

Believer's Voice of

KENNETH  
COPELAND  
MINISTRIES



March 2016

# VICTORY



P.10

## Let My PEOPLE GO!

by *Melanie Hemry*

When their son was arrested in Jamaica, Jamie and Peter Vrinios had less than 24 hours to save him from a possible five-year prison sentence. They planted their faith on Psalm 91, put into action what they had learned from Kenneth Copeland, and saw their son set free!

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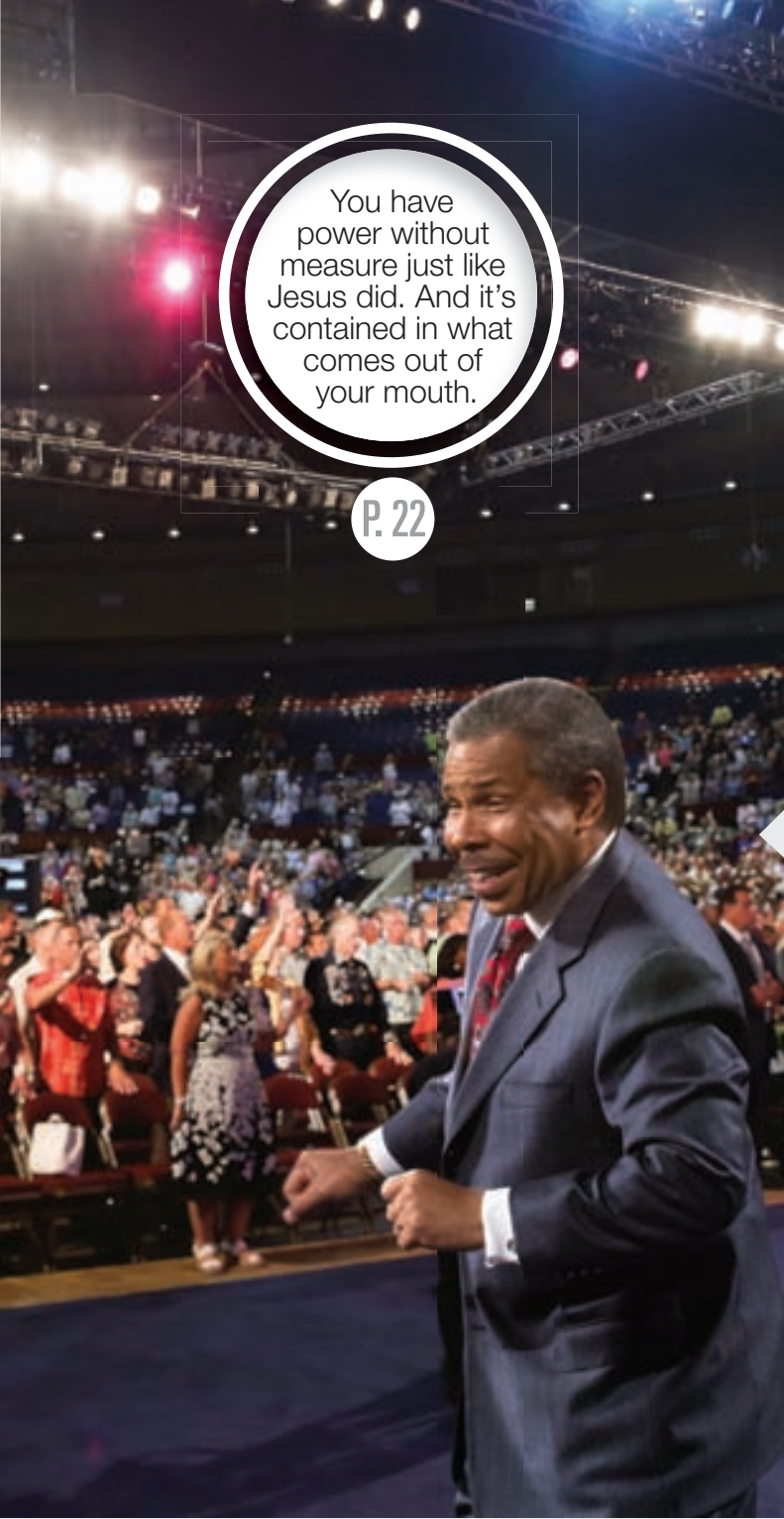
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# March



You have power without measure just like Jesus did. And it's contained in what comes out of your mouth.

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



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by Kenneth Copeland

# the GREATEST FORCE ON EARTH

*The* dominating power of God's WORD coming out of the mouth of a believer is the greatest force on earth.

Absolutely nothing can overcome it.

It can solve any problem and

conquer any challenge you'll ever face. When it is spoken in faith, God's WORD on your lips can literally accomplish the impossible. It can do anything God Himself can do.

If you need proof, study the

ministry of Jesus. When He was on earth He did everything by the dominating power of God's words. Those words were the key to His entire life. "The Son can do nothing of himself..." He said. "But as





my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.... [And] the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works" (John 5:19, 8:28, 14:10).

"Yeah, but that was Jesus!" you might say, "He's the Son of God."

Certainly, He is. But as His joint heir, you're a son [or daughter] of God, too. You're a believer, and Jesus said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

Obviously, if Jesus said you will do His works, you can do them. How? By using the same process He did.


You tune in to the voice of the Holy Spirit who's living inside you and hear what God has to say. Then you speak His words, and the Father who dwells within you does the work. He releases His mighty power and you get the same kind of marvelous results in your life that Jesus did.

Notice, however, the prerequisite is speaking the words of God. You can't just make up your own words and get the same results. I know because I've tried it. All too

often over the years, instead of waiting to hear from God about a situation, I've just jumped up and started praying. I've spouted every scripture I could think of and just shot from the hip, so to speak.

Even in the natural, I'm not much of a marksman from the hip. I'm more effective when I take some time to set up my shot. That's why I prefer long-range shooting. I like to take my rifle out and zero in on a target that's 500 or more yards away. When I get my sights all lined up correctly, I can hit the mark every time—not because I'm such a hotshot, but because I have the right equipment.

I've found much the same principle applies when it comes to prayer. It works best when you take your time, inquire of The LORD, and find out what He is saying about the situation. Although it's better to pray too quickly than not at all, even in emergencies, it just takes a matter of seconds to stop and get the direction of the Holy Spirit before you pray—and His direction makes all the difference.

 With God's WORD on your lips, you can do the works of Jesus and come through every challenge as more than a conqueror. Here are some points to get you there.

- 1 When Jesus was on earth, He did everything by the power of God's words. John 5:19, 8:28, 14:10
- 2 As a believer, you're called to do the works of Jesus by using the same process of hearing and speaking God's words. John 14:12
- 3 You can hear what God is saying about every situation because the Holy Spirit is dwelling within you. John 16:13
- 4 To receive God's wisdom, simply ask for it in faith. James 1:5-6
- 5 Spend time in The WORD and in prayer, believing to receive revelation from The LORD. Mark 11:24



## Eating Rubber Eggs and Hearing From God

I'll never forget one particular time I saw this borne out in my own life. It was many years ago, early in my ministry. Gloria and I had just gotten back from a long stretch on the road. After driving for hours, we had stopped by my mother's house for supper. We were hungry and tired, and ready for a meal and some rest.

Just as mother set a plate of really good-looking eggs in front of me, the telephone rang. She answered, and as I took my first bite I heard her say, "Oh, no! OK...we'll be right over!" Then she started praying in the spirit like a

anywhere until I eat my eggs."

With my appetite suddenly gone, the eggs tasted like rubber but I took another few bites anyway. Then I purposely cleaned up a little and slowly put on a fresh shirt. When we got into the car I let Mother drive and I sat in the passenger seat, praying in the spirit and listening to The LORD. He told me exactly what scriptures He wanted me to read to Aunt Eiley and exactly what to say.

