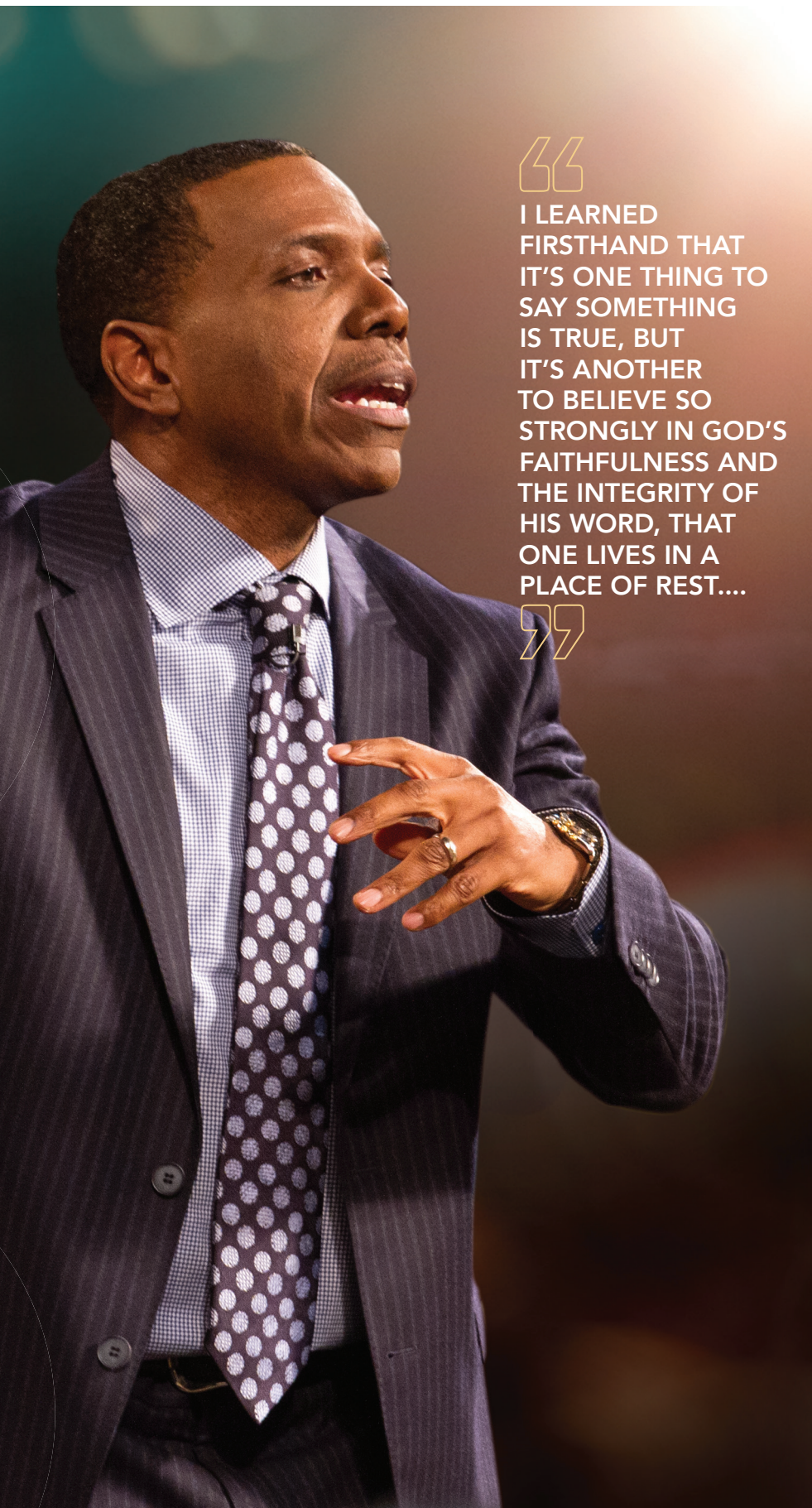
# *Five Revelations/*

**That Saved My Life** / *by Creflo Dollar*

**A FEW YEARS AGO, I WENT IN FOR MY REGULAR YEARLY CHECKUP. MY DOCTOR RAN SOME TESTS, AND THE RESULTS CAME BACK SHOWING AN AGGRESSIVE FORM OF PROSTATE CANCER. MY DOCTOR WARNED ME, “YOU CAN GET ANOTHER OPINION, BUT YOU’LL BE WASTING PRECIOUS TIME.”**

I didn’t say anything to my wife, Taffi, right away. I just went right on living my life as I listened for direction from the Holy Spirit. About that time, a comedian I know called and offered me a role in a movie. Surprisingly, he wanted me to play a funeral director.

Considering my diagnosis, I didn’t want to do it, but the Lord had other plans. He instructed me to take the role, telling me, *You’re going to be laughing all day long.* He knew exactly what I needed—to laugh.



“

I LEARNED  
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IT'S ONE THING TO  
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IS TRUE, BUT  
IT'S ANOTHER  
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STRONGLY IN GOD'S  
FAITHFULNESS AND  
THE INTEGRITY OF  
HIS WORD, THAT  
ONE LIVES IN A  
PLACE OF REST....

”

I took the role, and at the end of the shoot, after a day of laughter and fun, I finally told Taffi about the diagnosis. My wife was a champ. She looked at me and said, “OK, what’s the plan?”

