PRAY, LISTEN AND OBEY...

VOTE!

by Kenneth Copeland

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VOTE!

AS THE BODY OF CHRIST, WE HAVE GREAT AUTHORITY IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AND IN THE THINGS OF GOD. IT MAY COME AS A SHOCK TO MANY TO LEARN THAT EVEN THOUGH POLITICIANS WILL HAVE TO ANSWER TO GOD FOR WHAT THEY DO, THE BODY OF CHRIST WILL ALSO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN THE EARTH POLITICALLY.

The condition of the world is supposed to be controlled by our prayers. The Church has been given the power to change things. We stand in a covenant. We have the armor of God and the power of attorney to use the Name of Jesus and the power of His blood.

God desires for His people to pray and take a stand with Him in faith. First Timothy 2:1-2 says, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” It is vitally important that we pray daily for our leaders.

It’s also crucial that we ask God how to vote. Voting is our God-given right and responsibility.

In this nation and others, people have suffered and died so we could have that right. We must not take it lightly.

Not voting is the same as casting a vote for the wrong side. Yet, there are Christians all over this country who are not even registered to vote—enough of them to swing every election.

The time has come to take our place. We are responsible.

When God speaks, we are to listen and obey, and we need leaders who will do the same. Party affiliation is not what matters. The person God can use is the one with a willing heart who will obey His voice. Ask God to give us leaders with willing hearts who will stand for what is right. Then vote as He leads you.

Your Holy Spirit-directed ballot is a powerful seed. When you vote in faith, in obedience to God, your household will be protected. God will take care of you no matter who is in office or what is happening in the world. So, don’t fear. Remember that God is your source, not the people who get elected.

When America counts to God to lift us up, in prayer we have to be held responsible. We have a voice in the kingdom of God.

“Those who build their billing on the Senate...”

—David Barton

2018 NOVEMBER MIDTERM ELECTIONS

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“Their last bill...in the Senate...”

—David Barton
“This election, there’s a lot at stake. Over 400 bills have passed the House that are waiting in the Senate. So many of them are godly value bills.”

—David Barton
GET THE BLESSING IN YOUR MOUTH

Sometimes we, as believers, give the devil too much credit.

We assume all the trouble in our lives is solely his doing. We point to him as the reason we’ve been stubbornly dogged by sickness, or lack, or some other negative thing, when it’s not really him that’s perpetuating the problem.
It’s our own words that have been working against us! We’ve been opening the door ourselves to those cursed situations by what we’ve been saying with our own mouths.

That doesn’t mean the devil isn’t involved, of course. He’s the thief who comes to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). But he doesn’t have the power to do that just on his own. Jesus stripped him of his power through the cross and the resurrection. So, for the devil to successfully enforce his evil will in our lives, he has to deceive us into letting him do it. He has to trick us into letting him get hold of our words.

Why are our words so important?
Because this is a word-created, word-upheld universe: God created it with words (Hebrews 11:3). Jesus is upholding it by The WORD of His power (Hebrews 1:3), and He declared in Mark 11:23-24 that we have whatever we believe and say.

“For out of the abun-dance 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…. [And] 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….”

“YOU SHOULD BE SPEAKING THE BLESSING OVER YOUR JOB AND OVER YOUR ASSIGNMENT. WATCH WHAT THE BLESSING WILL DO FOR YOU.” —Bill Winston
that you and your descendants may live” (Deuteronomy 30:19, Amplified Bible, Classic Edition).

Passing Down a Heritage of Words

Notice God said that your words not only affect you, they impact your descendants. They either bring life or death into your family line. That’s where the term “generational curse” came from. It’s an inaccurate way of explaining what happens when family members speak the same cursed thing about themselves over and over. It’s someone in the family line opening the door to the devil and then using words to pass down the same demonic thing to their children and grandchildren.

The more that thing is passed down, the more it gets embedded in the family mindset and vocabulary. The more it gets embedded, the more powerful it becomes.

Most believers don’t realize this, but you can do things in the spirit long enough to change your physical body. You can believe and rehearse the curse of sickness, or addiction, or whatever, until it damages you genetically, and that damage winds up being passed down through your family tree. In the natural that’s called heredity, but it started out in the spirit by someone believing and saying death-filled words.

Can that kind of curse be stopped in a family once it’s been started? Sure, it can. I’ve seen it proven time and again.

One of my favorite examples is what happened in the life of my good friend Jimmy Hester. He and I used to ride motorcycles together. One day I walked into a motorcycle shop and saw him sitting on the counter, talking on the phone, with a big grin on his face. He motioned me over, and after he finished his conversation he told me he’d been talking to his doctor.

“Kenneth, I just had a physical exam,” he said. “Today is my 60th birthday, and my doctor told me I have the heart of a 16-year-old boy!”

I knew he’d had heart problems in the past, so I understood right away what a miraculous report that was, but that day he told me the details. For generations,

thou shalt be condemned” (Matthew 12:34–37).

Look again at those verses. They don’t say that bad things and good things happen to you just by chance. They also don’t say what comes forth in your life is determined by the devil. No, what comes forth is what you say. It’s the words you speak yourself, out of your heart, that make the difference.

You can’t speak dead words about something and expect them to produce abundant life. To experience abundant life in a particular area, you have to feed on what The WORD of God says about it and speak that. You have to say about that area what God said because His “words...are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63).

This is how you receive healing in your physical body!

You hear, believe and say what God has already said about it. You meditate on scriptures like Deuteronomy 28:61 that identify sickness as part of the curse; Galatians 3:13 that says Jesus redeemed you from that curse; and 1 Peter 2:24 that says by His stripes you were healed. You keep those verses before your eyes, in your ears and in the midst of your heart, until they come out of your mouth without you even having to think about it.

“But Brother Copeland, that takes a lot of effort.”

Yes, but it’s worth it because for better or for worse you’re always going to be believing and speaking something. If it’s not God’s WORD, it’s going to be the lies of the devil. And if you say what the devil says, you’re going to be digging your grave with your own mouth.

