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VICTORY

40 years in print

February 2013

Martie and Jan Spaulding found the way to their destiny after realizing that faith never gives up on the promises of God!

by *Melanie Hemry*

Faith Will Find a Way

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by Kenneth Copeland

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When The LORD first spoke to us about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, He said: *This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.* For 40 years it has been our joy to bring you good news through the teachings of ministers who write out of living contact with God, and the testimonies of believers who took God at His WORD and experienced His victory in everyday life.

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The world is heaping up treasure which the Bible says is for the righteous. We must be ready to receive it, so the Church can complete her assignment of harvesting souls for the Kingdom.

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A long and healthy life is God's will for each of His children. It's the kind of life Jesus purchased for us on the cross.



Pass this magazine on to a friend. It's a great way to recycle!

A vibrant stained glass artwork. The upper portion features an angel with large, feathered wings, looking down. The lower portion features a man with long, wavy hair, wearing a red and gold robe, with his hands clasped in prayer, looking upwards. The background is filled with intricate patterns and colors like blue, green, and gold.

Never Settle for Normal Again

It

by
Kenneth  Copeland

happens all the time. People get born again and baptized in the Holy Spirit. Then they go back to living what the world might call a “normal” life. They have no idea of the magnitude of what’s happened to them.

About all they know is they can speak in tongues (which they’re sure is wonderful, even if they’re not certain what good it does) and they now qualify as Pentecostals or charismatics. But since that doesn’t seem to make much difference except on Sundays when they go to church, the rest of the week they don’t think much about it. They walk around from day to day carrying within them a power so mighty, so devastating to the works of darkness, it totally terrifies the devil—and they’re doing almost nothing with it.

To one degree or another, that’s true about almost all of us. Even if we know a little more about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit than the average believer, even if we’re operating in a measure of His power, we’ve barely scratched the surface of what He can do. We need a far greater understanding of what the Bible actually means when it says: “Ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate...” (2 Corinthians 6:16-17).

“Oh, Brother Copeland,” you might say, “I know what that passage means.”

Maybe so. But I can guarantee, there are some things in the Scriptures that would shock you if you really got a revelation of them.

Take what the prophet Ezekiel said, for instance. He got a firsthand look at the God who dwells in us and described Him as having “the likeness as the appearance of a man...as the colour of amber, as the appearance of fire round



about within it, from the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward...as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about” (Ezekiel 1:26-27).

Talk about a stunning revelation! Ezekiel saw God as a “Man on Fire!” That’s not the only time he saw Him that way, either. In Ezekiel 8, he said it again, “The hand of the Lord God fell...upon me. Then I beheld, and lo a likeness as the appearance of fire: from the appearance of his loins even downward, fire; and from his loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the colour of amber. And he put forth the form of an hand...” (Ezekiel 8:1-3).

Just envision this for a moment. Ezekiel is seeing what looks like a Man ablaze from head to foot—a Man who glows like the hottest embers of a hardwood fire. A Man who’s a veritable furnace of power.

“This,” Ezekiel said, “was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord” (Ezekiel 1:28).

The nation of Israel saw the same thing when God came down to meet them on Mount Sinai. Exodus 24:17

says, “The sight of the glory of the Lord was like devouring fire on the top of the mount.”

To the Israelites, as to Ezekiel, God’s glory looked like fire and flames. That might sound to us like something scary or bad, but the truth is just the opposite. God’s glory is His goodness. There’s nothing bad in Him. His goodness is so absolute that when it comes in contact with anything bad, it wipes it out.

That’s why, when Moses asked to see God’s glory up close and unfiltered, God responded by saying, “I will make all my goodness pass before thee.... And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by...and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen” (Exodus 33:19, 22-23).

Under the Old Covenant, sin hadn’t been washed away by the blood of Jesus, so direct contact with God’s glory would have burned Moses up. His sin-contaminated human nature couldn’t have handled it. All he could stand was a glimpse.

Like Moses, the prophet Habakkuk got a glimpse of that fiery glory, too. He described it as like the sun, blazing in the sky: “His brightness was as the light; he had horns [or shafts] coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power” (Habakkuk 3:4). *The Message* translation says, “His cloud-brightness like dawn, exploding, spreading, forked-lightning shooting from his hand—what power hidden in that fist!”

Whoa! Can’t you just see Him—this God in the form of a Man, radiating

like the sun with lightning flashing out of His hands in all directions? Imagine what a good film producer could do with that!

“Yeah, Brother Copeland, it would make an exciting movie all right, but it’s all Old Testament. What does it have to do with us as New Testament believers?”

It has everything to do with us!

Romans 6:4 says that Jesus “was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father.” That means the same lightning-like, man-shaped furnace of power that Ezekiel, the Israelites and Habakkuk saw, came on the scene after the Crucifixion. It’s what split the curtain in the Temple from the top to the bottom when Jesus died. It’s what flashed into the pit of hell, raised Him up, and stripped Satan and his demonic hosts of their dominion.

They couldn’t believe it was happening! No one had ever gotten out of hell before. Satan had that place locked up. But when the Man of Glory came storming in there with lightning flashing from His fists, the devil knew he was in trouble. He knew that Man on fire from the loins up and the loins down was going to give him a whipping from which he could never, ever recover.

No wonder the Bible says that if Satan and his bunch had known what was going to happen, “they would not have crucified the Lord of glory” (1 Corinthians 2:8)!

Satan’s Worst Nightmare

Actually, the thrashing Satan got

in hell was just the beginning. Things got even worse for him on the Day of Pentecost when 120 believers were praying in the upper room in Jerusalem: “Suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:2-4).

That was the devil’s greatest nightmare! Those believers got baptized—totally immersed—in the Spirit of Glory. The flaming God who appeared to Habakkuk, that column of fire that came down on Mount Sinai, came into that room, divided Himself and sat down on those believers.

But instead of being destroyed, because of their reborn nature, they absorbed Him—fire and all! They even began to speak His language! They didn’t just go back to living *normal* lives after it happened, either. They emerged from that place as separate from the rest of the world as light from darkness. They went out and started turning the world upside down for Jesus. They preached the gospel, worked miracles, signs and wonders, and The LORD added to the Church daily those who were being saved.

“But that was the early Church!” you might say. “Things were different back then.”

No, they weren’t! Those first believers received the same Spirit

you and I did when we got saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost. We are carriers of God’s glory just as surely as they were!

That’s why Romans 6:4 says to us, “As Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” We’ve been born again by and baptized with the very same glory that resurrected Jesus. As Ephesians 5:8 says, “You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light” (*New King James Version*).

What light? The light of the glory of The LORD!

Just before Jesus went to the cross, He explained it to the disciples this way: “I am in the Father, and the Father in me...the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Verily, verily, I say unto you, 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. If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him” (John 14:10, 12, 23).

Can you see what Jesus was telling us?

He was saying that the same Father of glory who lived in Him and did supernatural works on earth would, after the Crucifixion and Resurrection, dwell in and do supernatural works through us who believe. Once-ordinary people like you and me would become mobile temples filled with the lightning-like, white-hot, fiery-furnace power of Almighty God. We’d do the works of Jesus and even greater; we’d lay hands

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We need to develop our awareness of the fact that God is living in us all the time.

on the sick and they would recover because shafts of divine power would be made available through our hands!

Keep Going in the Glory and Be the Light

This is what Habakkuk meant when he said, "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord" (Habakkuk 2:14). He wasn't talking about a cloud coming down from heaven. He wasn't saying fire would come down out of the sky like it did on Mount Sinai. Habakkuk was prophesying about the Church.

The fire of God's glory coming out of us is what's going to fill the earth!

It's not just going to happen after the great resurrection when we get our glorified bodies, either. We can show forth God's glory right here and now, so the lost can witness it and be swept into God's kingdom by the millions.

"Well, if that's supposed to happen, why aren't we seeing more of it?"

Because we haven't taken hold of the revelation of it. We haven't made enough of this glory that indwells us. The more we make of it, the more it will manifest and work in our lives.

We must become more God-inside minded! We need to develop our awareness of the fact that God is living in us all the time. Instead of being sin-conscious, we ought to be making much of our righteousness in Him. We should be continually reminding ourselves, *I've been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. In God's eyes, I'm right with Him. I walk in His rightness. I can fellowship with Him all day long, all the time.*

"But Brother Copeland, what if I miss it and sin?"