“The plan is what it’s always been,” I replied. By His stripes I knew I was already healed, and I had no doubt the healing would manifest. What I didn’t realize was that during the experience I would gain a deeper understanding about healing, rest, spiritual authority, the love of God and how they all work together.

#### Revelation No. 1: Rest—the Work Is Done

After I told Taffi about the diagnosis, I got to work. I went to the other side of our house and began to meditate on and confess the Word. While one part of me focused on the Word, the other part fought to remain in a place of rest. My body had yet to manifest my healing. In essence, I had to believe against—or in spite of—my body. I learned firsthand that it’s one thing to say something is true, but it’s another to believe so strongly in God’s faithfulness and the integrity of His Word, that one lives in a place of rest—confidently relying and trusting in Him.

If I had stayed focused on the doctor’s report, I would have strengthened my faith in the cancer more than I would have strengthened my faith in the healing that had already been provided for me.

Instead, I walked up and down the hallway, saying, “Thank You, Jesus.” Thanksgiving allowed me to stir up my faith and get to a place of rest. I also began meditating on the Word and spending even more time in God’s presence. All of these proved important elements to entering into rest. It wasn’t a matter of God healing me—He

# "THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PRAYERS GOD WILL NEVER ANSWER.

1 He will never answer a prayer to do something that He's already done.

2 He will never answer a prayer about a situation that He's already given us instructions on how to handle."

had already done that. I was merely laboring to enter into rest so the healing could manifest.

## Revelation No. 2: Grace Makes; Faith Takes

"What about grace?" one might ask.

Of course, grace has already made everything available, but Romans 5:2 says, "We have access by faith into this grace." Ephesians 2:8 says we were saved by grace, but we received it through faith. In other words, grace makes; faith takes.

What does faith take?

It takes what grace has made.

Trying to use faith to do something beyond what grace has made available is impossible. Instead, faith possesses what grace provides. So faith must be developed to acquire what grace has provided.

While I knew I had already been healed (by grace), I needed to use my faith to take that healing and to achieve—and remain in—a place of rest.

## Revelation No. 3: God Has Your Back

I went to see a doctor friend of mine in Chattanooga, Tenn., who is a specialist. He scheduled an MRI for me. While I was in the MRI machine, I overheard the technician say, "Oh, dear God, it looks like this man

has cancer on his spinal cord."

My friend, the specialist, was sitting in a remote lab with big screens and other equipment. When I left the MRI, he called me into his lab where he began pulling up the images. He said, "With the intensity and aggressiveness that they've reported about you, the screen should light up." He enlarged the image and moved it up and down and all around. Nothing appeared. No cancer of the prostate. No cancer of the spinal cord. *Nothing.*

My son was in the room with me, so I have a witness to what I'm sharing. The specialist paused the screen at one point, and there on the screen appeared the image of a bearded man. My son Jeremy said, "Do you see that?"

"That guy right there?" the specialist asked, pointing to the screen.

As clear as day, I heard the Spirit of God speak to my spirit and say, *Didn't I tell you there's a man living on the inside of you? I've got your back!*

Something supernatural had happened. The specialist advised me to go back to my doctor and have him rerun the original test.

I celebrated. The devil had wanted me sick, but I wasn't going to let that happen. My healing had manifested. There's a man living on the inside of me, and He's got my back!

## Revelation No. 4: God May Not Answer

My revelations about healing didn't end there. About a year after my healing from cancer, I experienced tremendous pain in my tailbone. One day, I talked to God about it, reminding Him of all the times I had already talked to Him about this problem.

In the middle of my lecture, the Lord said, *You've been talking to Me all these months about your tailbone, but you haven't talked to your tailbone.*

"Talk to my tailbone?" I asked.

*Yeah, I've wanted your tailbone healed just as much as you have. But I don't have*

*the authority to do anything about it. You do! I gave you the authority.*

Later that night, I said, "Tailbone, I speak to you in Jesus' Name. I command you to be healed. I command the pain to go! You're not allowed to stay here anymore! Be healed in Jesus' Name because you're already healed!"

Fifteen seconds later, I sat down on a wooden chair and then on the floor. No matter where I sat or how I moved, the pain was gone—and it has never returned.

I discovered that there are two types of prayers God will never answer. No. 1, He will never answer a prayer to do something that He's already done. No. 2, He will never answer a prayer about a situation that He's already given us instructions on how to handle. Sadly, we spend a lot of time asking God to do what He's already done instead of releasing our spiritual authority. Or, we spend time asking God to do something He told *us* to do. Spiritual authority has already been given to us. We simply need to release the authority we already have.

## Revelation No. 5: God's Love Works First

My healings have also taught me more about the depth of God's love. Often we spend more time talking about how much we love God and not nearly enough time talking about how much He loves us.

Romans 8:31-32 says, "If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

Many of us don't believe that God is always for us. But, if we don't believe He is for us—that He loves us—then we're not going to believe what He has to say to us. When we're in a ditch, He's for us. When we've missed the mark, He's for us. When we haven't done everything right, He's for us. God is, has always been and always will be *for us*.

Galatians 5:6 says faith works by love. Faith does not work by how much we love God. Faith works by how much we believe God loves us.

I remember telling God, "Lord, I love You with all my heart and all my soul and



Creflo  
Dollar

is the founder and senior pastor of World Changers Church International in College Park, Ga.; World Changers Church-New York; and several fellowship churches across the country. For more information, visit [creflodollarministries.org](http://creflodollarministries.org).

all my strength and all my might, with everything I have.” Yet, as I examined my life, I realized that wasn’t true. I wanted to love God completely in every area of my life, but depending on the day, I didn’t. One day I might not love Him with all my finances. Another day I might not love Him with all my mind. Daily, I fell short. Then I remembered Ephesians 4:32, which says, “And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”

God forgave first, then we forgive. That same principle applies here.