Psalm 19:14 says, “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.” It’s not acceptable to God for you to meditate on and agree with what the devil is saying and doing. That produces death, and death is not acceptable to God. He doesn’t want you speaking the curse over yourself and your family. “Death and life are in the power of the tongue” (Proverbs 18:21), so He wants you to get THE BLESSING in your mouth. He wants you to “choose life,
Death and life are in the power of the tongue. The curse over yourself and your family is determined by the devil. He doesn’t want you speaking the lies of the devil. And if you say what the devil is saying and doing, it produces results that are not acceptable to God for you to experience abundant life. To experience abundant life, you have to say that you were healed. You keep those verses in your head, and cast that devilish condition out of your mouth and replacing it with the more that thing is passed down, the more it gets embedded in the family mindset and vocabulary. The more it gets embedded, the more powerful it becomes.

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“Kenneth, I just had a physical exam,” he said. “Today is my 60th birthday, and my doctor told me I have the heart of a 16-year-old boy!”

I knew he’d had heart problems in the past, so I understood right away what a miraculous report that was, but that day he told me the details. For generations, the men in his family had died in their 40s or 50s from heart problems. He’d been reminded of it repeatedly ever since he was a child. “Jimmy,” his mother would say, “you have to be careful. Your granddaddy had a bad heart, your daddy had a bad heart, now you have a bad heart too.”

As predicted, by the time he was in his 50s that became a physical fact. Jimmy’s heart began giving him serious trouble. Someone who knew about it, took him to one of my mother’s Monday night prayer meetings, and just before she prayed for him, she looked him in the eye and said, “Tell me the truth about this.”

“Well,” he replied, “my grandfather died with a bad heart, my daddy died with a bad heart, and now I have a bad heart.”

Not satisfied with his answer, my mother tried again, “No!” she said. “Tell me the truth about it!”

“Lady, I just told you the truth!” Jimmy said. “My granddaddy died with a bad heart. My daddy died with a bad heart, and now I have a bad heart.”

“Kenneth, by that time, I was mad,” Jimmy told me. “I flat didn’t know what she wanted me to say. But she finally answered her own question. ‘Isaiah 53 is the truth about this,’ she hollered. ‘By Jesus’ stripes you’re healed!’ Then she slapped her hands on both sides of my head and cast that devilish condition out of me.

“I walked out of her house a different man! I broke that curse, and today is my 60th birthday, and I have the heart of a teenager!”

You Be the One to Reverse the Curse

“Yeah,” someone might say, “but our family has a different problem. We’re just genetically inclined to have cancer.”

No, shut that up right there! Be the one who ends that curse by getting it out of your mouth and replacing it with THE BLESSING. Start turning that curse into the Most High shall remain stable and firm under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand].
IT’S THE WORDS YOU SPEAK YOURSELF, OUT OF YOUR HEART, THAT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.

I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust! For [then] He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

Read those verses again and put the two phrases in bold print together. What do they tell you? They tell you that when you say God is your Refuge and Fortress, then He will deliver you.

When you say it and believe it, then He will.

THEN…HE…WILL!

“But that promise just covers me, Brother Copeland. It doesn’t say anything about my descendants being delivered.”

Maybe not, but Isaiah 54 does. It says: “All thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children. In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.... No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord” (verses 13-14, 17).

You ought to be quoting those verses to your children all the time. When everyone else is talking terror attacks and school shootings, you ought to be saying to your kids and grandkids, “Don’t you fret, sweetheart. God said terror won’t even come near you. God said you’re going to enjoy great peace.”

The Hebrew word translated peace means “to be whole, undamaged and intact, with nothing missing and nothing broken, to be BLESSED in every area of life—spirit, soul, body, financially and socially.” Talk about a wonderful family heritage! Great peace is as good as it gets, and it belongs to every one of us in Christ Jesus.

If we’re going to walk in it, though, we must believe it and talk it. We have to condemn every negative, unbelieving thing the devil tries to push on us and say like Psalm 103 does: “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s” (verses 2-5).

That psalm isn’t talking about food when it says God satisfies your mouth with good things. It’s talking about words. It’s saying we can put words from God in our mouths that will renew our youth.

That deal starts sounding really good when you’ve been around as long as I have! But I don’t advise you to wait until you’re over 80 to take God up on it. Although better late than never, it’s wise to get with the youth renewal program earlier in life.

The LORD told me that many years ago when I was praying for my mother. She’d been having difficulty with angina and an enlarged heart and we’d checked her into the City of Faith hospital in Tulsa, Okla. I was sitting next to her bed, praying in the spirit, and saying, “I believe I receive her healing,” when suddenly I heard The LORD speak on
the inside of me. She doesn't need healing, He said.

Startled, I jumped a little and asked Him what He meant.

Did you notice how fast she was healed of the pneumonia that came on her and the infection in her hand, after you prayed for her? Lack of healing isn't the problem, He said. Then He told me to turn in my Bible to Psalm 103 and pointed out what it says about our youth being renewed like the eagle's. She should have been believing for that already, and so should you, He said. Now, the problem is that her physical body is worn completely out.

"Can I believe for her youth to be renewed now?" I asked.

Certainly, all things are possible to him that believes, He said. But My will in this is for My children to believe it all the time.

At that point in my mother's life, she'd already lived a lot longer than the doctors had predicted. They'd told her since she was a teenager that she wouldn't last another 10 years. She'd set her faith on living to 70, however, and made it. Afterward she'd gone into decline, but when I laid hands on her that night in the hospital and spoke for the renewal of her body, she started improving. They sent her home from the hospital and she lived until she was 77!

After she went on to heaven, I stuck with the program. I kept believing and saying my youth is renewed like the eagle's. Now, at 81, I'm in better shape physically than I've been in years and I'm having the time of my life.

You can do the same thing and get the same results! If you'll get your words working for you instead of against you, not only can you receive healing and youth renewal, you can change any cursed situation in your life.

"The tongue of the wise is health.... A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth.... A wholesome tongue is a tree of life..." (Proverbs 12:18, 13:2, 15:4). So, stop repeating what the devil is saying. Say what God says about you. Get THE BLESSING in your mouth and really live!

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**WHY IS GOD ALLOWING THIS?**

**by Rick Renner**

"Anything that comes to steal, kill and destroy isn't sent by God."

For 20 years following Jesus’ death and resurrection, scattered Jews throughout the Roman Empire faced horrific, intense persecution. Can you imagine? For 20 years they were hunted, beaten and killed for their belief in Christ. Over time, they began to wonder, Why is God allowing this?

Have you ever wondered that? Has trouble ever come your way and left you questioning God’s purpose in allowing it? Have you wondered if the trouble was some kind of spiritual spanking meant to teach you a lesson or make you become more like Jesus?