Then repent. God has already provided forgiveness for you. Just receive it, spit the sin out of your life and keep going in the glory.

While you're at it, try reading the Bible with a new perspective. Rather than searching it all the time for what Jesus can do *for* you, start focusing on what He can do *through* you. Put yourself in Jesus' place when you read Gospel accounts like the one about the

sick woman who got healed by touching the hem of Jesus' garment. Begin to realize the same power that flowed from Him will flow out of you if you'll esteem that power with great honor and expect it to manifest.

I've seen it happen many times—in my own life and in the lives of others. It happened to Jerry Savelle one time when he was at the mall, shopping with his wife. He was just following her through a store, walking up and down the aisles, when a woman he didn't know ran up to him and cried, "Pray for me! Pray for me! I need help!"

Brother Jerry ministered to her. The power of God flowed and the woman received what she needed. Before she went on her way, Jerry asked her how she'd known he was the one who should pray for her.

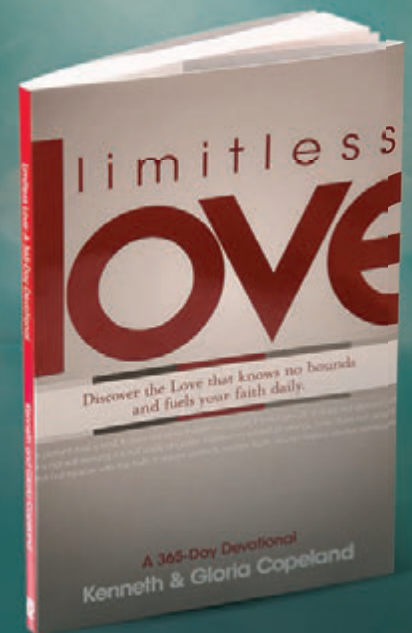
"The LORD told me to come to this shopping center because there would be a person here who could minister to me," she said. "When I arrived, I saw a light bobbing up and down the aisles of this store and it caught my attention. So I followed the light and found you. When I saw your face the power of God came on me."

According to the New Testament, such things should be happening to us all the time. After all, we're living in the last days. These are days about which God said: "I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh.... And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy; And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath...before the great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:17-21).

That's an end time outpouring of God's glory, and the time for it is here! So start saying it by faith right now, "The glory is in me! I receive it! I'm walking in it!" Get more God-inside minded and start acting like a temple of The LORD of glory.

Make up your mind never to settle for normal again. ⑦

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~ Kenneth Copeland

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Proverbs 28:8, *The Amplified Bible*

AS

I've studied the subject of prosperity, one point is always clear: God is a God of justice as well as mercy. He is fair in all His dealings.

by Gloria Copeland

His mercy is evident by His giving us the handbook—His Word—on how to live a godly life, which is the foundation for prosperity. When we are obedient to follow His commands, He takes care of us and blesses us.

His justice is evident in the outcome for those who don't live according to His Word: "The Lord delights in justice and forsakes not His saints; they are preserved forever, but the offspring of the wicked [in time] shall be cut off" (Psalm 37:28, *AMP*).

Now, some people may feel that God is neither just nor merciful in taking a long time to fulfill some of His promises. But He's actually both! "The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9, *AMP*).

God is giving the unrighteous plenty of time to repent; however, He is well aware of what they are doing in the meantime (Proverbs 5:21, 15:3). They may appear to prosper through

evildoing, but their success will be short-lived (James 5:1-4; Psalm 37:7-9). The Word of God indicates that in the last days, there will be a transfer of wealth from the hands of the wicked to the hands of the just (Proverbs 13:22). The sinners actually have the job of storing up wealth for the righteous (Ecclesiastes 2:26).

That wealth will be transferred into the kingdom of God in different ways. Those who become believers will bring their resources with them. For those who already are believers, they'll increase in faith and the Word of God operating in their lives—such as through the hundredfold return.

People who increase their giving

will see ever-increasing returns. The reservoirs that have held riches from unjust gain will be tapped by their faith. The wicked rich who refuse to obey God will begin to see their wealth dwindle. And the riches will be placed into the hands of the givers.

I'm determined to be one of those givers. I'm ready to receive the riches of the wicked in my hands, to be used to reach souls and change lives. I'm ready for more prosperity.

You need to be ready too. Get your words in line with God's Word. Believe for the hundredfold return. Release your faith. Learn to give. And watch for the wealth of the wicked to come into your hands, because it's laid up for you! 🙌

(This article was reprinted from the devotional book by Kenneth and Gloria Copeland *Pursuit of His Presence*. To order a copy of this faith-filled devotional, please log on to kcm.org or call 1-800-600-7395 (U.S. only) or +1-817-852-6000. You can also read the daily devotion online by going to kcm.org.)

We have the largest doctoral group in the entire seminary, and it's growing every semester.

KCM Scholars Program Graduates First Class

Three years ago, when Kenneth Copeland Ministries decided to partner with United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, to establish a doctor of ministry program, no one could predict the impact such a merger would have on the Church as a whole.



Dahlia Walks-Moore, Lori Reiber, Daphene Singleton, Ann Wurster and Mike Vidaurri

Dr. Swisher with Dr. Hudson



"We knew that what we were doing was unique—that by joining forces we were actually bridging a denominational gap and creating a show of true Christian unity," said Dr. Harold A. Hudson, vice president of admissions and associate dean of doctoral studies at UTS. "What we didn't know was just how much interest the program would spark, or how fast it would grow in such a short amount of time."

Last December, five students made history by becoming the first to graduate from the Kenneth Copeland Scholars doctoral program. They included: Lori Reiber of Dayton, Ohio; Mike Vidaurri of Nashville, Tenn.; Dahlia Walks-Moore of New



"This is one of the most unique marriages between academia and the Word on such a large basis."

—Dr. Hudson

York City, N.Y.; Daphene Singleton of Fort Worth, Texas; and Ann Wurster of Cincinnati, Ohio.

"This is the next step in preparing these graduates for their calling," UTS president Dr. Wendy Deichman said during the ceremony, which took place Dec. 14 in Ohio. "They go forward now with more resources, more confidence and more theological underpinning, and with the blessing of a credential that will provide encouragement for advanced levels of ministry."

"It signifies a serious commitment to a depth of theological preparation and leadership. I hope we all want to continue to be

learners in our faith to prepare for what God has next."

Hudson, who called the program's inaugural graduation "monumental," said, "It's the graduation of the first group between a seminary and one of the world's largest ministries. It culminates the marriage of faith and academia together—one that no one ever thought would happen."

"This continues to be an exciting experience," said Hudson of the relationship between the United Methodist school, which is part of one of the nation's largest mainline denominations, and KCM, a word-of-faith ministry that is one of the largest nondenominational ministry outreaches in the world. "United has a great reputation for preparing pastors for the community. This marriage with Kenneth Copeland Ministries is enabling United to help prepare pastors for ministries all over the world. This

is a great example of Dr. Copeland's commitment to United and United's commitment to Dr. Copeland, and it is purely by the hand of God that all of this has come together."


Dr. Stephen L. Swisher, senior mentor and director of the KCM doctoral program, echoed Hudson's sentiments, calling the inaugural graduation a "historic milestone."

"Four of these graduates are pastors, and the fifth is in a major leadership role," said Swisher. "It's impossible to overstate the effect completing this program will have on them, or the ripple effect it will have on the lives of others they come in contact with. We have the largest doctoral group in the entire seminary, and it's growing every semester. But these five people will be forever known as trailblazers. That should give them a strong sense of accomplishment."

"This is one of the most unique marriages between academia and the Word on such a large basis," Hudson added. "It's interdenominational, and there are no racial bounds on it at all. People just come, by faith, to join."

The Kenneth Copeland Scholars program, in which students can earn a fully accredited doctor of ministry degree, was launched in August 2010. Since its inception, the program has received hundreds of applications from across the U.S. and abroad, including England, Australia and Africa.

Designed as an "in context" program, the majority of the assignments are completed while students work out of their churches or ministry headquarters in their own hometowns. Group interaction involves three short-term residencies in Dayton each year in January, April and August, and one peer session each year in October on the grounds of KCM in Fort Worth, Texas.