So often, we have more faith in what we can do for Jesus than in what Jesus has already done for us. But we need to correct that theology. What He has done enables us to obey or forgive or love. God never requires us to produce anything that He has not first given us. If He tells us to love, He’s enabled us to love. If He tells us to forgive, He’s enabled us to forgive. We are blessed because of what Jesus has already done, not because of our efforts (Galatians 3). He shed His blood and now our faith in Jesus has positioned us to be blessed.

Going through an ordeal like a cancer diagnosis solidifies what we truly believe. Religious rhetoric isn’t enough. Instead, it takes coming to a place of rest; understanding the relationship between grace and faith; trusting in our heavenly Father, the work of His Son and the integrity of the Word; exercising our spiritual authority; and accepting the incalculable love of God. That’s how we overcome attacks and trials of any kind—physical, spiritual, financial, relational or emotional.

Learn from my example. Study out these revelations for yourself. One day you’ll discover, not only are they true, but they may just save your life. 🙏



# KCM events

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**Brooklyn Park, Minn. : Aug. 25-26**  
Upper Midwest Faith Explosion 2016  
[lwcc.org](http://lwcc.org)

**Forest Park, Ill. : Sept. 12**  
2016 International Faith Conference  
[billwinston.org](http://billwinston.org) or [livingwd.org](http://livingwd.org)

**Branson, Mo. : Oct. 19-24**  
Autumn Assembly of Prayer  
[BillyeBrim.org](http://BillyeBrim.org)

**Autaugaville, Ala. : Oct. 29**  
Greater Glory 2016 | [canaanland.com](http://canaanland.com)

**Kellie Copeland  
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[brandnewlifechurch.com](http://brandnewlifechurch.com)

**Riley Stephenson**  
Join KCM's evangelistic outreach  
minister for evangelism training.

**Nanuet, N.Y. : July 22-24**  
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**St-Hubert, Québec : Oct. 18**  
Église Jésus la Lumière des Nations  
1-450-462-5414

**St-Léonard, Québec : Oct. 19**  
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**Montréal, Québec : Oct. 20**  
Centre Chrétien Cité de l'Éternel  
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**Montréal, Québec : Oct. 21-23**  
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For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them (Mark 11:23-24).



## Enter Into His Courts With Praise!

THIS VERY FAMILIAR SCRIPTURE HAS TO DO WITH PRAYING IN FAITH, OR PRAYING TO GET RESULTS. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR YOU TO REMEMBER ABOUT PRAYING ACCURATELY IS TO GO TO THE WORD OF GOD, FIND OUT WHAT THE WORD SAYS ABOUT THE PROBLEM, AND THEN PRAY ACCORDING TO THAT WORD. **by Kenneth Copeland**

**F**irst John 5:14-15 says when we ask anything according to His will, we know He hears us and we know we have the petitions we desired of Him. When you pray according to God's WORD, which is His will, then you know that your prayer is answered. Jesus said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you" (John 16:23). When you use the Name of Jesus in prayer, you get the ear of God. Peter wrote that the eyes of God are over the righteous and His ears are open to their prayers. You don't have to pray until you get God's attention. He is listening for your prayer. You have His attention all the time.

**I encourage you to spend time meditating in The WORD concerning praise. It will revolutionize your life! I guarantee it!**

When you pray according to Mark 11:23-24, you believe you receive when you pray. This opens the door for thanksgiving and praise. Philippians 4:6 says, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Thanksgiving and praise is an integral part of the prayer. When you believe you receive, then you begin to praise God for

the answer. You thank God that it is done for you.

Thanksgiving and praise involves more than just speaking lovely words to God. There is power in the praise of God. Praise was ordained by God for a definite reason. It serves a purpose.

Psalms 8 and 9 point out some things about praise that every believer should know. Psalm 8:1-2 says, "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger." Jesus quoted the Psalm in Matthew 21:16: "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise." He equates praise with strength.

From these scriptures, we see that God brought praise into existence. He ordained it. Why? "Because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger." Praise stops satan right in his tracks. It is a weapon we are to use in calling a halt to satan's maneuvers. Psalm 9 says: "I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all thy marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High. When mine enemies are

turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence. For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right" (verses 1-4).

*When* your enemies are turned back... not *if*. There is no question about it. Remember: We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against satan's forces. When you praise God, your enemies have to turn back. They will fall and perish at your presence. You can see why praise is so important in the life of a believer. It is a vital weapon in your warfare against satan and his forces.

### Usher In His Presence

One thing you must realize is that praise is not governed by emotions. God is worthy of your praise whether you feel like praising Him or not. Hebrews 13:15 says, "...Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." Under the Old Covenant, when the people had problems, they went to the priest and he would offer a sacrifice to God. That would bring God on the scene.

Today, under the New Covenant, we are to do the same. We are priests unto God (Revelation 5:10). As we offer up the sacrifices of praise before our Most High Priest, Jesus, our communication with God is great. Psalm 22:3 says God

inhabits the praises of His people. Praise brings God on the scene personally. At times of high praise, the shekinah glory of God will fill the whole place with His sweet presence.