That’s what those Jews were wondering.

They were so desperate for an answer that they wrote to Jesus’ half-brother James, who was the pastor at Jerusalem and the most notable person in the Church at the time.

“James, why is God allowing this?"

His strong response, recorded in the book of James, answered that question for those first-century believers. And it still answers that question for you and me today.

**No Holding Back**

James didn’t hold back. In his letter, he wrote, “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God...” (James 1:13).

In the original Greek, this is a very strong rebuke to the believers. When James said, “Let no man say...” what he was saying was, “How dare you allege this! What you’re saying isn’t right, and it’s going to stop right now.”

When the Jewish believers said they were “tempted of God,” they weren’t suggesting that God was crushing and destroying them directly...but rather they had allowed themselves to believe God was...
simply allowing it remotely—literally in the Greek, from a distance. In other words, they believed, “God is God, and if He wanted to stop this, He could. So, in some mysterious way, God must be remotely allowing these tragic events to pass into our lives.”

Sound familiar?

Have you ever thought that, or known someone who has?

When James heard that, his answer was blunt: “Shut up! Let no man say this! How dare you allege that God would even remotely permit these things to happen to you. That isn’t God at all.”

Questioning Beliefs

It was easy for Jewish believers to think God had allowed such tragedy because in Old Testament times, there was really no clear-cut revelation of the devil. In those days, people generally thought everything came from God. If a flood came, they thought it was from God. If a disease came, it was attributed to God. If war came, “it must be from God.” That was basically the attitude of those in the Old Testament...that everything ultimately came from God...that everything was the will of God, who does everything sovereignly.

But Jesus’ own brother said that theology was emphatically wrong.

You can understand where those Jewish believers were coming from. They’d been standing in faith for 20 years, but they weren’t seeing results—and as believers often do when they don’t see results, they began to wonder...

Am I believing the wrong thing?

Could my doctrine be incorrect?

Could it be that God, from a distance, has somehow allowed these things to come to pass?

And then, instead of resisting the work of the enemy, they threw open their arms to embrace those things as though they were God’s will.

I grew up in a denomination that taught me many wonderful things, and I’m very grateful. But I will never forget their Wednesday night prayer meetings.

In those meetings, for example, someone might raise their hand and say, “Would you Please pray for my uncle who has cancer?” The pastor would reply, “Let’s pray that he has the grace to receive that cancer. Let’s pray that he can glorify God in his affliction.”

That’s a very Old Testament way of thinking, but it’s still alive in the Church today.

Even as a teenager, I remember thinking, If I ever get sick, I’m going to look for someone else who knows how to pray for me!

Getting to Know the Devil

It was Jesus who brought a revelation of the devil to the Church. When His ministry began, He shined a light on those who sat in darkness (Matthew 4:16). Jesus revealed that there was a good God in heaven, and a bad devil on the earth. He revealed that a good God did good things, and a bad devil did bad things.

That’s why when James heard the Jews wondering if the evil in their lives was God’s way of helping them conform to the image of Christ, he counted it as an insult. As far as he was concerned, God would never do that! In fact, James said God could not do that: “For God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man” (James 1:13).

Is there anything God cannot do? Yes. Absolutely, yes!

The Greek text here states that God is incapable of responding with evil. He knows nothing of evil and has no evil in Him. The only time evil ever tried to get into the presence of God, God quickly removed it from heaven. He has no evil to give. That’s why the end of the verse says, “...neither tempteth he any man.” God doesn’t have any evil in Him and therefore He cannot use evil to change someone. It’s simply an impossibility.

Besides, Isaiah 53 clearly says Jesus took our infirmities on the cross. That’s a fact. For Jesus to take our infirmities and then for God to give them back to us would be walking around the work of the cross, and God is not going to do that.

James was saying, “God never, never, never uses anything destructive to teach...
Never and then for God to give them back to us — a fact. For Jesus to take our infirmities on the cross. That’s impossible. It’s simply an impossibility.

Therefore He.

God doesn’t have any evil in Him and says, “…neither tempteth he any man.” And He simply cannot. That’s why the end of the verse.

Is there anything God cannot do? Yes. Absolutely, yes!

The Greek text here states that God is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning” (James 1:17).

The word good in the Greek describes something that is improving, enhancing or upgrading. When you receive something from God, it doesn’t take from your life. It improves, enhances and upgrades your life.

The word gifts sounds singular, but in the Greek, it’s referring to something continuous or habitual. That’s how God gives: habitually, continually.

The word perfect describes something that is completing or perfecting. In other words, if it comes from God, it completes us and adds to us.

Finally, he says these gifts “cometh down” from the Father. This is the same phrase used by the early Greeks to describe a downpour or a thundershower.

I grew up in Oklahoma, and we had downpours. If you were driving the car in the middle of a downpour, you couldn’t even see the taillights on the car in front of you. That’s how God is sending good and perfect gifts to us. He’s not sending a drizzle here and there. When God sends you gifts, they come down constantly… consistently… a heavy, steady downpour of God’s goodness!

Take It by Faith

The next logical question is. If God is really pouring good and perfect gifts into my life, why am I not occasionally hit by one of them?

Everything God gives has to be received by faith. You’ve got to put yourself in a position and use your faith to embrace what God is pouring all around you. If your mind is unrenewed and you’re thinking God has sent tragedies into your life, you’re probably not looking up at His goodness. If you’re looking down into the gutter, you will miss everything that God is trying to send into your life.

You’ve got to look up, renew your mind and embrace His goodness by faith. Hebrews 2:1 puts it this way: “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.” Those words “let them slip” evoke the picture of God with good and precious promises trying to find someone who will play catch. God is throwing His gifts in our direction, and He’s waiting for someone who will reach out by faith and say, “I’ll take that one! I’ll take that one! I’ll take that one!”

If you don’t take His gifts by faith, they will slip by you.

Draw a Line

You don’t have to question if something is from God. Religious thinking will try to tell you that through deep, dark, terrible circumstances, God is somehow trying to conform you into the image of Jesus Christ. But that’s an insult to the integrity of God.

God can change you into the image of Christ without sickness and disease. He doesn’t need to bankrupt you to teach you a lesson. If it’s evil or destructive, you don’t even have to stop and ask yourself, Is God secretly doing this? No. He is not. He simply cannot.