We arrived to find she'd already been given up for dead. Her body had been moved to a bare little room where the doctor would come to officiate her death certificate. We went to the room and found another family

Clearly, by then my prayer had already been answered. The dominating power of God's words had been released; the Father had done the work; and Aunt Eiley no longer needed a death certificate. She was healed from the illness that had been choking the life out of her, and although she was already quite elderly, she lived two more years in perfect health, in her own home.

That just goes to show you what can happen when you take time to hear from God. You can speak His WORD and do the works of Jesus! You don't have to wait until you're facing a critical situation like Aunt Eiley's,

# YOU TUNE IN TO THE VOICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO'S LIVING INSIDE YOU AND HEAR WHAT GOD HAS TO SAY.

**Then you speak His words, and the Father who dwells within you does the work.**

house afire. Although mother was an extremely skilled prayer warrior, and she was usually very strong in such situations, I could tell she was upset.

"What's going on?" I asked.

"Aunt Eiley is about to die!" she said. "If we want to see her before it's too late we have to leave right now. So hurry up and let's go!"

Before I could respond, The LORD arrested me on the inside. I sensed Him telling me to slow down. So, although I loved Aunt Eiley and wanted to rush off to see her just like my mother did, I stayed put. "No, Mama," I said, "I'm not going

there in the same situation.

I hadn't anticipated reading the scriptures The LORD had given me to a dead woman, in front of an audience. But I refused to let that affect my thinking. Opening my Bible, I said exactly what The LORD had directed me to say. I read the verses He'd quickened to me, and then I said, "Aunt Eiley, open your eyes!"

Her eyes popped open like they were on springs.

"Kenneth, what are you doing here?" she said.

"I came to pray for you, darling," I answered.

either. You can say what God is saying in every circumstance of life. You can do the works of Jesus all the time.

His works include more than miracles, signs and wonders. They include every assignment God gives you. They include whatever He commands you to do!

One time The LORD said to me, *If all I ever told you to do was carry out one can of trash, I could make your trip from the backdoor to the alley the greatest adventure you could ever imagine. I could bring people to that alley at just the right moment and anoint you to minister to them. I could do all kinds of supernatural*



*things for you and through you because, by obeying Me and carrying out the trash, you'd be doing My works.*

### If You Don't Have a Clue, Ask for Wisdom

"Well, that sounds like a great way to live, Brother Copeland, but I don't seem to hear God's voice like you do. He doesn't speak to me very much."

Yes, He does. He's your heavenly Father. He's speaking to you all the time by the Holy Spirit, about your life, your calling and the situations you're facing. He's constantly fulfilling the promise in John 16:13-14, where Jesus said: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you."

God is talking to you nonstop! You just have to connect with what He's saying. How do you do that? By obeying the instructions in James 1:5-6: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering."

I've acted on those verses more times than I can count. Again and again, over the course of my relationship with The LORD, when I didn't have a clue what He wanted me to do about something I've said to Him, "Father, I need Your wisdom in this situation and I'm asking You to give me revelation about it from Your WORD." Then I released my faith according to Mark 11:24 which says, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

More often than not, I felt as clueless immediately after I prayed as I did before. But I didn't let my feelings move me. God said He'd give me His wisdom liberally, and as far as I was concerned it

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## Why haven't you?

*we asked you...*

### What is your biggest prayer goal for 2016?

#### Silvia Berberian

I'm believing God for a huge financial miracle, a godly husband, a new business and salvation in my family. I am expecting 16 notable miracles in 2016, and I will have them too....



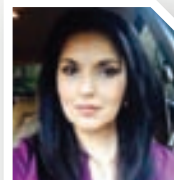
#### Jeremy Silbernagel

I am believing to be the sole breadwinner in the family

with multiple streams of income!

#### Diane Ferguson

For my older sons to be saved. To be financially secure and debt free, able to bless others. And to meet the man God has for me.



#### Kathy Matamoros

I am believing the Lord for supernatural provision, my kids coming back to God, a new house completely debt free and restoration in every area. But most of all I want to walk closer to my Lord and have more revelation of His love and plan for my life.

#### Beth K. Clark

I am praying for my Muslim friend to give his heart to the Lord.

#### April Brunner

Agree that God's will is fulfilled in our lives. And...keep this awesome site up.

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was mine the moment I asked Him for it. So I just thanked Him, praised Him and spent time in the Scriptures, fully expecting to hear the Holy Spirit speak to me through them and give me the answer I needed.

A number of times over the years, when Gloria and I have needed wisdom about something particularly significant, we've taken several days to just seek The LORD about it. We've pulled aside from everything else to pray, search The WORD and listen to the Holy Spirit. Without fail, within three days we've always gotten The LORD's direction.

That's how we ended up with the beautiful home we're living in now. We didn't just decide on our own one day to build it. Gloria started standing

So we set aside a week to pray about it. One day as we were sitting on the couch together praying in the spirit, The LORD said to me, *I want you to turn to Isaiah 54*. He pointed out several scriptures there and told me to read them to her. He said, *Read these verses to Gloria and minister this house to her*.

When I read her those verses, she could hardly contain herself. She started crying and rejoicing at the same time. She then told me that those were the very scriptures The LORD had given her when she first began believing Him for a house in 1967.

Talk about confirmation! That was powerful. We knew we'd heard from heaven.

## He's speaking to you all the time by the Holy Spirit, about your life, your calling and the situations you're facing.

in faith for it back in 1967, after she read Oral Roberts' book, *Don't Let Anybody Steal Your Dreams*. She meditated dream-house scriptures, made plans and clipped house pictures out of magazines for years.

One day, when her faith reached the point of culmination, she came to me and said, "Kenneth, I'm either going to have to build this house or quit messing with it. I've told The LORD that I'll be happy, either way. If He doesn't want us to build it, I'll give it up with no regrets. But we need to find out for sure what He wants us to do."

Of course, one reason we hear so clearly is because we don't just listen for the voice of The LORD on special occasions. We seek Him continually. We read The WORD and pray every day, according to Colossians 1:9-10, that we'll be "filled with the knowledge of [God's] will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that [we] might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

If you want to hear more clearly and consistently from The LORD, I recommend you pray the same

scripture. Ask God daily for His wisdom and then, instead of just rushing out the door to go to work, read a chapter or two in The WORD, believing to receive the revelation The LORD has for you. Tune in on purpose to the Holy Spirit on the inside of you and pay attention to what He's saying. Slow down! Listen!

After you read The WORD, pray for a while in the spirit and with your understanding also (1 Corinthians 14:15). Pray in other tongues and ask God to give you the interpretation. He'll do it if you ask Him in faith. You might not always get the interpretation immediately, but if you'll keep expecting, it will eventually come. It might hit you later in the day, like a bolt of lightning, as you're driving across town. Or it might dawn on your spirit gradually over a matter of weeks, until one day you realize you know the answer to the situation you've been praying about.

"But Brother Copeland, you don't understand how busy I am. I don't have time to read the Bible and pray every day."

Really? How much TV do you watch at night?

"Maybe an hour or two."

Then take one of those hours and give it to God. If you're too busy or too sleepy at night, get up a little earlier in the morning. Do whatever it takes to make time in your schedule to seek The LORD.

I guarantee, He'll make it worth your while. He'll turn your life into the most thrilling adventure you ever imagined. As you hear His words and speak them, He'll do the works of Jesus through you. He'll make you more than a conqueror in every situation, and there won't be anything the devil can do about it—because the dominating power of God's WORD coming out of the mouth of a believer is the greatest force on earth! 📖



Parents,  
this one  
is for you!