When Solomon finished building the house of The LORD, the trumpeters and singers lifted their voices as one, and with trumpets, cymbals and instruments of music, they praised The LORD saying, "For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever." The glory of God filled the house so that the priests could not even minister because of the cloud (2 Chronicles 5:13-14). God Himself inhabited the praises of His people.

Jehoshaphat appointed singers unto The LORD to go before the army and say, "Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever."

When the Israelites began to sing

and praise, the Lord set ambushments against their enemies, and their enemies destroyed themselves (2 Chronicles 20:21-23).

The weapon of praise! Singers going before an army? It happened just that way. Israel didn't have to unsheathe a weapon of war—only to sing "Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth forever."

David was a man after God's own heart. He knew how to praise his God. Until you have The WORD dwelling in you richly so that you can speak psalms and praises out of your own spirit, use the praises of David to magnify God. Speak them or sing them out loud to the Father.

In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me. Every

day they wrest my words: all their thoughts are against me for evil. They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul. When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me. In God will I praise his word: in the Lord will I praise his word. In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me (Psalm 56:4-6, 9-11).

The WORD says God inhabits the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3). The enemy is turned back, falls and perishes at the presence of our God.

Praise not only honors God and empowers our faith, but also it is a powerful weapon in the realm of the spirit. Remember: It will cause satan and his forces to turn back, fall and perish at your presence.



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## Keep the Door Open

Abraham "grew strong and was empowered by faith *as he gave* praise and glory to God" (Romans 4:20, *The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*). As you praise God and speak of His marvelous works, your faith rises on the inside of you to receive the blessings of God.

## AUGUST

		Old Testament	New Testament
Mon	1	Job 12-13	Rev. 5
Tue	2	Job 14-15	Rev. 6
Wed	3	Job 16-17	Rev. 7
Thu	4	Job 18-19	Rev. 8
Fri	5	Job 20-21	Rev. 9
Sat	6	Job 22-24	Rev. 10-11
Sun	7	Job 25-26	Rev. 12
Mon	8	Job 27-28	Rev. 13
Tue	9	Job 29-30	Rev. 14
Wed	10	Job 31-32	Rev. 15
Thu	11	Job 33-34	Rev. 16
Fri	12	Job 35-36	Rev. 17
Sat	13	Job 37-39	Rev. 18-19
Sun	14	Job 40-41	Rev. 20
Mon	15	Job 42; Prov. 1	Rev. 21
Tue	16	Prov. 2-3 Old Testament	Rev. 22 Psalms
Wed	17	Prov. 4-5	Ps. 1
Thu	18	Prov. 6-7	Ps. 2
Fri	19	Prov. 8-9	Ps. 3
Sat	20	Prov. 10-12	Ps. 4-5
Sun	21	Prov. 13-14	Ps. 6
Mon	22	Prov. 15-16	Ps. 7
Tue	23	Prov. 17-18	Ps. 8
Wed	24	Prov. 19-20	Ps. 9
Thu	25	Prov. 21-22	Ps. 10
Fri	26	Prov. 23-24	Ps. 11
Sat	27	Prov. 25-27	Ps. 12-13
Sun	28	Prov. 28-29	Ps. 14
Mon	29	Prov. 30-31	Ps. 15
Tue	30	Eccl. 1-2	Ps. 16
Wed	31	Eccl. 3-4	Ps. 17

Honor God with the words of your mouth. Allow your words to agree with God's words where He is concerned. Look in His WORD for *good things* to proclaim about Him. Publish The LORD's mercy and compassion to those around you. Tell others of the great things He has done in your life.

Notice that David said, "I *will* praise...I *will* show forth all thy marvellous works. I *will* be glad and rejoice...I *will* sing praise..." (Psalm 9:1-2). It is a matter of your will. You do not just praise God because you feel like it. You praise God because you *will* to praise Him. Say with David, "I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart." Then watch The WORD go to work in your behalf!

One incident during Jesus' earthly ministry clearly shows the definite importance that praise can have. Luke 17:12-19 describes the cleansing of 10 lepers. All 10 of them were cleansed, but one turned back to Jesus and glorified God. To that one man, Jesus said, "Arise, go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole." The others were *cleansed*. He was *made whole*.

As I was meditating on these scriptures, The LORD showed me a vision. I saw the man come running up to Jesus. He was cleansed—all the disease was gone from his body—but the bottom of his ear was missing. The disease had eaten it away. As he shouted and praised God, the ear was restored. He was *made whole*. Praise made the difference.

If you do not know very much about praising God then I encourage you to spend time meditating in The WORD concerning praise. It will revolutionize your life! I guarantee it! David said, "I will show forth all [Your] marvellous works." If you don't know how to praise God, just find some of the things God has already done throughout the Bible and begin to praise Him for doing them. When I first began in these things, I would open my Bible and praise God by reading the Psalms out loud. From there I let the Holy Spirit lead me into praising God for things He had

done in my life, and to say things that would bless God.

One important thing I have learned is to praise God in the spirit. The real strength comes when we praise The LORD in the spirit, in other tongues. First Corinthians 14:4 says we are edified or charged up when we speak in tongues. First Corinthians 14:17 says giving thanks in tongues is giving thanks well. Praising God in this way enables us to praise Him beyond our own intellects. We allow the Holy Spirit to lead us into unlimited praise and thanksgiving. This is surely perfected praise (Matthew 21:16).