If what you’re facing fails the test of James 1:17, then you can know what to receive and what to resist.

Like those early believers, you can draw a line. You can know how to pray.

You can know how to win.

“For Jesus to take our infirmities and then for God to give them back to us would be walking around the work of the cross, and God is not going to do that.”
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“...I am increasingly grateful that God has provided His people with a place of refuge. I am also increasingly aware that we’d better make sure we’re in it 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”
—Gloria Copeland

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It’s November, Superkid! After our year-long look into life with Jesus, I see some big changes in myself, and I’m grateful! And, it’s the time of year when I usually talk to you about gratitude and thanksgiving.

I find that the deeper I go with Jesus, the easier it is to have a grateful heart. The farther I am from a full-time heart of giving thanks, the more I complain.

Complaining reflects the attitude of our hearts, and it’s easy to fall into. Any little detail that’s not how we like it, and BAM! We turn into Captain Complaino! Try taking that complaint to the Lord—it doesn’t work. Have your complaints had much success with Mom and Dad lately? Probably not, because COMPLAINING DOESN’T WORK with them either. Even if it seems to work, the answer didn’t come from the Lord. You went around Him to get what you wanted. The truth hurts, but it’s the only way Jesus can help you have the success that matters. And He IS there to help you. Jesus knows what it’s like to WANT to complain, yet He didn’t.

Hebrews 4:16 is clear about how WE should come to the Father. “So now we come freely and boldly to where love is enthroned, to receive mercy’s kiss and discover the grace we urgently need to strengthen us in our time of weakness.”

Freely, with thanksgiving! THERE IS NO COMPLAINT DEPARTMENT IN HEAVEN!

Jesus wants you to come to Him for help, but He’s going to help you the RIGHT way, not just fix your complaint. When you complain, Jesus will talk to you about being thankful. OF COURSE, it’s better to take it to Him, than to complain to others! He is faithful to correct you, and help you get your heart right (kind of like Mom and Dad do).

In the Garden of Eden, Adam complained to God about Eve! And, the Psalms are FULL of complaints. Psalms 50 and 73-83 were written by Asaph, a musician and prophet. What he wrote is interesting. Half the time he complains and half the time he praises. What he wrote is interesting. Half the time he complains and half the time he praises. He wants to share the lesson he learned. In Psalm 73, he says he nearly lost everything as he complained about others, God, the wicked, you name it. Then, in verse 17: “But then one day I was brought into the sanctuaries of God, and in the light of glory, my distorted perspective vanished.”

It’s amazing what happens when you get with Jesus! After God gave him clarity about the people he was complaining about, he says in verses 22-26:

As we are, and conquered sin,”

Verses 17-18: “Now when I was ignorant, I acted ignorantly; but when I understood this, I was filled with shame and trepidation.”

Jesus knew that complaining would not work with His Father. Psalm 100 told Jesus how to come to His Father, “As you serve him, be glad and worship him. Sing your way into his presence with joy!... You can pass through his open gates with the password of praise. Come right into his presence with thanksgiving. Come bring your thank offering to him and affectionately bless his beautiful name!” (verses 2, 4).

When we praise and thank Him instead of complain, we will hear Him answer. It may be that attitude adjustments are all we need. But if there’s something more, our thankfulness allows Him to fix that too. “Commander Kellie secret: A thankful heart will not only lead to help from the Lord, it works pretty well with Mom and Dad too!

Rather than pull in the opposite direction, choose to work with Jesus, and Mom and Dad. Write down your go-to complaints and ask Jesus to keep watch over your words.

Instead of complaining, focus on being grateful and thankful for Jesus and all that He and others have done for you. Matthew 6:31-33, The Message, says it best: “What I’m trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God’s giving. People who don’t know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don’t worry about missing out. You’ll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.”

You can do this, Superkid! It will change your life as you open up a new heart of thanksgiving and praise! The next time Captain Complaino shows up, just tell him the complaint department is closed!

Gratefully and Thankfully Yours,
Commander Kellie

Kellie Copeland is an outreach minister at Kenneth Copeland Ministries and 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.
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Tickle your kids’ funny bones with almost 500 jokes written by children from all over the world, including Bible jokes, animal jokes, knock-knock jokes, silly jokes, puns and riddles. $4.99 reg $5.99 #S181109
The principles on the KCM website have been immensely beneficial. The message of faith has imparted so much to me in the last seven months that I deem it fit to share these principles that are bearing fruit in my life. For instance, I believed God for double my salary in a job in London. I applied the principles of faith I learned from Brother Copeland and KCM, and now God has done it! I have three job offers, two of which are just behind the double my current income—praise God! Thank you once again and stay blessed.

C.N. | England

HE SINGS HIS FAITH CONFESSIONS
Hello, Gloria Copeland. I’m writing to thank you for your book Blessed Beyond Measure. In 2009 I was diagnosed with stage 3 lung cancer, an inoperable tumor on my right lung as big as a baseball. I began to speak to it and tell it to shrink and go, according to Mark 11:22-24. I took your advice on singing to God, and I made up a little song about my healing. This became to me a “Moses Rod.” I went through chemo and radiation and the tumor shrank 70 percent or more. Nov. 30, 2009, I had a small, dead, noncancerous mass removed. I praise Jesus that I am cancer free. Thank you for teaching this grateful Partner that singing is a way of confessing my faith in Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord my Healer.

Michael Z. | Plainfield, Ill.

GOD CAME THROUGH FOR ME...AGAIN!
Last week I submitted a prayer request online and also prayed with a prayer minister at KCM regarding my living situation. I asked for agreement in prayer for God’s grace and favor to keep me from being evicted from my home of many years. I prayed, I declared my end result and I stood on faith.

I just want to thank you and let you know that God came through for me...again! He NEVER fails me. Thank you, KCM, for your teachings on prayer, angels, faith and speaking right words. Even though I know these things, it is so important to continually refresh my mind and remember the promises of God. Thank you and God bless.

L.S. | Wisconsin

PARTNERSHIP & PRAYER
Two months after I became a Partner with your ministry, God made a big miracle according to your prayers. When I was filling out the Partner form I wrote my prayer need—pray for changes in my work and for my career.

God did it! Recently, we had our staff reduction at work and they added a new position especially for me! Now I have my own office and I can spread the kingdom of God even more. God is faithful! May God make broader opportunities for your ministry! A.T. | Ukraine

I am always so enthusiastic about the testimony of Kenneth Copeland. I feel like the pronounced word from the sermon two days ago made me very strong. A clear change was made.