The program is open to anyone who has completed a master's degree, and desires to take his or her faith and ministry to the next level. Open enrollment is in January and August each year. For more information, or to learn how you can enroll, go online to kcm.org/uts. 



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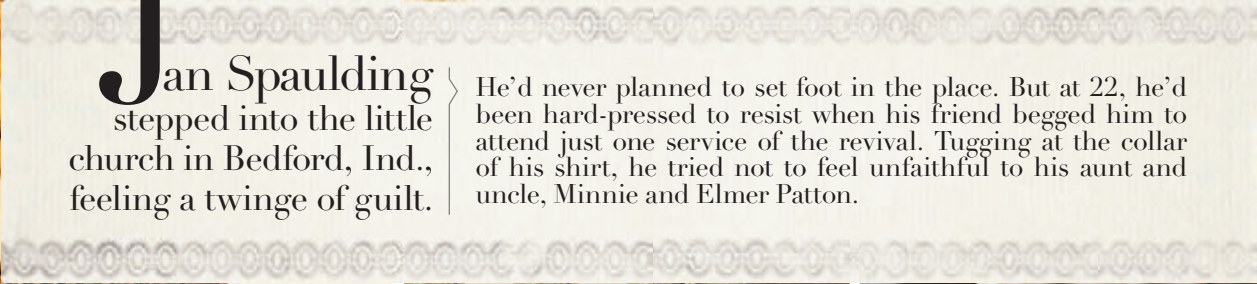


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Faith Will Find a Way





Jan Spaulding stepped into the little church in Bedford, Ind., feeling a twinge of guilt.

He'd never planned to set foot in the place. But at 22, he'd been hard-pressed to resist when his friend begged him to attend just one service of the revival. Tugging at the collar of his shirt, he tried not to feel unfaithful to his aunt and uncle, Minnie and Elmer Patton.

Elmer had been pastor of a small, independent Pentecostal church. It was the church where Jan's parents had been born again in 1954. The place where Jan had crawled under the pews and slept as a young child. The place where he had given his heart to Jesus.

He was 12 when there was a vote about whether or not to merge with a major denomination. When the vote didn't pass, half the congregation left to form this church. Just a boy, Jan had been old enough to recognize how much the split had hurt his aunt and uncle.

Glancing around the sanctuary to find a seat, Jan did a quick calculation.

This is 1966. It's been 10 years since the church split.

Elmer and Minnie had long ago forgiven everyone involved and Jan had agreed to attend this service, in part, to put the past behind him, too. Settling into the pew, he listened with rapt attention as an evangelist, Vernon Colvin, preached and prophesied. When the service ended, Jan slipped out the back door and headed toward his car.

"Sir!"

Jan turned to see the evangelist rush out the door behind him. "Can I give you the word of the Lord?"

"Please do," Jan answered. Standing on the gravel parking lot, he concentrated on each word the man spoke. The last sentence caught his attention. "You are called to preach the gospel and you will pastor here."

"Thank you very much," Jan said shaking the man's hand. Climbing into his car, Jan pondered the word. He knew he was called to preach, but it didn't witness to his heart that he would pastor this congregation. Pulling out of the parking lot, his mind turned to other things and he forgot all about that night.

Detour to Destiny

The Texas sun blistered the land in the summer of 1999, licking up every drop of moisture. It was 100 degrees in the shade and Martie, Jan's wife, felt as wilted as the flowers that drooped toward the ground in defeat. The copy machine at Eagle Mountain International Church, where she worked, was broken. She sweltered as she hiked to the Kenneth Copeland Ministries office to make copies.

Again.

"Lord, this isn't working for me," Martie said. "I'm a decorator, not a writer! This must be the 20th time I've had to rewrite this bulletin. You called us to start a church in Bedford, Ind., but here we are in Texas. Instead of Jan building homes that I

and further away from our destiny."

Trust Me.

"I *do* trust You. Didn't we pick up and move to Texas when You told us to? Without jobs? I'm just saying..."

Long before Jan and Martie had met and married, Jan had been the pastor of a local church. Back then, a divorced man wasn't allowed in the pulpit, Jan explained. When his first marriage failed, Jan left the ministry and went into business for himself.

Years later, in 1996, God told Jan that he was to start a church in Bedford, but not until a particular thing happened. The problem was, the thing they were to watch for hadn't happened. Then, in 1998, God directed them to move from Bedford to Fort Worth, Texas.

Martie would always remember how the first seeds of the move had been planted. While they were still living in Bedford one of the kids had come home from church with a book called *From Faith to Faith*. Wanting to know what her son was reading, Martie opened it to see what it was about. The more she read, the more irate she became.

"How can this man say that it's

Bill Winston said, "Some of you here today will have millionaire status this year." Without thinking, Martie jumped from her seat and said, "That word's for me!"

decorate, I'm trying to write church bulletins and Jan is selling cars. It seems as though we're getting further

always God's will to heal?" she fumed. "How can he say that God wants all of His people to prosper?"

by
Melanie
Henry

Trust and Obey

Determined to prove him wrong, she'd looked up each scripture referenced. Stunned, she turned to Jan and said, "Look at this! He's right! God *does* want to heal and prosper everyone!"

Knocking on her son's door, Martie stuck her head inside and held up the book.

"Who gave you this?"

"Why?"

"I've got to have my own."

Soon after, Jan and Martie became Partners with KCM, devouring ministry materials, watching the broadcasts and attending meetings. They were on a journey to learn to live by faith. That's why they didn't hesitate when the Lord told them to uproot and move to Texas.

Leaving home was not a problem. The heat wasn't the problem. In truth, neither selling cars nor writing bulletins was a problem. She and Jan were willing to do whatever it took to obey God. The problem was that their obedience seemed to be taking them further and further from their destiny.

Hold on, the Lord urged.

Martie plastered a smile on her face and went back to make another set of revisions on the bulletin. She would simply trust that God had a plan—one she didn't understand.

Passing her sister, Michelle Adams, in the hallway of the headquarters building of KCM, gave Martie a boost. In His goodness, God had sent Michelle, Jan's sister and Martie's parents to Texas as well. Jan had built a house for his in-laws behind theirs, with a walk connecting both homes.

Martie released a sigh. How many men counted their mother- and father-in-law as their closest friends? Chewing on her lip, she went back to work on the bulletin. Things could be a lot worse.

Later that year, Martie was promoted to manager of the bookstore at KCM. When the position of sales manager opened, she got it. It was the job of a lifetime and included traveling with Kenneth and Gloria Copeland every month. In addition to feeding on the

Word of God at home, Martie was fed at work as she listened to Kenneth and Gloria's teachings, their stories and their hearts.

Her job took her to Faith Week at Bill Winston's church in Chicago. She attended the first meeting in Keith Moore's church in Branson, Mo. Martie realized that she was gaining experience money couldn't buy.

Time to Move

It was close to midnight in January 2004, when Martie finished up after working a three-day conference. While all the teaching had blessed her and strengthened her faith, she drove home wondering when she and Jan would step into their call.

Crawling into bed, she whispered, "Lord, I love my job. But what about our destiny?"

The next morning, Martie smelled the coffee as Jan nudged her awake. "Get up. We've got to talk."

Blery-eyed and tired, Martie pulled herself up. "What?"

"It's time."

"Time for what?"

"It's time to move back to Bedford and start the church."

"What?"

"The Lord told me it was time and what He said to watch for has happened."

Martie sipped her coffee.

"Let's get real," she said with a sigh. "We have no people. No money. No equipment. No 501(c)(3). We're not even ordained."

"We'd better put the house up for sale," Jan said, as though he hadn't heard her.

"Are you kidding? We need to pray about this!"

"You pray. I'll pack."

Saying Goodbye

The staff at KCM helped them set up their 501(c)(3). Two months later, in March, their house had been on the market for two weeks when Kenneth and Gloria Copeland ordained Jan and Martie at EMIC.

"I call your house sold in Jesus' Name!" Gloria declared. Three days later, the house sold for the full asking price.

The movers weren't going to transport Jan's hot rod and tools, so he and Martie had to get up before dawn to get them loaded up and ready for the trip to Bedford before the movers arrived. The sky was pitch-black as Jan urged Martie to hurry.

Climbing out of bed, Martie heard two words, *Don't go*.

She shook it off. What was that? Of course they had to go.

Do not go today!

Martie stood still. She didn't understand what was happening, but she knew the voice of God. For some reason she couldn't go. "Jan," she said, "I heard the Lord, and I can't go today. I don't know why."