# Get in the game!

The Lord ministered something powerful to me that I want to pass on to you, Superkid parents!

First, let me say, I love Jesus. He is always THERE—present in my life. Not quiet, or just along for the ride. But there—helping, prompting, correcting and loving me.

I've been a mother for 32 years. He has NEVER failed me. Psalm 92:2 says, "It is good to proclaim your unfailing love in the morning, your faithfulness in the evening" (*New Living Translation*).

One day I was talking to the Lord about one of my children, and asking Him to give me wisdom—that I would say and do the things that would help my child the most. This has been my prayer for each of my children, and as always, He was right there—checking my heart and letting me know what I needed.

I needed to forgive.

You see, earlier that day I had received a message that was unnecessary and rude. When the Lord brought it to my attention, I quickly responded



and fully forgave that person. As soon as I did, He followed it up with this great understanding that I am about to share with you. He reminded me of Romans 8:28, *NLT*: "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

This is so much more than the platitude for troubled times that the Church has made it. It is a promise that God, who KNOWS the hearts of our children, has plans that He not only carries out but informs the Holy Spirit of and the Holy Spirit informs His team. The Lord quickly let me know that my forgiveness had positioned me to be on His team that He has working for my child's good. That revelation brought such clarity, peace and direction as I unpacked it over the next few days.

Unforgiveness will put you on the sidelines in the "game" of parenting. So will fear, worry and anger. People worry and fear over their children as though that can HELP them. The mom or dad who is in fear, worry or unforgiveness is not helping their child. In fact, they are NOT EVEN IN THE GAME!

I didn't realize it,  
but in that moment I

was heading out of bounds and positioning myself outside God's team for my child. Knowing that God is directing EVERYONE and everything that concerns my children—giving favor, course correction and anything else their success may require, is so comforting. As soon as I forgave, I was flooded with peace, revelation and FAITH! I rested in the promise that I would know what to say and do for the best outcome, because my Father, my Coach, was directing me. And at the end of the day, I proclaimed the faithfulness of the Lord. He had done exactly what He promised and I had followed.

When we are in our place on the field, we can HEAR clearly what God tells us to do. And when we HEAR, faith COMES. And when faith comes, we BELIEVE. And when we believe, we RECEIVE!

ALL THINGS, including my child's mother, were working for the good. There's more revelation the Coach will show you if you will let Him. Read Romans and Galatians with that analogy in mind. It will bring the purpose Romans 8:28 requires, and the faith to raise your Superkid without fear and worry.

We are the parents of Superkids—ordinary kids doing extraordinary things through the power of God's Word. That's the play. Game on! ❤️



Kellie  
Copeland  
Swisher

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





# Let My People Go!

*by Melanie Hemry*





**S** Seagulls swooped over the waves as children raced along the beach, kites flying in the wind, creating a colorful contrast to the blue sky. It was April 2014, as *Jamie Cruse Vrinios* drank in the sea breeze on the beach near her home in Florida. Sometimes her prayer closet seemed too small to hold all the gratitude she felt for God. That's when she walked the beach, allowing her prayers to fill the heavens. »



## MARCH

		Old Testament	New Testament
Tues	1	Num. 7:79-89, 8:1-26	John 1
Wed	2	Num. 9-10	John 2
Thu	3	Num. 11-12	John 3
Fri	4	Num. 13-14	John 4
Sat	5	Num. 15-17	John 5-6
Sun	6	Num. 18-19	John 7
Mon	7	Num. 20-21	John 8
Tue	8	Num. 22-23	John 9
Wed	9	Num. 24-25	John 10
Thu	10	Num. 26	John 11
Fri	11	Num. 27-28	John 12
Sat	12	Num. 29-31: 1-24	John 13-14
Sun	13	Num. 31:25-54, 32:1-42	John 15
Mon	14	Num. 33	John 16
Tue	15	Num. 34-35	John 17
Wed	16	Num. 36; Deut. 1	John 18
Thu	17	Deut. 2-3	John 19
Fri	18	Deut. 4-5	John 20
Sat	19	Deut. 6-8	John 21; Acts 1
Sun	20	Deut. 9-10	Acts 2
Mon	21	Deut. 11-12	Acts 3
Tue	22	Deut. 13-14	Acts 4
Wed	23	Deut. 15-16	Acts 5
Thu	24	Deut. 17-18	Acts 6
Fri	25	Deut. 19-20	Acts 7
Sat	26	Deut. 21-23	Acts 8-9
Sun	27	Deut. 24-25	Acts 10
Mon	28	Deut. 26-27	Acts 11
Tue	29	Deut. 28-29	Acts 12
Wed	30	Deut. 30-31	Acts 13
Thu	31	Deut. 32-33	Acts 14

Jamie's life hadn't always been this joyful. At 18, she'd gotten pregnant and her family had disowned her. By age 21, she'd been married and divorced, the mother of two children: Amber, age 2; and 1-year-old Nathan. She had felt so alone as she struggled to survive with the help of public assistance.

Even then, God had not forgotten her. Jamie worked her way off public assistance and into a corporate job. She started her own Mary Kay business in 1992, was introduced to Kenneth Copeland Ministries, and discovered that she was a daughter of the King. She had a Father who had never left her, and would never forsake her. She had a family of faith who embraced her and prayed for her.

Like a butterfly released from its cocoon, Jamie had been transformed by the knowledge of her identity in Christ. She soared to the top of Mary Kay, becoming a national sales director, one of only 225 in the U.S. and 675 worldwide in the 53-year history of the company.

Amber and Nathan had been 13 and 12 when she married Peter Vrinios. She and Peter had a son together, Sammy. In addition to her spiritual family, Jamie had what she had dreamed of for years: a happy home filled with love and laughter.

As the years passed, Amber and Nathan matured into amazing adults. At 20, Nathan had started his own successful business in website design and development. He mentored Sammy, who by age 13 had started designing custom game controllers. Sammy developed his own YouTube channel and made \$40,000 selling them online. Then, he'd gotten a storefront and opened a business called Imagine Controllers. By 15, he was making television appearances to talk about his business.

The only thing marring their happiness had been Jamie's health. In 2009, she had flown to Ukraine to lead a training seminar for Mary Kay. Unbeknownst to her, she had returned home with more than the usual souvenirs and memorabilia of her travels. In 2010, she learned she had

come home infected with a parasite that took a year to manifest symptoms in her body. She had seen doctors and taken her stand of faith. Conventional doctors had no answers for her and she rejected their recommendation to remove her colon. Twelve long months later, her 5-foot-8½-inch frame had wasted to a mere 90 pounds.

She'd been walking on the beach one day at dusk when she noticed an old man in the water. "How far do you have to go?" he asked.

"Not far," Jamie replied.

"That's good," he said looking at the dark, foreboding sky. "Because when it rains, it comes fast."

*Rain.*

At that moment, Jamie knew God had spoken to her through the man's words. The rain, a metaphor for the manifestation of her healing, was coming *fast*.

That's just the way it happened, fast and powerful like the rain that pounded the coast that evening. She wrote a book about her experience called *Warrior Magnificent* that was published in 2014.

Now, walking onto her lanai, Jamie exuded health and vitality. She had finally been led to integrative doctors who diagnosed the parasitic infection that had been ravaging her body and offered solutions that restored her health.

Jamie released a contented sigh. Life was good.

As she relaxed on the veranda, her cellphone rang. It was her son Nathan, now 29 and married. He'd been sailing the Caribbean with friends for the past few days and should be on his way home.

"Hi, Nate!"