I have [suffered] with psychosis, hearing voices—this is from the enemy. When I heard the sermon with the angels, woow, the voices were silent and I have found peace so far. I really like this direct and clear attitude as expressed by Brother Copeland. It does not let the enemy get anything back—he has to stay outside. Hallelujah!! Thanks a lot for the translation in German. The Lord bless you all very much!

A.K. | Germany

It’s just as they said, when you declare to the Lord you want to live debt free, He enables you to do so. July 2014, I was able to buy a vehicle with cash. Because I’m a tender and generous giver, the Lord continually blesses my finances so I lack nothing. When I got married in October 2016, my husband still had debt. We wrote out and signed another agreement that we would live our married life debt free. We worked together and paid the debt off in 11 months. Praise the Lord! We love the peace and freedom of being debt free. This past week we watched the 21 Days to Debt Freedom series that I had previously received from KCM. Hearing the messages again reaffirmed what we know to be true. Upon hearing “credit card,” my husband looked at me and said, “It’s really a debt card if not used wisely.” Isn’t that the truth? I’m sowing my $50 seed this month in gratitude for the blessings I receive from KCM. This ministry continually shows its love and appreciation to its Partners; I’m thankful to be one in a million!

Anne-Marie M. | New Brunswick
Good NEWS Gazette
BLESSED TO BE DEBT FREE
I’ve been watching Gloria and Pastor George on BVOV for years and enjoy their method of teaching the Word. I took to heart the teaching on debt-free living and wrote out an agreement in July 2013. I backed it up with scriptures, signed it and kept it on my refrigerator where I could see it. Three months later almost to the day, a relative blessed me with enough finances to pay off what I owed. It’s just as they said, when you declare to the Lord you want to live debt free, He enables you to do so. July 2014, I was able to buy a vehicle with cash. Because I’m a tither and generous giver, the Lord continually blesses my finances so I lack nothing. When I got married in October 2016, my husband still had debt. We wrote out and signed another agreement that we would live our married life debt free. We worked together and paid the debt off in 11 months. Praise the Lord! We love the peace and freedom of being debt free. This past week we watched the 21 Days to Debt Freedom series that I had previously received from KCM. Hearing the messages again reaffirmed what we know to be true. Upon hearing “credit card,” my husband looked at me and said, “It’s really a debt card if not used wisely.” Isn’t that the truth? I’m sowing my $50 seed this month in gratitude for the blessings I receive from KCM. This ministry continually shows its love and appreciation to its Partners; I’m thankful to be one in a million! Anne-Marie M. | New Brunswick

“If you keep listening to them, you’ll end up repeating what they’re saying, which is exactly what the devil wants you to do.” —Kenneth 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! kcm.org/salvation

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“I’m so glad this ministry exists for people like me! I received my salvation ministry kit at a recent event to show to my friends and family. I’m so thankful to be a part of this!” —Jill

Hablamos Español

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NEVER GIVE UP
BVOV:

The truth was that Ronnie had more to be angry about than the average teenager. The third eldest child in an abusive home, Ronnie had been the scapegoat—blamed and beaten for anything and everything. Truth was of little consequence.

At home, his stepfather had chased him with a butcher knife. At school, he’d been bullied and picked on because of the wicked-looking scars on his back and arms that came from burns. “Burned-Up Chicken!” the kids mocked.

Just thinking of those words made Ronnie sweat with fury. By the age of 12, Ronnie was hanging out with the wrong crowd. They stayed up all night smoking pot, dropping acid, taking mushrooms and pills. He’d been high as a kite when he stole a car. Of course, he didn’t know how to drive and was arrested after sailing through a red light.

Sentenced to a year at the Mount Meigs Juvenile Facility, Ronnie had landed in a never-ending party of drug use where family members of rich kids brought in sacks filled with drugs.

A year or so later, he had graduated to shooting drugs and stealing to support his habit. His mother and stepfather sent him to live with his father. Ronnie didn’t know the man. He’d been a year old when he’d fallen into boiling water and been burned. Afterward, his mother had left his father and moved to Alabama to live with her parents.

When Ronnie and his father got home one day, his school shoes were gone. “You sold those shoes!” his dad accused. “No, Sir,” Ronnie said, “I did not. Someone must’ve stolen them. I didn’t sell those shoes.” His dad beat him, and Ronnie ran away from home.

When he was 14, Ronnie and his cousin stopped in a 7-Eleven®
to buy a soda. As they were leaving, the clerk yelled out a racial slur at them, screaming the N-word and ordering them to “Get out of here!” Ronnie and his friend left, but soon returned to the store, where they beat the clerk and stole money from the register before they ran off.

Now, two years after being arrested and convicted, Ronnie was finally being sentenced. He didn’t deny committing the crime. What infuriated him was the fact that he had been incarcerated since the crime was committed—when he was 14. Authorities had held him in jail since then without a trial, waiting, he suspected, until he turned 16 so he could be tried as an adult.

In the courtroom, Ronnie shouted at the judge. “Just give me 20 years! I’m tired of you!”

The judge slammed his gavel. “Twenty years it is!”

Doing Hard Time

“I was sentenced to the Draper Correctional Facility, in Elmore Ala.,” Ronnie explains. “It was a horrible place. I was 16 years old and good-looking, which meant that it was almost certain I would be raped. All the guys who went in with me were raped or killed or both.

“I became a Black Muslim for protection. Everyone knew that if you messed with one Black Muslim, you messed with all of them. Even so, I was still in constant danger. There were places in the prison where men got trapped, raped or killed. The threats and danger never let up. I got messages like: We’re coming for you. It was very hard. I didn’t have anyone on the outside. No letters. No visitors. All I had was Islam.

“The Black Muslims taught a lot of good life lessons, which I needed: things like the importance of personal hygiene and dressing well. They taught us to respect ourselves. The Black Muslim don’t use drugs, but I didn’t stop. During my third year, I got busted with drugs. I was transferred to a bigger prison in Mobile, Ala. There, I became an imam, which is a Black Muslim leader. I made a near-fatal mistake when I bought drugs on credit from a gangster killer. I wrote my family asking for money, but no one sent any.