Let's say you are faced with a problem. You know what The WORD says about it, so you go directly to prayer. You put your faith into action against the mountain—whatever it may be. You pray and believe God for the answer. By believing God in that situation, and acting on The WORD, you are applying faith power to the mountain. It begins to move. Then satan gets involved. The only way he can stop you is by injecting unbelief so that you will stop applying pressure to the mountain. He can't stop the mountain from being moved, but he can try to stop you from applying the pressure of your faith to it. The mountain will never move until you apply the faith force necessary to move it. This is where praise comes in.

While you are standing in faith—while you are applying The WORD of God to the situation—it is important to keep the praise of God on your lips. Continue to praise God for the answer. Praise Him that the mountain is moved. Don't be moved by the circumstances. Just keep your eyes on God's WORD. The WORD of God and prayer open the doors for God's power to work. Praise keeps them open. Praise will bring manifestations of the Holy Spirit and His great power.

Activate the power of God in every area of your life by speaking The WORD in faith and praising God that His marvelous works have been performed in your behalf. 🙏

**"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people groan."** (Proverbs 29:2, New King James Version)



# America's GIFT OF GOVERNMENT

by  
**David  
Barton**

When we stand before God at the final judgment, He will ask for an account of what we did with all the blessings He gave us—our lives, our families, our material possessions. Some will reply, "Lord, I loved my wife, I raised my children right, I was a good steward with all that You gave me."

"Well done," He will say. But then He will ask, "I gave

you a government—what did you do with it?"

Many Americans will not have an answer.

In the parable of the talents in Matthew 25 and Luke 19, a master entrusted each of his servants to be stewards, or managers, over a certain number of talents, then he departed for a season. When he returned to settle accounts, two of his servants had multiplied the talents they were given and were rewarded for being good stewards. But because the third servant

WHEN YOU BECOME ENTITLED TO EXERCISE THE RIGHT OF VOTING FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS, LET IT BE IMPRESSED ON YOUR MIND THAT GOD COMMANDS YOU TO CHOOSE FOR RULERS, "JUST MEN WHO WILL RULE IN THE FEAR OF GOD." THE PRESERVATION OF GOVERNMENT DEPENDS ON THE FAITHFUL DISCHARGE OF THIS DUTY; IF THE CITIZENS NEGLECT THEIR DUTY AND PLACE UNPRINCIPLED MEN IN OFFICE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL SOON BE CORRUPTED....

—Noah Webster



# WHEN THE GODLY DEPART FROM ANY ARENA, THEIR GODLY VALUES DEPART WITH THEM.

was afraid, he hid his talent. He did nothing with it. That servant got into trouble with his master.

Like the fearful servant, for years many Christians have chosen not to get involved in what is going on in the world politically. We have let fear, confusion and apathy keep us from taking our proper place in this country.

The interesting thing about the servants in this parable is that not one of them asked to be stewards over the talents they were given. Still, the master held them accountable.

In the same way, as Americans we didn't ask to be born here. We didn't ask for this government. Nevertheless, I believe God is going to hold us accountable for what we do with what we've been given. Being involved in the civil arena is not an option...especially in America.

## We're Responsible to Choose

I have always believed the Word of God applies equally to people everywhere at all times—that God will bless any nation that will do what He says. But our Founding Fathers said Proverbs 29:2, “When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn,” has a different meaning in America than in other nations.

Why is that?

Because more than 200 years ago in America, we were the first nation in 2,000 years where the people were able to choose whether the righteous would rule or the wicked would rule. The Founders considered our government a “stewardship government.”

Other countries were ruled by a king who was born into that leadership position. If he was righteous, the people were blessed. If he was wicked, the people suffered. They didn't get to choose their leaders.

But God gave Americans this government with the opportunity and the responsibility to choose godly leaders. And we will have to answer for what we do with that responsibility.

The Americans are the first people whom Heaven has favored with an opportunity of deliberating upon and choosing the forms of government under which they should live.

Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.

—John Jay, first chief justice of the Supreme Court

## A Bible-Based Government

Many people have become convinced that God is not involved with nor interested in the civil arena. They think politics is separate from their spiritual life because they have heard about separation of church and state. There is a misconception that the First Amendment to the Constitution talks about this separation, but it doesn't. In fact, there is no such thing as “separation of church and state” in any of our official government documents. Since the Founders didn't address this in the Constitution or the First Amendment, it clearly was not their intent for American society.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

—The First Amendment

America is the most successful nation in the history of the world. We are the longest ongoing constitutional republic, and it's not because we were founded on secular or worldly principles. In fact, if you research our Constitution, it's amazing to see how many biblical principles it contains.

America has been blessed because the Founding Fathers took godly principles and put them into our founding documents, choosing many of their ideas from Two Treatises of Civil Government by John Locke. It cites the Bible more than 1500 times to show the proper operation of civil government.

America's first civil government was based on a covenant with God. Those who came over on the Mayflower wrote the Mayflower Compact before they stepped onto American soil. Paraphrased, they basically said, “We have come to this nation to propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ and to establish good government, based on His principles, and we covenant with God to do that.”

Twenty-three years later, the colonies made a joint covenant saying basically the same thing. It was the first time in history for there to be anything like a United States where the various colonies cooperated together.

Our government was set up on biblical principles such as that in Exodus 18:21, which said to choose rulers of tens, fifties, hundreds and thousands (in other words, local, county, state and federal). These were to be “able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness.” Our elections are based on this principle and these qualities are what we should be looking for in candidates. It's not important whether they are Republican, Democrat or any other



David  
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party. We should seek to elect God-fearing people who will honor God and advance His principles.