The moment he answered, Jamie knew something was wrong. His voice was shaking as he related what had happened. Going through customs in Jamaica, officials said they found a bullet in his duffel bag. Nathan had been arrested and was being taken to the Kingston jail. Facing five years in prison, his trial was scheduled for 8 a.m. the next day. Although a capable adult, his call for help tore at every mother-fiber of Jamie's being.



## Caught in a Wicked Web

"I felt like crawling into a fetal position," Jamie admits, "but I knew I had to stay strong and get my faith planted on Psalm 91. Nate had always served the Lord and I screamed, 'He's God's son!'"

"Peter heard me and ran outside asking what was wrong. 'You need to get to Jamaica right now!' I said, explaining what had happened. Peter's a very strong man and he didn't hesitate. He grabbed his wallet and said, 'You get an attorney!'"

"I called the American Embassy in Jamaica, expecting them to help. All they offered was a list of attorneys. By now, it was 3 p.m. I called politicians. No help. I called three different pastors."

"Woman of God," one pastor said, "this is just another attack."

He was right about that. Jamie had just survived an almost two-year battle for her life. Now she and her husband were fighting for their son's life—only they didn't have the luxury of years. This battle would be won or lost in hours!

The clock was ticking.

In Jamaica, Nathan looked around at the cesspool of human misery known as the Kingston jail. The stench stung his eyes. The bathroom consisted of nothing more than a hole in the ground. Mealtime brought half a sawed-off milk carton filled with gunk. Menacing eyes watched his every move as he was informed of the news: They weren't going to let him out on bail.

Peter booked a flight to Jamaica by phone on his way to the airport. Checking online, he researched the typical fine for Nathan's charges, making sure he took that much cash. Back home, Jamie shared information about Nathan's arrest among her co-workers—three of whom were from Jamaica. One reached out to her father, a pastor, before contacting Jamie.

"Things are very political in Jamaica," she explained. "It will help if someone with political clout

is connected to your son's case. My father has called a pastor with a lot of influence. She is on her way to the jail to request that he be released on bail."

## A Short Reprieve

A while later the door to Nathan's jail cell swung open and he was motioned out. He'd been released overnight on bail. His phone had been hacked and his money taken. Arriving at a hotel, he met a Christian couple in the lobby. Afraid for his life, Nathan asked them not to leave him. He used their phone to call his mother, who

explained that Peter was on his way. A few hours later, Peter stepped into the lobby and grabbed his stepson in a hug before booking them a room.

With his trial looming over them, Nathan reviewed the facts of the situation with his stepdad. If he were found guilty, he'd start a five-year prison term as soon as he was sentenced. The bullet had to have been planted in his bag. He'd been through security and customs several times on his other flights, and it would surely have been discovered then. Nate's wife later confirmed that it hadn't been in

“I’m a much better business leader because of my partnership with KCM. I teach the biblical principles I’ve learned, to thousands in the workplace.” —Jamie



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his duffel when she packed it. But, if he were to plead not guilty, he'd be taken back to jail where he'd wait six months to a year for a court date. It seemed like a no-win situation.

"Your mom has made us an appointment with two lawyers first thing in the morning," Peter said. "Let's get some sleep and see what they advise."

It was a good plan, except sleep eluded them. At 3 a.m., Peter looked up to see his handsome stepson, who stood over 6 feet tall, gazing out the window. Turning to Peter, Nathan said that he kept thinking someone was going to come get him and take him away.

Back home, Jamie gave up on sleep, pacing the floor and praying. In the wee hours of morning, a warning dropped into her spirit.

*There's going to be a problem with money.*

## Court Convened

Long before the sun rose, Jamie dialed the number for her co-worker Nicole and her husband, Matt. "The Lord told me that there's going to be a problem with money," she explained. "Is there any way Matt could get thousands of dollars together and fly to Jamaica, fast?"

Nicole's two-word response was a testament to their friendship and trust.

"Of course."

In Jamaica, Peter and Nathan climbed into the car with the two attorneys Jamie had scheduled them to meet.

Back home, Jamie got a frantic call from her co-worker.

"Get Peter and Nathan out of that car! Those people aren't the attorneys you hired!"

Jamie called Peter with that message. Peter and Nathan got out of the car, and located the female attorney Jamie had hired.

"There's only one thing you can do," she told them. "Plead guilty and ask for mercy from the court."

The heat from all the bodies packed into the courthouse hit Peter and Nathan like a fireball when they stepped inside. "The docket is full," a court official explained. "Your case has been postponed until tomorrow. You're going back to jail."

"That's *my* boy," Peter said, stepping in

front of Nathan. "He's been traumatized and he can't go back to jail. We'll wait here all day and go last, but he can't be sent back."

As the hours dragged by, not one person was found innocent. Without money to pay the steep fines, everyone before them received prison sentences. At 3 p.m., Matt arrived. The three men stepped aside and prayed in the courtroom, asking for God's protection, favor and deliverance.

## 'How Do You Plead?'

When Nathan's case came before the judge, he was asked, "How do you plead?"

Nathan pled guilty and asked for mercy from the court, as their attorney had advised.

"OK," the judge replied. "I'm doubling the maximum fine." Even with the thousands of dollars Matt had brought, they didn't have enough.

"I'll go to an ATM machine and get more money," Peter said.

"I'll go with you," a female security officer announced.

"Why?"

"Because you'll need protection."

Peter withdrew as much money as he could. They had 45 minutes to count all the money, get it into a duffel bag and back to the judge.

Back home and still praying, Jamie got further direction from the Lord: *Tell them to buy airline tickets for all three of them to get out of the country by 7 p.m.*

They bought the tickets, reserved their seats and went back to court. At 4 p.m., Peter handed the duffel bag to the judge. "Here's all the money," he said.

"Yes, I see," said the judge, "but he has been deported. So unless you also have plane reservations to prove that he'll be out of the country within 24 hours of the time he landed, I'm afraid he still goes back to jail."

Peter handed the judge confirmation of their flights departing at 7 p.m.

Like Pharaoh, the judge still refused to let Nathan go.

"You have the money and the airline tickets, but unless I see his passport, he still can't leave."

## Running Out of Time

The judge knew that Nathan's passport had been confiscated at the airport and that they were running out of time. Peter turned to the attorney and asked her to retrieve Nate's passport. Later, when she placed the passport in front of the judge just before time for the court to close, the reluctant judge released him.

For Nathan, Peter and Matt, nothing felt better than the thrust of that aircraft lifting off Jamaican soil.

"We've since learned that this is a common scam," Jamie says. "We looked online and found stories of innocent people who had a single bullet planted in their bag."

"Even though I'd been through a long battle for my health, when this happened, I felt as though I'd been in spiritual-warfare kindergarten. God provided people on the ground in Jamaica who told us what was happening and gave us direction. Every time the enemy tried to block Nathan's freedom, God had told us what was going to happen in advance."

"I've never met Kenneth Copeland, but I view him as a spiritual father. He's the one who taught me how to live by faith, and walk in victory and prosperity, despite the enemy's attacks. I'm a much better business leader because of my partnership with KCM. I teach the biblical principles I've learned, to thousands in the workplace."

Jamie and Peter Vrinios fought the good fight of faith to deliver their son from a prison in Kingston, Jamaica. However, another court has convened. In this one, the Judge of the universe has ruled against the enemy—the devil. The thief has been caught, convicted and ordered to make restitution.