One night Ronnie saw the gangster and two other men slip into a nearby cell. They wore gloves and had meat cleavers strapped to their hands. Ronnie watched in horror as the three inmates in that cell were chopped apart like slaughtered animals. The killers left behind their hit list.

Ronnie’s name was on that list.

On the Run

After serving five years of his 20-year sentence, Ronnie escaped while in a work-release program. He would be on the run for the next six years, eight months and 28 days.

For a while, he lived in the basement of his cousin, a Baptist preacher. It was there that Ronnie discovered and began reading books from his cousin’s library. Among those were three books by E.W. Kenyon: What Happened from the Cross to the Throne; The Father and His Family; and The Hidden Man of the Heart.

As he took notes, there was something on those pages that drew Ronnie’s attention. Was Jesus the Son of God? he wondered. It had never occurred to Ronnie that the white man’s God might be real. Now he suspected it was true.

A few years later, Ronnie pursued a relationship with a woman who was a Christian. The only way he could spend time with her was in church. Although his motives had nothing to do with God, he heard more about Jesus.

“There’s something about you,” she told Ronnie. “God’s got His hand on you.”

No one else saw God’s hand on Ronnie’s life.

“I was a stick-up man,” Ronnie says. “One cold, snowy day, I was driving with another man when we were ambushed with gunfire. I didn’t realize I’d been shot when I jumped out of the car and tried to escape. The man who’d ambushed us came to finish me off.

“My life passed before my eyes. I saw myself as a small child. Scenes from my life passed by so fast. Three words welled up from deep inside and I screamed, ‘Jesus, help me!’ Then I passed out.

“I woke to see a policeman standing over me. I was thrown in jail and charged with armed robbery and attempted murder. My arm was broken in two places and I still had two slugs in it. I lay in my cell in such pain. There were no meds, nothing to help. I watched as a bright light came into my cell and touched me. Every shred of pain left and it didn’t come back. The next day, all charges against me were dropped, and they let me go.”
From Death to Life

Ronnie knew God had intervened in his life, but he was still addicted to drugs. Parking his van, he shot drugs into his vein. This time, he overdosed.

Ronnie could feel himself sliding down into a place darker than any darkness on earth. The further down he traveled, the darker it became. He had never been afraid of any man, but he’d always been afraid of the dark. The black that surrounded him now was terrifying. Suddenly, he remembered something he had heard: “If you call on the Name of Jesus, you will be saved.” Unable to speak, from deep inside his heart Ronnie screamed: Jesus, help me!

Ronnie felt himself gliding upward toward the light. When he came to in his van, he had a needle in his arm. He drove home shaking from the experience. Still, he was addicted to drugs.

“I was under a tree one day cutting drugs,” Ronnie remembers. “The wind blew the tree and I heard these words: You’ve got to choose between Me and what’s on that plate. It scared me so bad, I left and went back to the liquor store where deals were done. I was selling dope in someone else’s territory, and the big man who ran the area wanted to meet with me. It was a beautiful June day. Just gorgeous. But I had a sense that something was off.”

Ronnie told his girlfriend, Gwendolyn, to go home and not ride with him that day.

“I took her home and then returned to the liquor store,” Ronnie recalled. “When I arrived, they blocked my car and shoved me into a corner. Fear hit me so hard my knees shook. I knew I was dead. There was no way out.

“Suddenly, it turned black outside. Lightning struck and thunder seemed to rock the world. Everyone was distracted, and I heard that voice again: Get out of here, now!”

Ronnie ran outside into the storm and escaped.

A New Man

Back home, he took off his gold necklaces and stuffed his dope under the bed. Shutting himself off in a closet, he fell on his knees and repented, thanking God for saving him. The light in the closet was off, but the small space lit up like the noonday sun. Stunning colors had never been seen before overshadowed him. Stunning colors washed over him from his head to his feet. He could feel the colors swirling over him and running through him.

Gwendolyn opened the closet door and turned on the light.

“What’s going on?” she asked.

“I CALLED WARDENS AND CHAPLAINS TO LET THEM KNOW I’D STARTED A PRISON MINISTRY. I PREACH FAITH AND GRACE, AND IT’S CHANGING LIVES.”
“God just saved me,” Ronnie said. “When I came out of that closet, I spoke in a language I didn’t know,” Ronnie remembers. “I know that way was prayer in the spirit. I prayed the way for two weeks. My drug addictions were gone. I’ve never been the same.”

The next day, Ronnie got in his car and turned on the radio. On every channel he tried, Ronnie got nothing but static—except one.

“I know who you are,” Ronnie heard the man’s voice say.

Then he told Ronnie about his life.

“God is telling you what to do, so do it,” the voice on the radio finally said.

“I knew exactly what God was asking me to do,” Ronnie recalls. “He wanted me to turn myself in. I thought it strange that when I’d been arrested, they hadn’t realized that I had escaped from prison.

“I went to the police station and told them I had escaped and wanted to turn myself in, but they chased me out,” Ronnie said. “I went home and tried to preach, but while I had the zeal, I knew nothing about the Bible. Everyone thought I was out of my mind except Gwen. She believed me and got saved. I went back to the police station a second time, but I still didn’t turn up in the computer.”

“I escaped on Feb. 13, 1979,” Ronnie told the authorities.

“He’s high,” one of the officers said.

“No, I’m not. I got saved and God wants me to turn myself in.”

Still, police turned him away and Ronnie went home.

A while later, Ronnie tried a third time to turn himself in to authorities. This time, his records were located. He was arrested and sent back to prison.

Back to Prison

“They sent me back to prison in Alabama,” Ronnie remembers. “Instead of putting me in the general population, they beat me, stripped me, shackled me and dragged me down the hall naked to the mental ward. The whole time, I heard violins and trumpets, music like I’d never known. The toilet in my cell had run over, but no one cared. Feces floated in standing water. It covered the bed. There was no place to stand, sit or sleep.

“When I prayed and talked about God, they told me to shut up. When they tried to get me to renounce Jesus, the whole place shook. Every pipe rattled.

“I felt things crawl all over me and bite me. I talked to the chaplain about it, but he looked at me like I was crazy. I didn’t know much, but I knew those were spirits that came out of me when I was born again. They wanted me again! They bit and tormented me, trying to regain control. I had no idea what to do. I knew nothing about the Bible. I had no idea that I had authority over them. I wasn’t allowed to attend church services, and they told me I’d never get out.”