Ezra 7:25 says to appoint judges who know the laws of God. A judge who knows the laws of God will be a God-fearing judge. When judges who don't fear God are appointed, believers may say, "We didn't appoint them." But the truth is, we allowed the people who appointed them to get elected. So we are ultimately responsible—often because of our lack of involvement and sometimes because we voted for issues other than those spelled out in the Bible.

Romans 12:2 in the *J.B. Phillips* translation says, "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould...." We have to be mindful not to let our friends, our families, our backgrounds, our co-workers or public opinion determine our choices for political candidates. We must vote on the basis of what matters biblically, not the popular issues of the day.

### The Godly in Government

As Christians we don't usually think of politicians as ministers, but the Bible indicates otherwise. Romans 13:1 says, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." That means civil authority is ordained of God. Verses 4 and 6 say that those in civil government are "God's ministers."

The Scripture clearly reveals the importance of government to God. First Timothy 2:1-2 says we are to pray for those in authority—first of all. Since He mentions this first, it must be very important to God.

And apparently Jesus considered service in civil government as a means of reward, for in the parable of the talents the faithful servants were rewarded by being made rulers over cities (Luke 19).

It's also interesting to note that in Hebrews 11, the faith "hall of fame," the great heroes mentioned from verses 22-34 were involved in civil government.

As Christians we need to

re-evaluate our involvement in civil government. God desires for His people to be influential in all arenas, especially government. We are to be the salt and light of the earth. And when we don't get involved and we don't vote for godly candidates, we're making it easy for sin to run rampant in our nation. When the godly depart from any arena, their godly values depart with them. It's only when the

righteous rule that the people rejoice.

It's our responsibility to get involved, to preserve and restore our heritage. So let's pray for our leaders, see what the Lord would have each of us to do, and vote for godly candidates.

The government God has blessed us with is a great gift. When we stand before Him one day and He asks what we did with it, what will be our answer? 🙏



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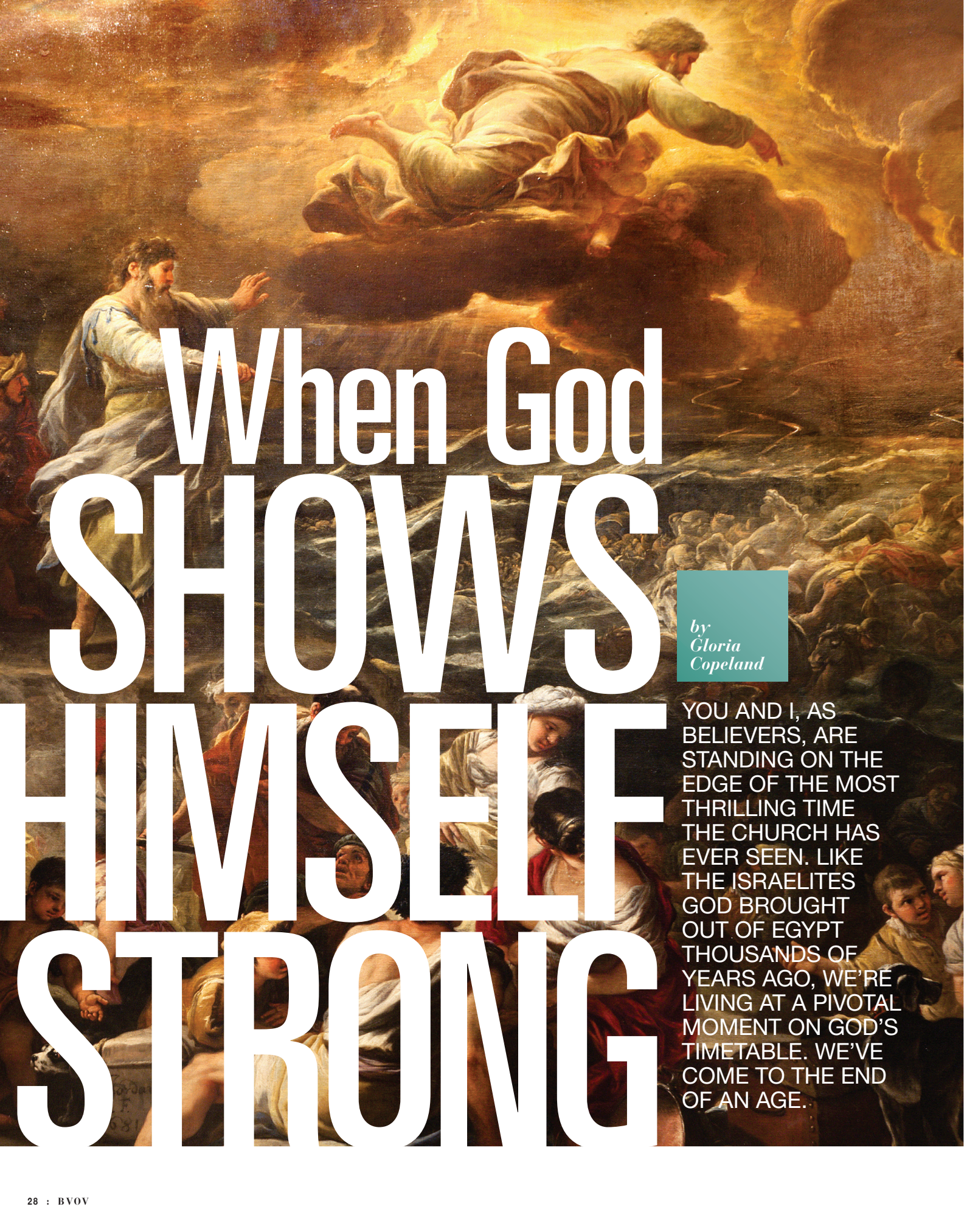
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# When God SHOWS HIMSELF STRONG

by  
*Gloria  
Copeland*

YOU AND I, AS BELIEVERS, ARE STANDING ON THE EDGE OF THE MOST THRILLING TIME THE CHURCH HAS EVER SEEN. LIKE THE ISRAELITES GOD BROUGHT OUT OF EGYPT THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, WE'RE LIVING AT A PIVOTAL MOMENT ON GOD'S TIMETABLE. WE'VE COME TO THE END OF AN AGE.