If the enemy is trying to ensnare you or your family, just know that our Father still roars the same warning He spoke through Moses. *Let My people go!* 📖





Jamie with her son, Nathan





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# GoodNEWSGazette

## 'My Brother Is Delivered From Drugs'

Thank you for being in agreement with my family and me regarding deliverance for my brother from drug addiction. He was on drugs for years, and even dropped out of school due to that lifestyle, *but* thanks be to God who always causes us to triumph! My brother is delivered from drugs. We continue to give God thanks and He continues to minister to him and causes him to be a testimony. My brother is also being restored to his passion for music in the Kingdom as he was once a drummer. We praise God and love you guys for standing with and encouraging us. God bless you.

E.S. | South Africa



## I Have Grown Immensely in the Word

Thank you so much for BVOVN! I have enjoyed this so much it has been hard to leave the TV to get anything else done. I especially enjoy the 2015 SWBC being replayed over and over. I have needed this programming so much and have grown immensely in the Word. Praise God!

Carol W. | Ellisville, Miss.

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## My Daughter's Vision Will Be Normal

Praise the Lord! Gloria, the Lord has been very gracious to us. The procedure for my daughter's right eye was performed July 7, 2015, and everything went on well. Post-op checkup revealed that her vision will be normal after a couple of weeks. Thank you very much for standing with us. S.R. | Telangana, India

## 'I Am Walking Again'

I have cerebral palsy, but can walk short distances. A few months ago, I had an accident and had to go into a wheelchair. The next day, the phone rang and it was someone from KCM. I wondered how she knew to call. She prayed for me and four months later, I am walking again. Praise the Lord for His greatness.

T.N. | New Zealand



## 'Dad Gave His Heart to the Lord'

May 2015, I invited my dad and mum to KCM Healing School at Rhema Church. Dad was diagnosed with cancer in his stomach the month before. I called your ministry to ask for prayer for my dad and for his salvation. Both of my parents accepted the invite to Healing School on May 16, 2015.

Whilst Kenneth Copeland was praying, Dad was also praying for his health. It was such a blessing! When Dad got really

sick, he would ask my mum to read Psalm 91 to him. On June 12, Dad gave his heart to the Lord, and on the 14th, at 10 a.m., Dad passed away peacefully.

I am so thankful for Kenneth Copeland having the South Africa Victory Campaign. It was a blessing to us all, and my dad was so blessed by the Healing School—it touched his heart in a big way. All glory and praise goes to Jesus.

R.G. | South Africa

## 'Healed From Sleep Apnea'

Eleven years ago I was diagnosed with obstructive sleep apnea. I sent prayer points to KCM to stand with me and believe that I'm healed from sleep apnea. I continually spoke out that Jesus has healed me from sleep apnea. In August, I was sent for a sleep study by a specialist and the results came back with no obstructive sleep apnea! Praise God! I am no longer on a CPAP machine and am now sleeping very well without it. Thank you for your faithful prayers.

D.G. | New South Wales, Australia

## LifeLine Kits Save the Day


I had been up to my neck in stress issues and sleep problems when I noticed the *Overcoming Stress* LifeLine kit in the BVOV magazine. I knew, by faith, this was the product for me. From the very first song I played on the CD, God's peace flooded my room. From that day on, I read, listened and studied the kit. It is so great how you read for five minutes, then listen, then watch the DVD. What a perfect, God-ordained idea. After I finished it, I got off my anxiety medications and could sleep in peace at night—drug free. So, I wondered which one I should buy next.

I developed pleurisy in my lungs 10 days before my 40th birthday party, where I was to sing and play guitar. I called KCM for prayer and ordered the *Healing & Wellness* LifeLine kit, express post. I felt the tide starting to turn in my lungs. The next day, the kit arrived and I started on it straight away. I was improving, but still needed pain-killers to rehearse. Then on the 10th day (my birthday) I read the material before I left to set up, and listened to the healing scriptures on the way.

Praise God! The party, my singing and guitar playing were off the charts. Best I've ever done! Thank you, Ken and Gloria, for your awesome materials which truly were a lifeline to me.

P.K.  
Queensland, Australia





“  
Everything  
Adam and Eve  
lost in the Fall,  
Jesus got back in  
Redemption.

”  
—Gloria  
Copeland

## *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.

## *connect with us*

If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. We have a **Free Gift** to help you begin your new life in Jesus!  
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Esther D.,  
prayer  
minister



# WAR ON FEAR

by  
Kenneth  
Copeland





**On Oct. 18**, in a hotel in Washington, D.C., The LORD began talking to me about KCM's place and commission—its role and anointing. I realized He was talking to me about the very reason I was born—the reason I was put into this ministry, the reason for my own personal calling. All the things God has been so gracious to allow me to see, all the things He has called me to do, all of the things I've been privileged to learn about His WORD—about the world of the spirit, how it functions, how it works—all of it has come to this defining moment.

The LORD told me to take this ministry into an all-out attack against the spirit of fear.... He said, *Pull the plug on terrorism!*

**T**ake a look around. Almost all you see and hear these days is *fear*. It's everywhere.

But it's not so surprising—that's what *terror*-ism is all about.

*Terrorism* is defined as "the planned, organized use of fear as a weapon." The goal of terrorism is to terrify, frighten or panic to the point that a person or people cannot resist.

*Oppression* is "the spoiling or taking away of a person's goods or estates by terror or force." It means taking them away without having any right to them, and by working on the ignorance, weakness or *fearfulness* of

the person being oppressed.

So at the heart of all terrorism and oppression is fear. And in an hour when unthinkable acts of terror seem too close to home, all the world is about to see a striking difference between believers and unbelievers.

Because, unlike the rest of the world, believers don't have to cope with or tolerate fear in any way. We attack it—and get rid of it.

### The No-Fear Zone

God has not called the Body of Christ—the Body of His anointed ones in the earth—to cope with fear

any more than He's called us to cope with poverty, sickness or any other kind of oppression from the devil.

Jesus went to great effort to deliver us from *all* oppression. And His approach to dealing with oppression is found in Acts 10:38: "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and *healing all that were oppressed* of the devil."

Jesus didn't cope with the works of the devil. He destroyed them. That was His whole reason for coming to this earth (1 John 3:8). And He destroyed them by going straight to the core of the matter. Hebrews 2:14-15 says, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he [Jesus] 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 [us] who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

Before Jesus came into this earth, all mankind was subject to bondage. How? Through the fear of death.

The devil held in his hands the power of death over us. And the fear of death is



the master fear. It's what all forms of fear are based on. If you're afraid of flying, afraid of the dark, or afraid of standing up to talk before a group of people, it all stems from the fear of death.

Notice, however, Jesus came along and destroyed fear at its root by taking the power of death away from satan. Suddenly we no longer had to be subject to fear—any fear.

What's more, the moment we receive Jesus as our LORD and Savior, we no longer have “the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7).

Romans 8:14-15 puts it this way: “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”

Where we once had a spirit of fear, we now have the Spirit of God, the Spirit of love, because God is love (1 John 4:16). And “perfect love casteth out fear” (verse 18).

So there's a huge difference between just coping with fear, trying to “make it” through life while still subject to all its oppression, and being delivered from fear where it's totally and completely out of your life forever.

As a born-again child of God, you don't have to be dominated or controlled by fear anymore because Jesus destroyed the root to all fear. In other words, you no longer have a spirit of fear living inside you.

### Get in Fear's Face

Though we no longer have to be subject to fear, we still live in a world that's held captive by fear. This means we will encounter it, and we will have to deal with it.

Besides that, *life*—even life in the Spirit—is not governed by chance, luck or some mystical, unknown order in the universe. No. All life is governed by spiritual laws. And those spiritual laws function and interact with each other the same way natural, physical laws do—the law of gravity, for example, or

other laws of physics and so on.

Romans 8:2 tells us that “the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made [us] free from the law of sin and death.” When you put any of the laws of sin and death into operation, they will kill you. Because sin ultimately produces death.