One day, Ronnie listened as a TV was playing nearby. He recognized the voice coming over the TV as that of the man who has spoken to him over the radio.

“I asked who it was, and they said his name was Kenneth Copeland,” Ronnie said.

Paying Attention to God’s Word

In time, Ronnie was moved to the general population and later to a state prison, where he was able to watch the Believer’s Voice of Victory TV broadcast and hear Brother Copeland. The first book he was given in prison was The Established Heart by Jerry Savelle. Then, someone gave him a book by Kenneth Hagin. As he read those books and watched Brother Copeland on TV, Ronnie began to learn about his authority as a believer, and how to live by faith. He spent the next three years studying the Word of God and learning to live by faith.

“I served three years and was released,” Ronnie recalls. “When I got out of prison, I was a different man. Gwen, now born again, had gone back to school and become a registered nurse. After my release, we were married.

“We became Partners with KCM, and formed a ministry under Pastor Bill Winston. I called wardens and chaplains to let them know I’d started a prison ministry. I preach faith and grace, and it’s changing lives.

“I’ve been out of prison for 29 years now. If it weren’t for KCM, I wouldn’t be the man I am today. Because I’m connected with them, I receive insight and revelation I otherwise would not have. They taught me how to live. Kenneth Copeland is my spiritual father.”

Sometime after he had begun his prison ministry, Ronnie overheard family members talking.

“So, it wasn’t Benjamin after all,” one of them said.

“No, it sure wasn’t. It was Ronnie all along,” another responded.

“What did that mean? Ronnie wondered.

“I didn’t know much about my father’s family,” Ronnie explains. “I learned that I was half Cherokee. My father’s name was Benjamin. His parents—my grandparents—preached the gospel and started a church in Alabama. Apparently, for years my grandmother prayed that her son, Benjamin, would answer the call to preach.

“He never did, but my father’s family understood that her prayers had reached me. You will never know this side of heaven the power of your prayers on future generations. Whatever you do, never, ever give up on your prodigals.”
AMBASSADORS
OF THE KINGDOM

WHAT GOD DID IN YOU WHEN YOU WERE BORN AGAIN IS BEYOND ANYTHING YOU COULD HAVE EVER IMAGINED. IT WAS, AND IS, QUITE LITERALLY OUT OF THIS WORLD. HE DIDN’T JUST FORGIVE YOU OF YOUR SINS AND PROMISE THAT SOMEDAY WHEN YOU DIE YOU’LL GO TO HEAVEN. HE PUT HEAVEN IN YOU SO THAT—RIGHT NOW!—YOU CAN MANIFEST HEAVEN ON EARTH.

by Gloria Copeland
He made you alive in the spirit so that you can live supernaturally, even while you’re still living in a natural body. He seated you in heavenly places with Christ and gave you heavenly citizenship, so that you can operate in this natural realm and in the kingdom of God at the same time.

He even appointed you to live your life here on earth as a heavenly ambassador. He gave you the authority and ability to not only take control of the power, the anointing, the abundance and the dominion of heaven in your own life, He commissioned you to share those things with others, so they can experience some heaven on earth too.

Talk about a wild and wonderful plan!

No one but God would have the nerve to even think of that. It sounds too fantastic. Yet, it’s not fantasy at all! It’s a reality that’s available to every Christian.

If we’re going to fully take advantage of it, though, we must renew our minds to it. We must become more kingdom-of-God minded than we are kingdom-of-the-world minded. Rather than thinking of God’s kingdom as something that’s just going to manifest during the millennium, when Jesus returns, we must cultivate our awareness of the fact that it’s present and active on earth. Here are some points to get you there:

1. As a believer, you are already a citizen of heaven. (Philippians 3:20 New King James Version)
2. You are commissioned by God to manifest His heavenly kingdom on earth. (Matthew 6:10)
3. The forces and resources of God’s kingdom are present in the realm of the spirit; they just aren’t visible to the natural eye. (2 Kings 6:17 New Living Translation-96)
4. Jesus preached and demonstrated the good news that God's kingdom is here right now. (Mark 1:14-15)
5. Now, Jesus has sent you to carry on His ministry just like the first disciples did. (Luke 9:2)

As soon as his eyes were opened, the servant saw that the hillside around him was filled with angelic forces, horses and chariots of fire (verses 15-17, New Living Translation-96). Those forces had been there all along. The servant just wasn’t aware of them because they weren’t visible to the natural eye.

That’s how we are sometimes. We limit our awareness to what we can perceive with our physical senses. We slip into thinking that because we can’t see the forces of God’s kingdom around us they’re not really there.

“Yeah, but Gloria, Elisha was a prophet,” you might say, “I’m just a believer. God hasn’t promised to send angels to help me.”

Yes, He has! Hebrews 1:14 says that angels are “all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation.” Since, as a believer, you’re an heir of salvation, that means you have angels with you everywhere you go.

They’re not just doing whatever they think is best, though. They’re listening to you. They’ve been commissioned by God to “do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word” (Psalm 103:20). So, for them to go into action, you must speak God’s Word. WHEN YOU DECLARE THAT WORD BY FAITH OVER SOMETHING IN YOUR LIFE, THEY ROLL UP THEIR SLEEVES AND GET BUSY. THEY GO TO WORK HELPING BRING THE WORD TO PASS.

Where the King Has Dominion

The Word is the key to everything with God! His kingdom manifests in this material realm in response to what we say. When we say about our situation what He says, and believe it, we walk in His kingdom and its power provides us with favor, protection, provision or whatever other aspect of THE BLESSING we need.

The kingdom of God is wonderful! It will control this natural realm. It will put us in a position of mastery so that instead of being subject to the negative conditions in this fallen world, to the devil, evil spirits and wicked people, we walk in dominion.

Dominion is really what a kingdom is all about. The very word kingdom literally means “where the king has
dominion.” It speaks of the place where a ruler exercises his reign. Although in the natural there are many different kingdoms on earth right now, spiritually there are only two. One, the kingdom of the world, is ruled by the devil. The other is ruled by God.

Because God is all-powerful and unequalled, His kingdom is sovereign. It’s superior to the devil’s, and supreme in power, rank and authority. It doesn’t always appear to be, however, because God doesn’t exercise His dominion on earth directly. When He created Adam in the Garden of Eden, He gave that responsibility to man.