Perplexed at God's words, Martie settled into a chair. A short while later, her mother appeared in the dark night.

"Dad's gone."

"What?"

"Your dad just died."

The night before when she'd told her father goodnight, he'd looked deep into Martie's eyes and said, "Mart, your dad's tired."

He was telling me goodbye.

"Martie's parents, Walter and Marion Medlock, were our best friends," Jan explains. "Walter's death was a very dark moment in my life. Neither of us had imagined going back to Bedford without him. What Gloria always says is true. To receive means you *take it*. We had to fight our emotions and take what God had provided for us.

"Back in Bedford, a local church was closing its doors and offered us \$30,000 of equipment for \$4,000. We rented a space and on June 13, 2004, we held our first service."

A Miracle in the Making

Five years later, Oct. 28, 2009, Jan and Martie were sipping coffee in the sunroom of their home and admiring the fall foliage when the phone rang. A realtor friend wanted to show them a church property that had just come available.

Located on six acres, it was stunning. Built from limestone, graceful columns and a portico offered a covered entrance. Inside were vaulted wood ceilings, eight bathrooms, a new fellowship hall, 12 classrooms, a kitchen and a gathering hall. It also included a parsonage.

In 2000, just after the church had been remodeled, the Environmental Protection Agency had discovered problems on the land linked with the neighboring General Motors plant. To remedy the situation, GM bought the property for \$1 million and then made repairs.

In 2008, GM declared bankruptcy and gave the property to the U.S. Treasury. In turn, the Treasury gave it to a holding company. Now, the holding company had released it for sale. The price: \$160,000.

The moment Jan and Martie stepped inside the church, they knew it was theirs. Following the realtor to her car, Jan stood in the parking lot and signed the contract.

As he penned his name, a strange feeling washed over him. Aware that the Spirit of the Lord was moving on him, he lifted his head and looked around.

A chill rippled up his spine. The old building was gone. It had changed hands and nothing looked the same. The gravel parking lot was now paved. Getting his bearings, he realized the truth.

He'd just signed the contract to buy the property a mere 20 feet from where he stood in 1966 when Vernon Colvin had chased him to the parking lot to give him a word from God.

"You're called to preach the gospel and you will pastor here."

"When I was 22 years old, God told me that this day would come," Jan recalls. "He told me that I would pastor in this very place. Not the same people—the same property."

Fight to the Finish

The holding company later realized it didn't have all the paperwork in order from the EPA,

I call your house sold in Jesus' Name!

Gloria declared.

Three days later the house sold for the full asking price.

and couldn't sell the property. Jan and Martie knew it belonged to them, and they stood in faith as year after year passed.

In January 2012, they attended the Ministers' Conference where Bill Winston said, "Some of you here today will have millionaire status this year."

Without thinking, Martie jumped from her seat and said, "That word's for me!"

Four months later, on May 7, that word came true. Jan and Martie bought the million-dollar property for \$160,000. In September, George Pearsons, senior pastor of EMIC, flew to Bedford to dedicate the new church.

"Vernon Colvin had since died, but we tracked down his widow," Martie recalls. "I told her that the seed her husband planted in my husband's life 46 years before, had come to pass."

Looking back over their journey, it's easy for Jan and Martie to see how God planned, positioned and prepared them for success.

"We've been on both sides of partnership," Jan explains. "We experienced it first as a young family learning to live by faith and later working in the ministry. We wouldn't be where we are today without our partnership with KCM."

"For years we wondered if it would really happen," added Martie. "It was seven years from the time God called us to pastor until it happened. It was another seven years from the time we started the church until we bought our building. It was 46 years from the day that word was given to Jan in 1966, until it came to pass."

Whatever you're believing for today, Jan and Martie Spaulding would give you this piece of advice: Don't give up.

Faith will find a way. ♣



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GoodNewsGazette

Immediate Results

I'm a Partner and had asked KCM to stand in agreement with me for my daughter's employment. I received your letter saying you were praying for my daughter to receive a job—and that same day she was hired. Jesus is Lord!

Sheila M. :: Rosedale, Md.

Mercy in the Midst of a Storm

I thank KCM for the call after a tornado went through Minneapolis. There was no property damage nor injuries. We attribute this to the mercy of God and having learned how to plead the blood of Jesus.

M. & R.D. :: Coon Rapids, Minn.

Situation Shifts Through Prayer

I live in northern Ontario. Recently, we had a very large forest fire that was burning out of control and was very close to the centre of the city. We also had high winds that were pushing the fire toward the city. I called KCM for prayer. They prayed for the city, my property and the firefighters who were fighting the fire.

A prayer partner called my home the

next day to say that they were praying and they would continue to hold us up in prayer through the next week. Within a couple of hours the winds stopped and cooler weather and rain began. Within a week the fire was being listed as "held" and the people who had homes/cottages within the fire perimeter were slowly allowed back onto their properties. Thank you so much for your prayers and faithfulness. They provided peace and comfort during a difficult time. I also know that it was because of this prayer that the situation turned around for the good.

Colleen C.
Ontario, Canada

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our priority.**

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24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“And above all these [put on] love and enfold yourselves with the bond of perfectness...”

(Colossians 3:14, *The Amplified Bible*)

The Name Above All Names

Every time I pray with you, there is an answer. I prayed with KCM because of storms in my area. The meteorologist said afterward we got only half of what was expected. The phone minister told it to cease and desist, and that's what happened.

I learned to pray in the Name of Jesus from a Kenneth Copeland teaching in 1989. My daughter gave birth at six months to a two-pound baby girl in 1990. The baby didn't even look fully formed, and as I looked at her, she made a noise. I was so surprised, I said, "This baby wants to live!" The teachings from Kenneth kicked in and I began to pray in the Name of Jesus for her to live. My granddaughter is alive today and 6 feet tall. Praise the Lord!

Katherine F. :: St. Louis, Mo.

'We Refused to Fear'

A few weeks ago, I asked you to stand in faith with us for my husband regarding his job. I wanted to let you know what has happened!

Sitting in his office, when he had finished off every last piece of work he could do for anyone, he got a phone call from a job agency asking if he would be interested in a position that had just come through. He interviewed for the position and got the job! It pays almost twice as much as the previous job and he's working on developing a database doing exactly what he's wanted to do.

Praise God, He is so good. We are rejoicing and very thankful. Thank you for standing with us. We refused to give place to fear, and trusted God, thanking Him for my husband's next assignment and it came quickly! Thank you once again for teaching us the truth and how to trust God.

J.M. :: U.K.

Believed and Received

Thank God for His Son, Jesus, who gave us authority to cast out devils and heal the sick. Last December I discovered a lump in my breast. It was as hard as a rock. I did not have fear at all. I was in peace knowing who I am in Christ. I praised God and thanked Him for the authority He gave me to speak to the mountain.

I spoke harshly to the lump and commanded it to die in the Name of Jesus. I cursed the roots of that lump just like Jesus cursed that fig tree. From there, I praised the Lord every time I would think about it. Guess what, it disappeared in less than a week. I am free! My husband could not believe it since he wanted it to be taken care of through doctors. It's according to your faith and revelation! Hallelujah!

M.S. :: London

House Spared From Storm

I want to thank everybody at KCM. I called for protection prayer over my house in the Bahamas during a hurricane and my house was spared!

J.B. :: Canada

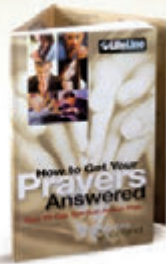


My Life Has Been Transformed

I have come to give thanks to the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for His faithfulness. Last year, I ordered your prayer book *How to Get Your Prayers Answered—Your 10-Day Spiritual Action Plan* and sowed a seed.

Since I got the book with three CDs, my life has been transformed, especially in the line of prayer. My understanding of the Word of God moved from one level to another. On April 5, I was chosen as one of the district pastors of Ado Nassarawa State (an answer to one of my prayer requests). This will increase my commitment in the vineyard of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A.Y. :: Africa



God Protects and Provides

I thank God first and foremost, and likewise, I thank you all for praying for us through Hurricane Ike. A gentleman from your ministry called our home with an uplifting and powerful message declaring God's

protection over our house. Praise God for blessing our home to *stand!* We had every Bible open to Psalm 91. We had total peace: nothing missing, nothing broken! God blessed our house, our roof and all of our dogs and cats to live.