Yet because Jesus died and rose again from the grave, we've been given authority in the law of the Spirit of life through the Anointed One, Jesus. We've been freed from the laws of sin and death.

Now that doesn't mean we can sin and not die. It simply means the drive and press of sin that works in the life of someone who isn't born again is not at work in a believer, and has no authority over us unless we allow it. And since fear is a spiritual force, we must attack it with the spiritual weapons of our warfare that we've been given—weapons which “are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

Yes, fear is a stronghold and it's up to us to pull it down. The key to our pulling it down lies in Joshua 1. This is where we find God's instructions to Joshua on how to lead Israel into the Promised Land.

One of the first things God told Joshua was: “As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them” (verses 5-6).

Joshua's success in leading the children of Israel into the land flowing with milk and honey was not because he was the greatest military commander of his day. And it wasn't because he was the top motivational speaker of his day.

Joshua's success was simply because God said, “As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.”

Remember how we said God is love and “perfect love casteth out fear” (1 John 4:18)?

God basically told Joshua, *I'll be with*

*you. I won't leave you. I won't fail you. So don't be afraid!*

Love, Himself, talked to Joshua that day. Love reassured Joshua that He would be with him and see him through to the other side.

### A Threefold Attack

That wasn't all God had to say to Joshua that day, however. After encouraging Joshua, God had more instructions:

Be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success (Joshua 1:7-8).

God's presence with Joshua was not enough to win the battle against the terror he would soon face and overcome. Joshua had a part to play as well. His part was threefold:

1. *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth*
2. *Meditate therein day and night*
3. *Observe to do according to all that is written therein*

Joshua was to *speak* The WORD... *meditate* The WORD...and *do* The WORD. And he was to do all three *continually*. Only then would he defeat fear, prosper and have good success. And the key was The WORD.

John 1:1 tells us, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” The WORD is just as much a manifestation of God, Himself, as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are. But add to that the revelation that God is love (1 John 4:16), and we see that The WORD is a manifestation of love, the perfect love which casts out fear.



You see, The WORD of God does not major on God's power. We're the ones who have been focused on His power. The WORD majors on the love of God. And without the love of God, you would never see a manifestation of God's power.

So what did God tell Joshua to meditate on?

The WORD of God...the love of God. Because it's that love that casts out fear. Notice God's closing statement to Joshua: "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; *be not afraid*, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:9).

As long as Joshua focused on the love of God—The WORD of God—there was no place for fear. It was gone. Rooted out!

This holds true for us today. Getting rid of fear takes some action on our part. Like Joshua, we have to meditate—constantly give our attention to—The WORD of God.

That means keeping our mind stayed on Him, keeping our mind stayed on His WORD, and keeping our mind stayed on His love. And we have to do that until we receive revelation of Hebrews 13:5-6: "...For [God] hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that *we* may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

These days, we cannot saturate our minds with all the media reports of death, destruction, chemical warfare and terrorism, and still walk free of fear. We have to get our mind off what the world says and onto what The WORD says.

And The WORD says: All authority in heaven and earth has been given to you by the Name of Jesus. You have authority over everything that walks, everything that flies, everything that crawls, everything that swims and everything that creeps.

So focus on The WORD. Draw on the love of God. Then seize your authority like never before and...*pull the plug on terrorism!* 🇺🇸



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# THE Law

## That Changes Everything

**When** I began flight training in the military, we started out in ground school. We first had to get the laws of flight into our hearts and minds, so we could do on the ground what would be required of us in the air. Those laws became so ingrained in us we could do them in our sleep.

In ground school, we learned what it takes to get a plane off the ground and keep it in the air. But first we learned the basic laws of flight—the laws of gravity and lift, and thrust and drag. We learned how these laws work together to result in flight.

Before the instructors would let us go up in the plane, they had to know we had learned all the principles of flight. And we also needed to have faith in the laws we had learned. We saw them at work day in and day out as hundreds of planes took off and landed.

But when we got into the plane, we had to have no doubt that those laws would work for us.

A few of my fellow

students had to develop their faith in those laws and overcome some fears.

One guy was afraid to land the plane. Just like the rest of us, he knew the laws of flight and the mechanics of the plane, but his faith in the landing procedure wavered. With the instructor at his side, every time he started to land, fear would overtake him and he would fly by the runway. Sadly, he never got over his fear of crash landing, and eventually left the program without his pilot's wings. The laws of flight were not able to work for *him*.

### Laws Work!

Now, there are some laws of the Spirit that are as basic to our faith as these laws are to flying. And just like the laws of flight, they will keep you moving upward and forward when circumstances are trying to take you down and back! The same One who made this physical realm created the

spirit realm, and He guarantees the laws to work. They work for the believer and nonbeliever alike.

One of these basic spiritual laws has to do with words. It's called the Law of Confession.

God designed words to control the earth. They are basic to everything about our lives. God's words created heaven and earth. They established His intent for His kingdom in the Garden of Eden. The devil used words to convince Adam and Eve to forfeit their authority.

Jesus, the Living Word, came to re-establish God's kingdom and to show us how we were designed to live and operate in it. He demonstrated with power how to use the Law of Confession—words—to establish the will of God on this earth.

In Matthew 12:34-37, Jesus lays out this basic spiritual principle:

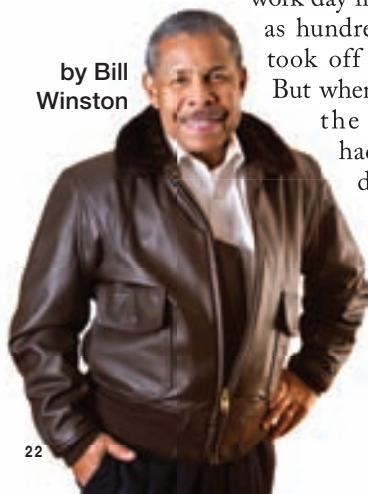
O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

In these verses, Jesus teaches that the Law of Confession works for everyone. Whatever is in our hearts in abundance is destined to come out our mouths and establish every aspect of our lives. That's the law. That's how God designed it.

You can see a good example of the Law of Confession bringing about change in Numbers 13, where Moses sent out 12 men from the tribes of Israel to spy out the Land of Promise.

They brought back physical proof of exactly what God said they would find there (see Exodus 13 and Leviticus 20). They also brought back eyewitness reports about the people God said would be there—the Amalekites,

by Bill Winston





Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites and Canaanites. They actually confessed *part* of what God had said.

But fear overtook them and the most important thing God had said to them, they failed to confess. “But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it...I am the Lord your God, which have separated you from other people” (Leviticus 20:24).

Moses had delivered God’s message to them this way: “The Lord shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore unto thee and to thy fathers, and shall give it thee” (Exodus 13:11). The land they had spied out was *their* land. God had promised it to their forefathers and to them. God had told them to go in and take it. But they had no faith in the promise of God. They didn’t believe God.

Not only did they fail to confess what God had said, but most of them actually confessed the opposite. And, that failure resulted in their generation receiving exactly what they had confessed. None entered the Land of Promise...except for two—Joshua and Caleb, who had developed their hearts to believe God and to agree with Him. They confessed that what God had promised could be done, and they received the promise!

### Your Words Change Things

This Law of Confession, like the laws of flight, has the power to take you where you want to be. The laws of flight can take you into the air and then land you safely. They are designed to work every time.

The Law of Confession works the same. It has the power to change things in your life—taking you to the places and things God has for you. If you believe His Word and fill your heart with it, you can use words the same way He did and you will get the same results. Jesus demonstrated that during His days on earth.

You have power without measure just like Jesus did. And it’s contained in what comes out of your mouth.