Jesus is returning soon to catch us away, and before He comes, God is going to show Himself strong on earth through mighty displays of His power. He's going to manifest His glory through the Church in miraculous ways. He's going to pour out His Spirit on all flesh so that everyone on earth has the opportunity to know that Jesus is Lord.

God is raising up a generation of believers in our day that, instead of being trodden underfoot by the world, will walk above it in supernatural power. Just as He lifted up the Israelites before their exodus so that they had the respect of the Egyptians, before we go in the Rapture, the Church will be respected, too. We may not be popular, but we'll have people's attention because we will be "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing" (Ephesians 5:27).

That's God's plan and, without any doubt, He will get it done. The only question is, how big a part of it will you and I choose to be?

Personally, I want to be right in the middle of the action, don't you? I don't want to just stand on the sidelines watching God move, I want to be on the front lines allowing Him to move through me. I want to be one of the people God was talking about in Acts 2:18-19 when He said, "On my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: and I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath."

How can we, as believers, make sure we're included in that group?

Second Chronicles 16:9 gives us the answer. It says, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

In this day of spiritual outpouring, the believers God chooses as His front-line servants will be those who are wholly devoted to Him. He's not going to go looking to manifest His mighty power through Christians with one foot in the Word and one foot in the world. He's going to look for those whose hearts are perfect toward Him.

The word *perfect* in this context means "consecrated, dedicated and loyal." It doesn't refer to never missing it or making a mistake. It's talking about having a heart that is faithful.

A good scriptural example of a person with a faithful heart is Moses. He didn't always do everything perfectly. He made some major mistakes. But as Hebrews 3:2 says, "Moses was faithful in all [God's] house."

That's why God kept working with him. He had to have a faithful man at that point in history. He had to have someone through whom He could show Himself strong and perform supernatural signs and wonders.

If you've read the story, you know that God didn't just sovereignly reach out of heaven and reveal His power to the Egyptians. He worked through His servant. "He made known his ways unto Moses" (Psalm 103:7), and then Moses stretched out his hand and commanded God's will to be done.

God is still using the same program today. That's why He's spent years teaching us to attend to His Word and live our lives by faith. He wants us to know His ways so we can obey Him, follow the prompting of His Spirit, and command His will to be done on earth. He wants us to be prepared so we can be part of this great last-days outpouring of glory.

He wants us to be people with faithful hearts!

### More Than Just a Formula

"But Gloria," someone might say, "the scripture about God looking for faithful hearts is in the Old Testament. Are you sure it applies to us as New Testament believers?"

Absolutely. Jesus confirmed it. In Mark 8:34-35 He said, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it."

By telling us to take up our cross, Jesus wasn't saying, as religious tradition sometimes teaches, that we should suffer without complaining under the thumb of the devil. He wasn't saying we should passively put up with things like sickness and lack. He was calling us to be faithful.

He was telling us to deny our flesh; to live not to please ourselves but to please Him. He was saying, as He did time and again throughout His ministry, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.... Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matthew 6:33, 22:37, *New King James Version*). In other words, set your heart on Him, make Him your No. 1 priority, and then everything else will be added to you.

The Apostle Paul said it this way in Colossians 3:1-2: "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."



**As a believer, you're called to be right in the middle of the action. Don't stand on the sidelines watching God move, be on the front lines and allow Him to move through you!**

**1 God said in the last days He will work supernaturally through His born-again people.**  
Acts 2:18-19

**2 He is looking right now to show Himself strong through believers whose hearts are faithful to Him.**  
2 Chronicles 16:9

**3 God proved through Moses that He can work wonders through someone, even if they make mistakes, as long as they have a faithful heart.**  
Hebrews 3:2

**4 Jesus said to follow Him by living to please Him instead of your flesh.**  
Mark 8:34-35

**5 It may seem like a sacrifice to put God first, but in the end it doesn't cost to serve Him; it pays.**  
Matthew 25:21

Sadly, a lot of Christians haven't paid attention to such verses. They've tried to walk in God's blessings but they haven't set their hearts on the Lord. Even some so-called "faith people" have endeavored to get things from God without really devoting themselves to Him. They've tried to use faith like a formula by making the right confessions while inwardly their hearts are far from God.

That doesn't work.

True Bible faith isn't a formula. It's not just a matter of saying certain things and taking certain steps. It's a matter of the heart.

Ken and I can testify to this. When we found out about living by faith, the first thing we did was dedicate ourselves wholly to God. Before we knew much

*live by faith and walk with Him.*

It didn't take a lot of discipline in those days for us to put God and His Word first place in our lives. We had no other options and nothing else we could be doing, so it was easy for us to be faithful. But as we kept walking with God we began to get prosperous. We weren't desperate anymore. We could do whatever we wanted to do. If we wanted to go on a vacation, we could. If we wanted to go shopping, we could.