A gentleman from your ministry called our home with an uplifting and powerful message...

I thank you for your constant prayers. God has blessed me with a job—HIS job of destiny for me. I am blessed to be connected with you and your ministry. Thank you so very much for being a part of my life. May the blessings of the Lord continue to chase you down!

Latina S. :: Huntsville, Texas

Instant Return on Seed Sown

I sowed a seed into KCM in obedience to God's leading, and before the cheque had been processed, I received a completely unexpected cheque in the mail for nine times the amount I had sown! Praise God! These are days of accelerated increase and accelerated miracles. Glory to God!

Andy W. :: Manitoba, Canada

South Africa

'The Blood of Jesus Is Protecting Us'

I would like to testify what happened as I was driving with a friend. We were stuck in traffic so we played a gospel CD. All of a sudden there was a robber at my window. My window was open

only a little bit. The robber said in a loud voice, "Give me your cellphones or I'll kill you!"

I was on my way to hand him my cellphone, when all of a sudden I said, "NO." I looked at him and said, "The blood of Jesus is protecting us." And he said, "Don't say that thing." I said again while looking him in the eyes, "The blood of Jesus is protecting us." And I said it again. By the third

time I said "the blood of Jesus," he said OK, smiled at me and walked away.

We were so shocked afterward we just praised Jesus for His protection and realized how great the power of the blood of Jesus is and how important it is to pray the protection of the blood of Jesus over you, your family and friends.

L.A. :: South Africa

A Debt-Free Car

I had believed God to buy a good car, debt free. In January 2011, I bought an attractive, low-maintenance, late-model, reliable car—debt free. Praise God!

K.S. :: Cleveland, Ohio

Protection From the Storm

I called KCM the day of the tornado to request a prayer of protection from the storm. None of my family or friends had any damage. We

were only without power for a while—praise the Lord. (This is the tornado that did so much damage to Tuscaloosa, Ala.)

A.W. :: Alabama

Freed From Fear!

The Copelands visited Alaska in 2001 [Anchorage Victory Campaign]. Gloria called out those who were bound with fear. She even laid hands on me, and I was freed from fear that day!

Darathea L. :: Anchorage, Alaska

KCM Prayed and God Answered!

I had asked for prayer for my dad who was diagnosed with prostate cancer. We prayed and I am excited to say he is cancer free now.

Before that I asked one of

your prayer team ministers to pray and believe with us for a house and praise the Lord, He answered that in a miraculous way as well. We now own a beautiful five-bedroom home. We are so thankful for the good things we have learned through KCM.

M.W. | Alberta, Canada

From Struggle to Triumph

I wrote you during the spring requesting prayer for my daughter who was having a hard time in school with grades and struggling with mathematics. Now I am pleased to report all A's and B's and honor roll for

the first semester in school for the fall season. Glory to God! She ran in the front door shouting, "Mom, look at my report card, look at my report card!" I had to write you with this praise report because she's gone through this a long time, and we give God all the glory!

S.C. :: Indianapolis, Ind.



SUPERNATURAL Wealth Transfer



You and I
are living
at a most
exciting
time in
history!

by Pastor George Pearsons

The Awakening is taking place in every nation on earth. The reality of THE BLESSING is becoming clearer every day. We are witnessing tremendous manifestations of God's prosperity in every realm of life. In spite of the economy, believers are taking their stand and are increasing like never before.

We are in the midst of a glory storm—a coming together of the former and latter rain.

The signs of the end times are all around us. We are presently in the final “wrapping-up stage” as we approach the second coming of Jesus. And one of the signs of this end time move is a provisional blessing called “supernatural wealth transfer.”

We are hearing more and more preaching about this subject. Fresh revelation is coming to the Body of Christ concerning everything that is ours.

The reason we are hearing about this is because God wants us to exercise our faith in order to receive the wealth transfer. He wants our bills paid, needs supplied and debts completely wiped out with much left over to preach the Word, deliver the captives and bring the mighty harvest of souls into the Kingdom.

Final-Stage Wealth Transfer

The Lord has been speaking through Brother Copeland about wealth transfer at many of the Kenneth Copeland Ministries

meetings. During the opening session of the Branson Victory Campaign, Thursday, March 8, 2012, Brother Copeland began talking about “the largest, most significant transfer of property, goods, wealth and people from the hands of the devil into the hands of God’s people who are prepared to receive it.” He said, “The biggest transfer of property in the history of mankind has just begun and it is swinging into its...”

At that moment, the Lord interrupted him and said, *It has moved over into its final stage. And those who will listen to Me and follow Me and trust Me—those who I have taught My WORD and have given the authority to walk in these things, it is the most outstanding thing that human eyes have ever seen. And the time is now. Your time has come. Your hour has come. So rise and do those things by faith that you know to do and all that belongs to heaven will come into your hands for your joy.*

Receiving “all that belongs to heaven” will take the renewing of our minds to this magnificent supply. The Lord desires for us to stretch our faith and believe for everything He has provided in this final-stage wealth transfer.

My faith was recently stretched as I read an article by Bill Winston in which he made several stunning comments about wealth transfer. He wrote:

As we get closer to our Lord’s return, there is an invasion of the kingdom of heaven into this world, the imposing of God’s will on the plans of the devil. Earthly systems, laws, rules, policies and values must now come in line with heaven’s order or heaven’s government, the government of the kingdom of God.

One of the major things coming in this hour is an explosion of wealth in the Body of Christ. Through divine favor, witty inventions and the grace of giving, we are in the season of the greatest wealth transfer

in the history of this planet. There will be inventions that make the iPhone seem like child’s play. This is a prophetic time in history, the same as the ‘set time’ that triggered the release of the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. This is a season when what happened then is happening now.

It is a set time, or a season, which is the consummation of something pledged by God. The reservoirs of the wicked will now be drained, and as the Babylonian system of the world fails, the system of the kingdom of God will prevail. We are even going to see money supernaturally transfer into the bank accounts of the people of God.

What an astounding statement!

As soon as I read that last sentence, I shouted out loud, “I receive it in Jesus’ Name!” If I were you, I would claim that right now as well as the many scriptures that relate to this great transfer of wealth. Proverbs 13:22 tells us “the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.” Ecclesiastes 2:26 in *The Amplified Bible* says, “For to the person who pleases Him, God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and heaping up, that he may give to one who pleases God.” The *New Living Translation* of that scripture warns, “if a sinner becomes wealthy, God takes the wealth away and gives it to those who please Him.” Job 27:16-17 in *The New Living Translation* reveals that “evil people may have piles of money and may store away mounds of clothing. But the righteous will wear that clothing, and the innocent will divide that money.”

“the largest, most significant transfer

of property, goods, wealth and people from the hands of the devil into the hands of God’s people who are prepared to receive it.”

The Greatest Wealth Transfer in History

There are so many scriptures and examples of wealth transfer in God’s Word. This month, Gloria Copland and I are teaching a series on the *Believer’s Voice of Victory* broadcast titled, *Ten Days of Wealth Transfer*. You must watch it! I just looked through my outlines and counted over 30 wealth-transfer scriptures! (Those outlines are available free to you on kcm.org). The space in this article doesn’t allow us to look at each scripture. So, let’s take a look at the example that Bill Winston just mentioned in his article—the children of Israel leaving Egypt.

As he said, this is a prophetic time in history. It is the same as the “set time” that triggered the release of the children of Israel. What happened then is happening now, only on a much larger scale. The transfer of wealth from the Egyptians to the children of Israel is a prime example of massive supernatural wealth transfer.

Look at Exodus 3:20-22 in *The Amplified Bible*:

So I will stretch out My hand and smite Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in it; and after that

“The lowliest among the Children of Israel brought ninety asses laden with silver and gold when he left Egypt.”

he will let you go. And I will give this people favor and respect in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be that when you go, you shall not go empty-handed. But every woman shall [insistently] solicit of her neighbor and of her that may be residing at her house jewels and articles of silver and gold, and garments, which you shall put

on your sons and daughters; and you shall strip the Egyptians [of belongings due to you].