We were designed to live this life in the flesh by the power of the spirit—our

heart and what comes forth from it through our words. Look at the state of your life right now. It is a direct result of someone’s words. Mostly the words have been your own, but they probably have been undergirded by words spoken by your parents or someone else.

Yes, words have formed your life. But you can’t blame other people’s words, because God’s Word and Law of Confession have the power to override everything that has ever been said over you.

God has established it so His Word can change our lives, but only by our

our mouths? Are we complaining too much and not praising enough?

Have we let our confidence in God’s Word slip because we haven’t built it into our hearts in abundance? Have we filled our hearts with things contrary to God’s goodness and mercy, and let contrariness become our everyday pattern of speech? Do we realize the Law of Confession will always work in our lives according to the condition of our hearts?

If we can answer “yes” to any of these questions, and we’re not experiencing the things God has promised, it’s time to make a change.

## This Law of Confession, like the laws of flight, has the power to take you where you want to be.

belief and our confession. No one can stop the progress of it in our lives but us! Nothing can keep us from the life God has planned for us—except us!

### What Are We Waiting On?

Since the day He created the earth, God has always looked for people who will believe His Word, plant it into their hearts and confess it with their mouths—people who will simply agree with Him. He’s looking for a people who will use the Law of Confession to change things, not only in their own lives but in the world around them.

God has a destiny for each of us, just as He did for the children of Israel—a land of promise and safe dwelling. He has a plan for our families, our churches and our nation. Are we delaying reaching our destiny, like the Israelites, because of what has been coming out of

When you make the decision to put the Law of Confession to work to change your life, nothing can stop you. The Law of Confession supersedes everything! No principality or power can stop it. No government can stop it. Your level of education can’t stop it.

When your heart is lined up with God’s Word, Jesus’ declaration of mountain-moving faith will be yours: “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” (Mark 11:23).

Don’t wait another minute! Believe God, open your mouth and speak from the abundance of your heart. Let the Law of Confession start changing things for you! 📖



**Bill  
Winston**

Founder and pastor of Living Word Christian Center, an 18,000-member church located in Forest Park, Ill., he is also the founder and chairman of The Joseph Center® for Business Development. For more information or ministry materials go to [bwm.org](http://bwm.org).



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“

God wants His people to live totally free from sickness, disease and every other part of the curse.

The devil, however, has lied to us about this.

”



by  
Gloria  
Copeland

# Don't Buy the LIES

## The devil has started a number of rumors about

Ken and me in the years since we started preaching the gospel. Some have been so ridiculous they actually astounded me. When I heard them I thought, *That doesn't have any truth in it at all. Someone must have just sat down and made it up!*

But we've had it easy compared with what God has to put up with. No one ever said anything as bad about us as what's been said about Him. He's been lied about more than anyone in the world!


Ever since the Garden of Eden, the devil has been slandering God's character. He's told people God can't be trusted and that He's

stingy with His blessings. He's blamed God for all the calamities that happen, and said He sends suffering into the lives of good people for reasons no one understands.

Even though those rumors have no truth in them, the devil has peddled them so successfully that some of them have even worked their way into church. They've become

religious traditions, passed down from generation to generation.

For example, when I was growing up I heard God doesn't work miracles anymore. My church taught healing had passed away. I never knew exactly when it passed away. No one ever told me. They just said God was no longer in the healing business, so if you're

 The only way the devil can keep you in bondage is by talking you out of the Word. Don't let him do it. Refuse to buy his lies. Here are some points to get you there:

- 1 Don't believe the lie that healing has passed away. Exodus 15:26; Malachi 3:6
- 2 Jesus paid the price for you to be healed. Isaiah 53:5
- 3 God doesn't put sickness on you to teach you something. He teaches you through the Word. 2 Timothy 3:16
- 4 God doesn't get glory from sickness. He gets glory when you are healed by His power. Matthew 15:31
- 5 Don't submit to the devil when he tries to put sickness on you, stand against him by faith in God's Word. James 4:7

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sick, it's too bad. There's nothing for you.

Although I'm sure the people in my church meant well, I found out after I grew up they'd actually misled me. The truth is, healing never passed away at all! It couldn't have because in Exodus 15:26 God said, "I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Since God never changes (Malachi 3:6), if He was *the Lord that healeth thee* back when Exodus was written, He's still the Lord that healeth thee today. God wants His people to live totally free from sickness, disease and every other part of the curse.

That's the reason Jesus came! He came to purchase our freedom. He came to redeem us from the curse,

If we're going to live free, we have to determine not to listen to such hogwash. We have to decide, *No matter what, I'm going to believe God's Word.*

Ken and I made this decision a long time ago. We resolved we would go with what is written in the Bible, regardless of what anyone else did. We determined we were going to believe and act on God's Word whether it looked like it would be to our advantage or not. As it's turned out, of course, going with the Word has always been to our advantage. Even things we saw in the Scripture we initially thought would cost us have paid great dividends. They've opened the door to the BLESSINGS of God.

That's what the Word always does. It

That's exactly the opposite of what the Bible says you should do. It says, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

The name of Satan's game is to keep you from resisting him. If he can do that he can stay right with you. As long as you don't make him flee by declaring what the Word says about your healing, he can keep right on making you sick. He can attack your body as much as he wants if he can convince you healing has passed away or that God made you sick to teach you something.

If you believe those kinds of lies, you won't resist the devil! You won't stand against him in faith when symptoms start coming on you. You'll just go to church on Sunday and say, "Well, I guess this sickness is just the will of the Lord."

Granted, you'll probably be a little double-minded about it. You won't just sit at home enjoying that sickness because it came from God. No, first thing Monday morning you'll be in the doctor's office asking for some medicine. You'll be trying to get well because, religious tradition notwithstanding, you know full well that sickness is not a good thing.

This is a very simple truth. My children understood it when they were little more than toddlers: God is good. The devil is bad. Good things come from God and bad things come from the devil. Since sickness is bad, it has to be from the devil.

God would never send sickness on His children for any reason!

Forget what you've heard about His putting it on people to teach them something. Forget what you've been told about His getting glory when believers accept sickness with a good attitude. Those are false religious traditions.

Believers aren't taught by sickness, they're taught by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. (See 2 Timothy 3:16 and John 14:26.) God doesn't get glory from sickness. He gets glory

## Believers aren't taught by sickness, they're taught by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

being made a curse for us, so that we can be BLESSED—spirit, soul and body (Galatians 3:13-14). He came to bear our sicknesses and diseases, so that by His stripes we can be healed (Isaiah 53:5).

The devil, however, has lied to us about this. He's tried to pull the wool over our eyes and stop us from seeing the truth. Because it's the truth that makes us free and God's Word is truth (John 8:32, 17:17), the only way the devil can keep us sick is by stealing the Word from us. He doesn't have any other option.

Jesus took all of the devil's power away from him. All he has left is his lies. So he'll do anything he can to convince us to buy them. He'll tell us the Word means something other than what it actually says, or that it won't work for us. He'll try to persuade us it's not powerful enough to overcome whatever we might be facing.

works for your good. When you believe it and act on it, "you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success" (Joshua 1:8, *The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

God's Word is our success book. He didn't write it for His own sake. (God doesn't need a success book. He's already a success.) He wrote it for our sakes because the more we renew our minds to agree with His Word, the freer we'll be. He gave us His Word so we wouldn't have to buy the devil's lies.

### Don't Enforce Your Own Defeat

"But Gloria," you might say, "if the devil disguises his lies as religious tradition, how can I make sure I spot them?"

For one thing, they teach you to enforce your own defeat. They train you to submit to the devil's attacks.



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when His healing power manifests. The Bible says, when Jesus ministered on earth, “the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel” (Matthew 15:31). It’s not sickness but healing and miracles that bring glory to God.