### **This Opportunity Won't Last Forever**

It takes a lot more dedication and love for God to be faithful to Him when you have a lot of different options, than it does when you don't have any choice. Ken and I know that

That's what we, as believers, are here on this planet to do! We're here to be a blessing, to carry on the ministry of Jesus, and to be the Word of God manifested in the flesh, just as He was when He was on the earth. It's a big responsibility, but that's the calling we've all been given.

Jesus didn't just say, "I am the light of the world," He said, "Ye are the light of the world" (John 8:12; Matthew 5:14). If this world doesn't see Jesus through the Church, they're not going to see Him at all because that's the way He set it up.

Think of it! Right now we have an opportunity to do for the Lord, because we love Him, what Jesus did for the Father. We have an opportunity to share His gospel with others, help bring them into God's kingdom, and reveal God's glory to the world.

But this opportunity won't last forever. We're at the end of the age and Jesus is coming soon. When He comes we want Him to find us walking in His power and being faithful to do the work of His kingdom. We want Him to find us committed to Him and living on the front lines of the outpouring of His glory.

As Jesus explained it in Matthew 25:14-17:

The kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

Throughout Church history God has entrusted His spiritual "property" or resources to His people. Particularly in the past 100 years, we've seen Him give different things to different generations of believers. He gave one generation a fresh revelation of the new birth. He gave another generation a revival of the gifts of the Spirit. He gave another generation a move of the teaching of the Word.

## **True Bible faith isn't a formula.**

**They've tried to use faith like a formula by making the right confessions while inwardly their hearts are far from God.**

## **THAT DOESN'T WORK.**

of anything about how to stand on His Word, we made a quality commitment to put that Word first place in our lives and to obey it no matter what the cost.

I don't mean to say we had faithfulness completely mastered at that point. That was just the beginning. Like all believers, Ken and I have to watch over our hearts constantly. We have to choose every day to spend time with God and make Him our priority so our hearts don't get overcrowded with the cares and the distractions of this natural world.

In some ways making that choice was a little easier 49 years ago, when we were just getting started, because we were so desperate. We were drowning in debt, flat broke and couldn't see any way out. Walking by faith in the integrity of God's Word was our only hope. It was the answer to our problems and we knew it. *This is what's been wrong in our lives! we thought. We haven't known what God says in His Word. We haven't known how to*

now from experience. But we've made our commitment. No matter how many options we have we're going to stay faithful to God. What's more, everywhere we preach we find that multitudes of other believers have made the same commitment.

God has a faithful people on earth right now!

He has people He can work with who know how to use their faith and how to be blessed. They know how to receive financially and walk in health. They can do anything they want to do in this world, yet they're choosing to follow Jesus. They're taking up their cross daily and serving Him.

Instead of spending their whole lives seeking after natural pleasures, they're setting aside the things of the flesh, walking in the spirit, and pressing in to the things of God. They're being a light for Him on the earth and a blessing to the world.

In our generation He's putting everything together. We not only have the new birth, the teaching of the Word, and the gifts of the Spirit, but we're entering into a manifestation of God's glory. We're entering into a day of signs, wonders and miracles, and an outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh.

Because we've been given such an abundance of spiritual resources, God is expecting more of us. He's expecting us to be like the servant with the five talents. He invested those five talents and turned them into 10. He attended to the work of his master and brought increase into his kingdom.

As a result, when the master returned the servant was rewarded. The master said to him, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (verse 21).

It's the faithful who enter into the joy of the Lord! The unfaithful never do. Unfaithful Christians may still go to heaven when they die but they miss out on the real joy of living. While they're focused on saving the low life of the flesh, they lose out on the higher life of the spirit and future heavenly rewards.

Even though at times it may seem like a sacrifice to keep your heart set on God, in the end it doesn't cost to serve Him—it pays! You can't do anything for God without Him abundantly giving back to you.

In Matthew 24:45 Jesus asked, "Who then is a faithful and wise servant?" In my Bible, right next to that verse I've written "Gloria!" because I've made my decision—I am going to be a faithful and wise servant. When God looks to and fro for someone with a faithful heart so He can show Himself strong, He's going to find me!

I encourage you to make the same commitment. Become a person God can count on. Tell Him every day, "Lord, I love You and I'm here to serve You." Stay ready to manifest His glory in this thrilling hour...and enter into the joy of the Lord! 📺

# AUGUST BROADCAST CALENDAR



Kenneth  
& Gloria  
Copeland

George Pearsons

Aug. 1-5

## Look to Jesus, Your Healer

Kenneth & Gloria Copeland and  
George Pearsons

Sun., Aug. 7

## The World Needs You to Be Blessed

Kenneth Copeland

Aug. 8-12

## Faith Calls Things Into Existence

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Aug. 14

## How to Hear the Mysteries of the Kingdom

Kenneth Copeland

Aug. 15-19

## How to Receive the Holy Spirit Into Your Heart

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Aug. 21

## Faith Begins Where the Will of God Is Known

Kenneth Copeland

Aug. 22-26

## Done With Debt!

Part 1

Gloria Copeland and  
George Pearsons

Sun., Aug. 28

## Jesus: The Will of God in Action

Kenneth Copeland

Aug. 29-Sept. 2

## Done With Debt!

Part 2

Gloria Copeland and  
George Pearsons

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