Let me specifically address the ladies for a moment. Notice God told the women to “insistently solicit... jewels and articles of silver and gold, and garments which you shall put on your sons and daughters; and you shall

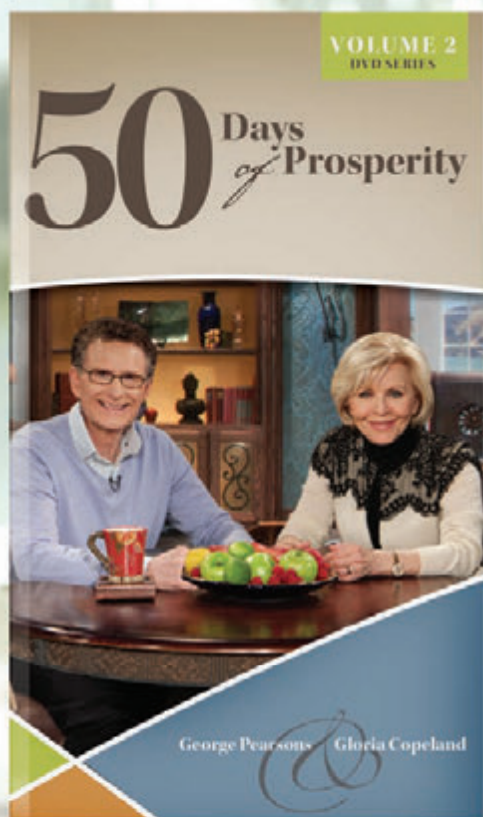
strip the Egyptians of belongings due to you.” Instead of the word *solicit*, the *King James Version* says *borrow*. The word *borrow* in the Hebrew actually means “demand.” There is an anointing for godly women to righteously demand what belongs to them. I have watched women at department-store sales. They don’t hold back. And you should not hold back either. Release your bulldog faith and demand what is rightfully yours. Men—do this as well. Women—you have a special place in this end time wealth transfer! Take it! Demand it!

Exodus 12:35-36 (AMP) says, “The Israelites did according to the word of Moses; and they [urgently] asked [Hebrew—demanded] of the Egyptians jewels of silver and of gold, and clothing. The Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they gave them what they [demanded]. And they stripped the Egyptians [of those things].” The *New International Version* says, “They plundered the Egyptians.” I personally like *The Message* translation: “They picked those Egyptians clean.”

Psalms 105:37 (AMP) refers to the Exodus account. “He brought [Israel] forth also with silver and gold, and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.” The word *feeble* in Hebrew means “pauper.” A pauper is an extremely poor person. They are without any means of support and depend solely on the aid of public welfare funds or charity.

Not So, Mr. DeMille!

I appreciate Cecil B. DeMille’s efforts in the production of his epic biblical film, *The Ten Commandments*. I do, however, take issue with the scene where the children of Israel are leaving Egypt. He shows elderly people struggling on crutches and others being carried on stretchers. They were all dressed in tattered clothing and looked poor and broke. Not so, Mr. DeMille! We were just told that there was not one feeble—not one pauper among



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their tribes. According to the Tehillim Commentary (page 1282), Rabbi Eliezer the Great taught:

The lowliest among the Children of Israel brought ninety asses laden with silver and gold when he left Egypt. The [feeble] is a man who became impoverished and stumbled from his original financial level. No Jew who left Egypt could be described as a [pauper] because all were enriched by the booty of their oppressors. The [pauper] is a man whose health has deteriorated to the point that he stumbles unless he uses a cane. When the Jews left Egypt, a miracle occurred—not a single person amongst them was sick or debilitated.

The Message translation says it all. “He led Israel out, their arms filled with loot.”

The wealth transfer was available to the children of Israel when they arrived in the Promised Land. Deuteronomy 6:10-11 said they received great and goodly cities which they did not build, houses full of good things which they did not fill, wells they did not dig and vineyards and olive trees which they did not plant. According to Deuteronomy 6:3, it was a land that flowed with milk and honey. But, both in Egypt and in the Promised Land, they had to take by faith what rightfully belonged to them. And we must do the same where this great transfer of wealth is concerned.

What Happened Then Is Happening Now

This supernatural wealth transfer was not just for Old Testament times. It is for us right now, if we will dare to believe it and receive it. As

the Lord spoke through Brother Copeland, *So rise and do those things by faith that you know to do and all that belongs to heaven will come into your hands for your joy.*

Here is a wealth-transfer scripture that directly relates to the day and hour we are living in. James 5:1-3 says, “Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.”

Did you see that? Treasure has been heaped up for the last days. We are in the last days right now. So take your treasure!

What happened during the departure from Egypt is happening right now. But, it is happening in a much greater way. Let’s take hold by faith of this supernatural wealth transfer right now. Churches need it. Ministries need it. The Body of Christ needs it to blanket the earth with the gospel in unprecedented ways—ways that man has not even imagined.

“Father, we release our faith right now and demand the great transfer of wealth into the Body of Christ. We believe we receive the immense wealth of the wicked being transferred into the hands of the righteous. The reservoirs of the wicked are now being drained. The kingdom of heaven is advancing and the end time harvest of souls is being reached. Thank You, Lord, for this supernatural provision. We claim it in Jesus’ Name!” 🙏



George Pearsons is senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. For information or ministry materials write to KCM, Fort Worth, TX 76192-0001.

Become a Nike-Man

When I was a kid growing up, I listened to Superman on the radio and later watched him on television. Now, here is a real hero, I used to think.

After all, Superman was faster than a speeding bullet. He was more powerful than a locomotive. Why, he was even “able to leap tall buildings in a single bound.” Man, to be like Superman! I’m sure it was the desire of most young boys like me who grew up watching the “Man of Steel.”

That thought occurred to me as I was reading 1 John 5:4: “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”

As I looked over the part that said, “this is the victory that overcometh the world,” I noticed the word *overcometh*. I looked it up, and found that *overcomer*, which is what God says we are, comes from the Greek root word *nike*.

Over the years, I’ve seen the T-shirts and hats and shoes and all the gear with the trademark “Nike” on them. But I never paid

it much attention until I saw that the Greek word we spell *nike* means “conquest, success, victory.”

All of a sudden, something went off in me.

God’s Word says we are overcomers. That means we are conquerors, we are successful and we are victorious. I guess that means we can declare ourselves to be *nike*-men!

When Joshua led the people around the walls of Jericho, God instructed them to remain silent on the first six trips around the wall. Then, on the seventh trip, they were to shout the victory. When Jesus defeated the devil, He actually demonstrated Satan’s defeat and bragged about it. He shouted: “It is finished!”

That’s what God wants you and me to do. He wants us to first see ourselves as world overcomers—victorious and successful. Then, He wants us to shout about it. Brag about it, even.

Become a *nike*-man to the glory of God! 🙏

Happy Caldwell and his wife, Jeannie, are founders and co-pastors of Agape Church in Little Rock, Ark. For ministry materials or more information, go online to agape-church.org.

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- 14forty for ages 13-18 with Go Ministries
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HONOR

That Comes From God Only



Honor. Godly honor. It's the kind of honor that keeps its words and standard of integrity no matter what. It never fails—and it always succeeds. ∴ Every day, commitments of honor are required of you. You have choices to make regarding ethics in your job, disciplining your children, keeping your marriage strong—and it's hard.

by Kenneth Copeland



It's a choice between God's honor and man's. One brings true and sure success... and one brings shallow, temporal success that ends in ultimate failure.

So, how are you doing? Do you have trouble keeping commitments? Do people take you at your word? Or have they grown skeptical of your promises? If so, then you need honor—honor that comes from God only. You just can't live the Christian life without honor. You'll never be faithful without it. You can't be. Without honor, you don't have the power to be faithful. It's just not in you.

In John 5:41-44, Jesus told the Pharisees about honor that comes from God only: "I receive not honour from men. But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his name, him ye will receive. How can ye

believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?"

A lot of ministries in our day have fallen. Preachers of the gospel have fallen. Church people have fallen. But I'll tell you something, you can continue to stand, and not fall. You can be a powerful force in the earth as a believer walking by faith. But to do it, you must be honorable.

God is faithful to honor you when you act honorably. That's because you are acting in something that originated in Him! He is honorable. When you

operate in Him, you operate in honor.

Man's definition of honor, however, is quite different from God's. It is a derivative of the honor of God, but it is light and shallow—it is a false honor that deceives men. Honor in the world comes from men and is given to men—what I call the honor game. In the honor game, everything is done to gain the prestige, power and authority that other men can give. It's temporal, short-lived and dishonorable in view of what some men will do to get it.