### Don’t Get Stuck With the Thorn

“But what about Paul’s thorn in the flesh?” someone might say. “Wasn’t that a sickness sent by God? Didn’t Paul say he had to keep it because it gave the Lord glory?”

Everywhere Paul went to preach, that demonic spirit followed him. It provoked the Jewish leaders and made them so envious of Paul’s ministry they constantly harassed him and opposed him, sometimes in vicious ways. Because Paul didn’t have the natural strength to deal with their attacks, he wanted God to make the spirit behind them go away. So he sought the Lord three times that it might depart from him, and the Lord answered: “My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (verse 9).

Paul understood this. That’s why he said in verses 9-10, “I rather glory in my infirmities (or weaknesses), that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.”

When the power of Christ rests upon you, you don’t have any problems! When His power goes to work on your behalf, and you’re strong in Him, the devil doesn’t stand a chance. You’re going to come out a winner every time.

Paul proved this! He whipped the devil by the power of God again and again. In one city he preached in, Paul’s

# IF WE’RE GOING TO LIVE FREE, WE HAVE TO DETERMINE NOT TO LISTEN TO SUCH HOGWASH.

**WE HAVE TO DECIDE, NO MATTER WHAT, I’M GOING TO BELIEVE GOD’S WORD.**

Absolutely not! Although you may have heard that preached, it’s yet another religious deception. According to the Bible, what Paul actually said about the situation was this: “There was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me” (2 Corinthians 12:7). That verse doesn’t say one thing about God sending Paul a thorn. It says the thorn was a messenger of Satan. The word *messenger* is used 188 times in the New Testament. It’s translated *angel*, 181 times. Seven times it’s translated *messenger*.

Either way, it always refers to a personality or a being. It never refers to sickness or disease. So Paul wasn’t talking about sickness in this passage. He was talking about the demonic spirit that stirred up persecution against him.

Many people have completely misunderstood those verses. They’ve been taught by religious tradition that God said, “No, Paul. You’ll just have to keep this thorn and put up with it by My grace. You’ll just have to glory in it.”

But that’s not what the Scripture says at all!

When God said to Paul, “My grace is enough for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness,” the word He used for *strength* was the Greek word *dunamis*, which refers to God’s supernatural, almighty, miracle-working power. He was telling Paul, “In any situation, no matter how impossible things may look, My divine favor will see you through. When you’re at your weakest, My power will be perfected on your behalf.”

persecutors went so far as to stone him and drag him out of the city as dead. Talk about being weak! You can’t get any weaker than dead.

“Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe. And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch” (Acts 14:20-21).

Think of it! God’s power on Paul was so strong, he not only got back up after being stoned, but he traveled to another city and kept right on preaching. Then he returned to the city where he was stoned and ministered there again.

Religious tradition won’t tell you about things like that. But



they happened in Paul's life all the time. He was shipwrecked, beaten, imprisoned, bitten by a deadly snake and everything else you can imagine. But he was never defeated. He never let the devil deceive him into becoming a sick, weak man.

On the contrary, Paul lived to be an old man and traveled most of the known world. He wrote two-thirds of the New Testament and completed his ministry. When he and God finally decided it was time for him to leave this earth and go to heaven, he said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:6-7).

Paul's fight of faith was tougher than anything most of us will ever face. Yet he won it by resisting the devil every step of the way. He triumphed in every situation because he had learned the secret of walking in victory: "When I am weak, then am I strong.... I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me]" (2 Corinthians 12:10; Philipians 4:13, *AMPC*).

In the margin of my Bible, beside those verses, I wrote: *When human strength ends, the power of God excels.* To me, this sums up Paul's teaching about the thorn in the flesh. It's not about submitting to the devil's bondage. It's about walking in freedom.

So don't buy the devil's lies. Turn the tables on him with the truth. When he starts putting symptoms of sickness on you, resist him and tell him what the Word says about your healing. When he sends you some kind of thorn in the flesh and tells you there's no way out for you, rebuke him and say, "Yes, there is a way! Jesus said, 'I am the Way,' and He'll make the way for me. His power excels where my human strength ends. I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me!" 📌



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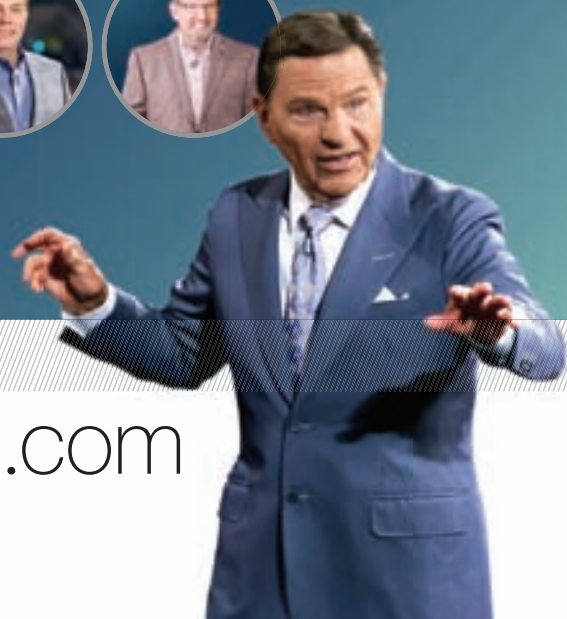
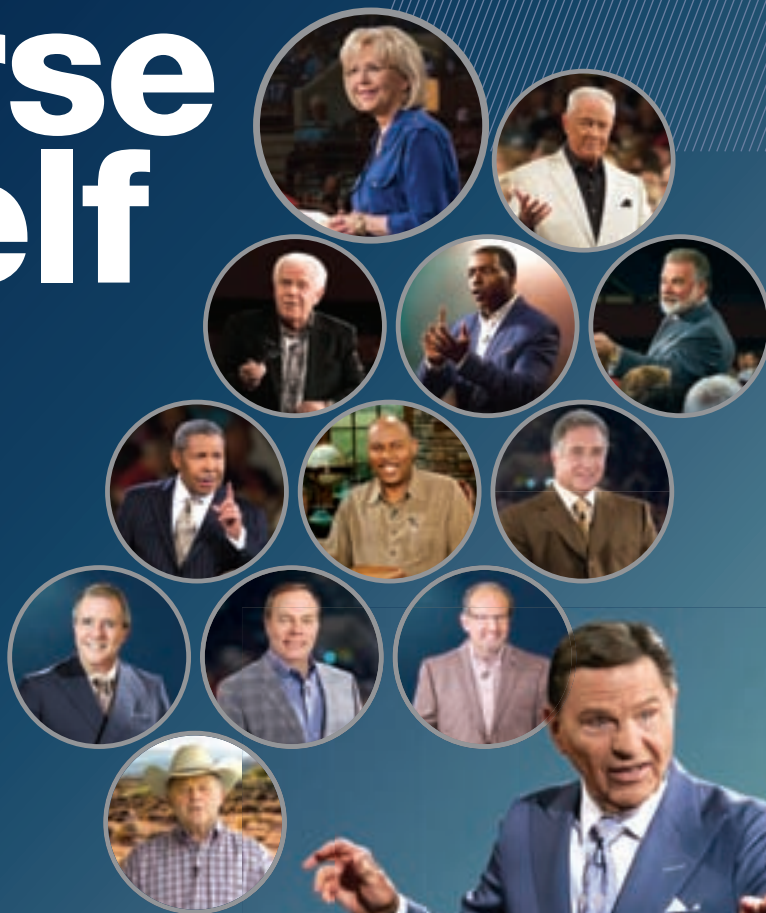
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