As we all know, Adam messed things up by sinning and bowing his knee to Satan. But God continued to work through man’s dominion by making covenant with people who would believe and obey Him. Through them, He kept His BLESSING in the earth and put into effect the plan of Redemption. He paved the way for people to be born again and baptized in His Spirit so that once again His kingdom could be re-established on earth.

This is why Jesus had to take on flesh and come to earth as a man! He had to become “the firstborn among many brethren” (Romans 8:29). He had to undo the evil work the devil did with Adam in the Garden of Eden, exercise divine dominion here, and preach the gospel of the kingdom of God.

A lot of Christians don’t realize it, but the gospel of the Kingdom was Jesus’ central message. He taught about it continually, whether He was ministering to individuals or to multitudes.

He said to Nicodemus, “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).

He said to Pilate, “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:36). Or as the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition, puts it, “...My kingdom is not from here (this world); [it has no such origin or source].”

He told the crowds that came to hear Him preach, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15).

The word gospel means “good news.”
It wouldn't have been good news if Jesus had come preaching that God wants to judge people and send them to hell. It wouldn't have been good news if Jesus had told folks God would bankrupt them and leave them sick, so they would get closer to Him. So obviously, that wasn't Jesus' message.

His message was, “The kingdom of God is at hand.” In other words, “His kingdom is right here! You don't have to wait anymore to get in on it. You can partake of its power, benefits and blessings right now. So, repent (or change your thinking) and believe.”

Jesus, the Disciples and You

“Well,” someone might say, “I think Jesus was just talking about spiritual benefits when He said that. He didn't promise people that the kingdom of God would produce any natural blessings in their lives.”

He most certainly did! You can see that in Luke 4. It spells out in more detail what Jesus preached. When He announced to them the good news about God's kingdom, He quoted scriptures from the book of Isaiah and said:

The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed Me [the Anointed One, the Messiah] to preach the good news (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity], to proclaim the accepted and acceptable year of the Lord [the day when salvation and the free favors of God profusely abound] (verses 18-19, AMPC).

Those verses are full of benefits—both spiritual and natural—and after Jesus quoted them He told people, “This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears” (verse 21).

In other words, He said, “I'm here, and I'm Anointed! So, poor, you don't have to be poor anymore! Captives, you don't have to be captive anymore! Oppressed, you don't have to live under the burden of that sickness, or that depression, or those crushing negative circumstances the devil has put on you. You can receive God's kingdom, be delivered from those curses and be BLESSED!”

Jesus didn't just preach that message, either. He demonstrated it. He operated in the dominion of God and took authority over the evil spirits that had bound people. He prayed for people, and the Anointing of the Holy Spirit that was on Him, came upon them by the thousands to heal them, produce miracles in their lives, and set them free.

Most of those people had been in the same situation, before Jesus came along, that a lot of people today are. They'd been sitting in churches hearing the letter of the Law, but they'd never understood the spirit of it. They didn't know that God is a good God, who wants you well and is disposed to show favor. They might have read it in the Old Testament in Psalm 145. But their eyes had been blinded to it by religious tradition and the devil.

When they heard Jesus preach the gospel of the Kingdom under the anointing, however, their spiritual eyes were opened. They saw it...and they received!

That's what happened to blind Bartimaeus. He heard what Jesus preached about the blind not having to be blind anymore. Faith rose up in him, and when Jesus came his way, he acted on it. He called out to Jesus and told Him he wanted to be able to see. “And Jesus said unto him...thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight” (Mark 10:51-52).

The same kinds of miracles happened when Jesus’ disciples ministered. They went out, like Jesus said, and told people, “The kingdom of God has come close to you,” and because they preached the same message Jesus did, they got the same results. His Anointing flowed through them, the sick were healed, and the disciples “returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name!” (Luke 10:9, 17, AMPC).

As believers today, we should be having the same experience! We should be stepping out boldly in the power we received when we were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and carrying on Jesus’ ministry just like those first disciples. We should be sharing the gospel of God’s kingdom and being witnesses for Jesus, not because witnessing is the religious thing to do, but because we have some good news that people around us don't know. And when we tell them about it, the anointing comes and demonstrates it to them.

What is the anointing? you might wonder. It's the manifested presence of God. It's His tangible power that comes and, as Isaiah 10:27 says, destroys the yoke of bondage.

The anointing can flow through you and change people’s lives without you even realizing it at times. As you just love them and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, His power will affect them like it did a woman who attended a service I preached in a prison. She was one of the employees there. I didn't get to talk to her personally very much, but she was at the meeting and when I saw her, my heart went out to her in love.

After the service, as I was leaving I had an unction to give her a hug, pray for her and just bless her. I wasn't thinking about a yoke being destroyed. I was just listening to the Spirit of God, and doing what He led me to do.

I found out later she'd been an alcoholic for many years. And the moment I hugged her and prayed for her, she was instantly delivered. I didn't even know she needed deliverance. Yet anointing went into her, destroyed that yoke and set her free.

This is our job, Church! And you don't have to be a fivefold minister to do it. You just have to be a believer, because according to Jesus, “these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover” (Mark 16:17-18).

Those are the words of the Master.

So, go ahead and step out on them by faith. Tell people about what God has done for you. Live your life here on earth as an ambassador of God’s kingdom and the power of that kingdom will manifest through you!”
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Recall God's Mercies

God is faithful. He's full of compassion. His mercies are new every morning. As a believer, you know all that. But simply knowing it is not enough.

For it to do you any good, you have to recall it. You have to remember it again and again in order to rekindle your hope and stir up your faith.

So, make it a point to remind yourself of God's faithfulness every morning. Remind yourself of the benefits that are yours in Jesus.

What are those benefits? Psalm 103 spells them out:

1) He forgives all your sins.
2) He heals all your diseases.
3) He redeems your life from destruction.
4) He crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies.
5) He satisfies your mouth with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
6) He executes righteousness and judgment for you against oppression.
7) He sets you free.
8) He makes known His ways to you.
9) He gives you His grace and mercy in times of need.

Make it a point every morning to say those things out loud to The LORD. Stand before Him in prayer and recall His mercies to you. Keep it up and you'll be stronger in faith and more confident of God's love than you've ever been before.

Don't just settle for knowing God's blessings. Remember them every day and watch them come alive in you. 

“Recall God’s Mercies” by Kenneth Copeland

“This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:21-23

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