Take what happens at times in the military, for example. One man is honored by rank. He is given honor because he has proven to be a leader of men. The longer and better he does his job, the more promotions to higher rank he receives. Finally, he is promoted to general. Rank has privilege. It has honor. This man has come to his high position



As you become honorable you will speak the truth. You will take your words seriously. You will never distort the truth or speak idle words.

honorably. Men stand in awe of this officer, and they should.

However, some men who wear the marks of a high rank get them dishonorably—by scheming, begging or doing favors to gain approval. The only reason they want rank is so they can walk in money and pride and throw their weight around. That is not honor; it is dishonor.

These schemers have the same rank, the same “honor,” the same privilege, as those who deserve them—but they did not come by them honorably. They achieved man’s honor—man’s way.

God’s honor takes seriously the responsibility of representing Christ to the unbeliever. Peter exhorted believers to have “your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation” (1 Peter 2:12).

As a young man I understood this kind of honor. My father raised me that way. I grew up observing the kind of honor the psalmist wrote about, the honor of a man who “swareth to his own hurt, and changeth not” (Psalm 15:4). I understood and respected the kind of person who did the right thing regardless the cost—who stood his ground no matter how tough the battle or how great the temptation.

When I was in my teens, my dad had an opportunity to choose to act in the honor that comes from God—or not to. I’ve never forgotten the decisions he made.

A fellow hired my dad to work in an insurance business. Dad was very successful and soon made district manager. Then he went on to be supervisor of the entire state of Texas operations.

The man who hired him had been planning to start his own company. He had built up a very large amount of financial reserves while working with my dad for the big company.

Eventually, with the money and backing in place, the man announced that he was going to start his own

You just can’t live the Christian life without honor. Without honor, you don’t have the power to be faithful.

company. He made my dad an offer to come work for him. He offered my dad a lot of money and a big chunk of the new company.

By offering my dad this job and enticing him to leave the company, he violated his contract. So the big company filed suit against him for all those reserves he had coming. My dad became a key witness in their case. Their case hinged on my dad’s answer to one question.

I remember watching as Dad took the stand. I wondered what he was going to do. There was a lot of money at stake for him. I remember how calm he looked.

“Did this man offer you a job with his new company doing the same thing that you are doing now?” the lawyer asked.

My dad did not hesitate for a second.

“Yes, he did.”

I was amazed, but I was so proud. He just threw away all that money. He just turned down position, prestige, power—because he was honorable.

Later I asked him, “Dad, how did you keep from saying what that man wanted you to say?”

“It would have been a lie,” he answered.

It was that simple. There had never been any question in his mind. His mind had been made up long before that situation had ever come into being.

Why? Because he had already made a commitment—a commitment to be honorable. He had chosen to walk in the honor that comes from God only.

But Dad’s honor didn’t stop there, either. No sir. Every time he saw that man from that day forward, he would

walk up to him, shake his hand and ask how the new company was coming along. That man respected my dad for the rest of his life. That new company, by the way, became a very large and powerful life insurance company. However, my father is still alive and well at 88 years old and the other man has been dead for many years.

Choosing God’s Honor

The world today often looks at the Body of Christ with a raised brow. They’ve not seen honor. They’ve seen too much dishonor. But you can help change that. You can guard your manner of life, your conversation. You can be honorable. You can receive it from God.

The examples from the lives of my parents taught me a valuable lesson. I realized that honor is not hard to recognize. At times it may be hard to find, but it is easily recognized. In fact, honor stands out

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).

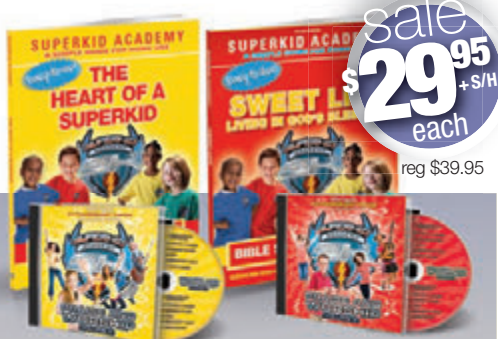
I take You at Your Word. I confess that Jesus is Lord. And I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. Thank You for coming into my heart, for giving me Your Holy Spirit as You have promised, and for being Lord over my life. Amen.

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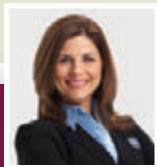
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in the crowd because it appears foolish in the system of the world.

To be honorable requires an act of the will, an act which triggers and releases all that God has provided for us. It requires a choice between God's WORD and the subtleties and deceptions of the world. It requires a choice between the Spirit and the flesh. It boils down to a choice between standing and falling.

If you are honorable, you will stand. If you are dishonorable, you are guaranteed to fall—and bring even more dishonor to the Body of Christ.

I get so embarrassed at what people try to do as believers, walking in dishonor. We are never to use our positions as preachers of the gospel or children of God to defraud anyone.

One time when I was shopping at a convenience store, a preacher came in to purchase some shotgun shells. He began trying to talk the clerk into giving him a discount on his shells because he was a minister. It embarrassed me so. It made me so mad that he would do that to our God.

It almost made me want to cuss so that clerk wouldn't think I was a preacher, too. The clerk didn't have any authority to give the man a discount, even if he had wanted to! The young man got really irritated at that preacher. I wonder if that preacher has any idea how much damage his preoccupation with a petty discount might have caused in that young clerk's life.

Your Word of Honor

"Brother Copeland," you may say, "I see the value of honor and I want to walk in it. But where do I begin? How can I 'find' this honor that comes from God only?"

Start with God and His WORD. He can make you honorable. He has already honored you with His own life. He has honored you with what the Bible calls eternal life, the very life of God Himself. He administers this life to our spirit man through the Holy Spirit. The desire to honor Him rises up through His life in us.

As you get into His WORD, and allow it to get on the inside of you, as you allow it to become you, honor will well up in you so full, you'll have no desire to walk in anything else. Your spirit will experience conviction about the smallest of commitments. You'll become so tuned to His WORD and His Spirit that you will become honorable in everything.

As you become honorable you will speak the truth. You will take your words seriously. You will never distort the truth or speak idle words. You will be able to make commitments and keep them. You will be able to be faithful. You will act with the utmost of integrity. You won't want to say anything else, because Matthew 5:37 says all else proceeds from evil.

Next, seek honor from God only. Jesus did not play the honor game. "I receive not honour from men.... I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?" (John 5:41-44). The honor game gives each other "honor" or medals or titles in order to boost one's own sense of self-worth. It is saying you'll do something to please men, to please their ears. It makes vain commitments for fear of what men will think. It is a dishonor to God, however, to seek the honor of others rather than that which comes only from The LORD.

I made a decision a long time ago, over 25 years now, to walk in the honor that comes from God. I made a choice to stand on my word, and His WORD, and to walk in integrity. I made a choice to please Him and not men—at any cost. I made a choice to stand and not fall...and I'm still standing. You can keep standing, too. Think about it. Pray about it. Then choose the honor that comes from God. When God honors you, what difference does it make what anyone else thinks? Your word and your commitments will be as good as His—He guarantees it. He's given you His word. 📖

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—Kenneth Copeland

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by
Gloria
Copeland

God's Medicine

Nerve medicine. That's what the old-timers used to call it. It came in a little bottle and contained a lot of alcohol. They took it when they were upset—or so they said. We kids rarely saw them actually drink it. But when things went wrong and tensions mounted, we often heard them say, "Let's get the nerve medicine!"

I assume it must have helped them calm down a little. But, other than that, it wasn't much of a medicine. It certainly didn't keep them healthy because there was nothing in it to prevent *any* sickness.

At the least sign of a symptom, they'd start talking sickness, throw open the door to it and invite it in.

Bless their precious hearts! They didn't know what else



of people today. Although they might laugh at the old-fashioned concept of nerve

medicine, they have their own version. Theirs is called a tranquilizer, or some other kind of drug.

I'm not criticizing anyone. I just want to stir up your faith. I want to remind you that as born-again believers, we have access to a nerve-calming, health-producing power that doesn't come in

to do. The little country town they lived in all their lives didn't have any Word churches. (That was more than a half century ago. There were hardly any word of faith churches anywhere back then.) So, these people had no idea what God had provided for them.

But then, neither do a lot



He says this about those who trust in Him:

“With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation” (verse 16).

a pill or a bottle. We have the God-given promise found in Proverbs 3:1-2, 8, (*The Amplified Bible*): “My son, forget not my law or teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of a life [worth living] and tranquility [inward and outward and continuing through old age till death], these shall they add to you. It shall be health to your nerves and sinews, and marrow and moistening to your bones.”

Still Going Strong

Ken and I have proved out those verses in our own lives. We discovered them and started learning to live by them decades ago. Our kids were barely more than toddlers back then. Now, they're grown and have children of their own. In fact, some of their children are having babies these days—which means we've been around for a while! But we don't feel old. We're both healthy. We feel good. We aren't on any prescription drugs. We're sound minded and enjoying life. We're still busy serving the Lord and going strong.

That's not because we're something special either. It's because years ago we found out this is the kind of life Jesus purchased for us on the cross. A long and healthy life is God's will for every one of His children.

You don't have to take my word for it. You can see it in the Scriptures for yourself.

Take Psalm 91, for example. There, God not only promises us every kind of healing and protection imaginable, He says this about those who trust in Him: “With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation” (verse 16).

If you ever wondered how long God wants you to live, that verse gives you the answer. He wants you to live until you're satisfied.

“But Gloria,” you might say, “I thought the Bible only promised us 70 or 80 years.”

That's what a lot of Christians think. But it's not true. The only people God limited to that life span were the

unbelieving Israelites in the wilderness mentioned in Psalm 90. Because of their disobedience, God said they were going to die relatively young so the next generation could obey Him, and go in and possess the Promised Land.

But He didn't say anything like that about us! On the contrary, as the footnote to Psalm 90 in *The Amplified Bible* explains, “Seventy years never has been the average span of life for humanity. When Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes, had reached 130 years (Genesis 47:9), he complained that he had not attained to the years of his immediate ancestors. In fact, Moses himself lived to be 120 years old, Aaron 123, Miriam several years older, and Joshua 110 years of age.”

The reason 70 or 80 years has become the “normal” life span in the mind of most Christians these days is because they believe that's normal. But I think we should shoot for a higher number. God has been training many of us for years to do His work. We need to stay on the earth and live a long time so we can use that training to the max.

We shouldn't let the devil start telling us at 60 or 70 years old, “You're through now. You need to retire. You'll be gone soon.”

Phooey! At 60, you're just halfway there!

Get Better With Age

Of course, living to be 100 or 120 won't be worth doing if you age like most people do. You won't want to stay around that long if your body starts getting weak, sick and broken down. So

don't let that happen. Keep yourself healthy and strong by taking God's medicine as enthusiastically as those old-timers took their “nerve medicine.”

If weakness starts to be a problem, for instance, use Isaiah 40:29 against it: “He gives power to the faint and weary, and to him who has no might He increases strength [making it to abound].” Quit saying you're tired and say, “God gives me power! He makes my strength to abound!”

If sickness attacks you, head it off with Deuteronomy 7:15: “The Lord will take away from you all sickness” (*AMP*). If some kind of disease or pain tries to attach itself to you, drive it out with Isaiah 53:4-5: “Surely [Jesus] has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains...and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed and made whole” (*AMP*).

Instead of letting the years wear you down and allowing the frailty usually associated with aging to slow you down, start now believing and declaring the promises in Psalm 103:4-5 (*AMP*), which says that God redeems my life from corruption. He beautifies, dignifies and crowns me with loving-kindness and

tender mercy. He satisfies my mouth with good so that my youth is renewed like the eagle's.

According to the Bible, it's absolutely possible for you to live a weakness-free, sickness-free, ever-youthful life all the way through old age!

I realize that sounds almost too good to

It's absolutely possible for you to live a weakness-free, sickness-free, ever-youthful life all the way through old age!



JOHN COPELAND, CEO

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be true, but it is written! When Jesus redeemed us through His death and resurrection, He did more than just deliver us from sin and secure us a future in heaven. He bore the whole curse on our behalf.

That curse includes every kind of evil—not only spiritual darkness and death, but physical infirmity and disease, addiction, fear, weakness, and every kind of mental and emotional torment. Those things all came to mankind as a result of the sin Adam and Eve committed in the Garden of Eden. But Jesus came to fix what happened in that garden.

Everything Adam and Eve made wrong, Jesus made right again! He paid the price for our complete deliverance so we could have righteousness for our spirit, health for our bodies and soundness for our minds.

“If Jesus provided those things for us at such a great cost, then why aren't more Christians taking advantage of them?” you might ask.

Because they don't just fall on us like ripe apples off a tree. We have to take them by faith; and “faith cometh by hearing, and hearing...the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

Think again about those people I mentioned earlier. They didn't just take their nerve medicine once. They took it repeatedly. As believers, we need to do the same with God's Word because it's “life...and health” to our flesh. It's our supernatural medicine.

Feeding continually on scriptures about healing and peace and long life will keep us well. Continually filling our hearts and our thinking with the Word will cause our faith to get stronger all the time. The more we meditate on Bible verses about what belongs to us in Christ, the more those things will become a reality in our lives.

I suggest you put together a list of such scriptures and read them every day. They'll not only change the way you think, they'll change the way you talk and walk!

Jesus said, “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh” (Matthew 12:34). So when you get your heart full of the Word you can say the right things. At the first sign of sickness, you can say, “No! You're not coming on my body. This is my house. It's blessed. Jesus Himself paid the price for me to be healed and I am healed in His Name.”

Really, you shouldn't wait until symptoms show up to do that. Believe God and speak healing even when you're feeling good.

The Path of Obedience Is the Place to Be

Of course, believing and speaking God's Word aren't the only things involved in having “length of days and years of a life [worth living].” According to Proverbs 3:1, we must also “keep [God's] commandments.”

Exactly what does that mean?

For us, as New Testament believers, it means we must walk in love. Love is our only law. It's the one commandment Jesus gave us. Of course, if you keep the love commandment, you will be keeping the Ten Commandments. Treating other people with kindness and love is essential if we want to stay in good health and live out the full number of our days. We can do everything else right, but if we fail to walk in love, we'll miss out on God's blessings.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying you have to be perfect to be blessed. All of us stumble and mess up sometimes. I don't know anyone who doesn't.

All I'm saying is commit with all your heart to follow Jesus and then, if you miss it, be quick to repent. The moment you realize you've said or done something unloving, go to the Lord about it. Say, “Forgive me, Heavenly Father.” Then do what's necessary to make things right. Call the person on the phone and apologize. Do whatever it takes.

In other words, practice living in

obedience to God. Stick with it until you stay on the straight path without deviation. The path of obedience is the place to be! The blessing in every area of life is connected to obeying God!

That doesn't mean you have to earn His BLESSING with good works. God gave THE BLESSING to you freely when you made Jesus your Lord. You're already blessed. But that BLESSING won't work for you like it should as long as you're in disobedience.

If you're not obeying the law of love, you just might find yourself sick, for example, even though you're a born-again Christian. Is it God's will for you to be sick? No. It's His will for you to be healed. But when you're in disobedience, you are vulnerable to the curse of sickness as well as other evils.

Certainly God is merciful, so He'll be as good to you as He can no matter how badly you may be missing it. But He can't get His best to you until you put His Word first place in your life and do what it tells you to do.

Now *That's* What I Call a Drag

Maybe you're new to these things and you don't know much about God yet. If so, you might think that obeying Him would be a drag. Right now you might be saying to yourself, *What a dull life!*

But let me tell you, there's nothing boring about being blessed. It's marvelous to live healed. It's fun to live prosperous with all your bills paid, your house paid for, your car paid for, and plenty to give and enjoy. Under THE BLESSING, you have the abundance of all good things. On the other hand, under the curse you have an abundance of bad things. That's what I call a drag—and I'm so ever grateful that I don't have to live there! I'm so grateful that the Lord corrects me and helps me stay on the path of obedience.

I appreciate it when He speaks to my heart and says, *You messed up in that situation. You said the wrong*

thing. You didn't act according to My Word. You were in unbelief. You were unloving. When He says things like that to me, I say, "Thank You, Jesus! I repent of that. I won't do it anymore." Then, I change really quick because I know that's the way to stay healed and peaceful and victorious.

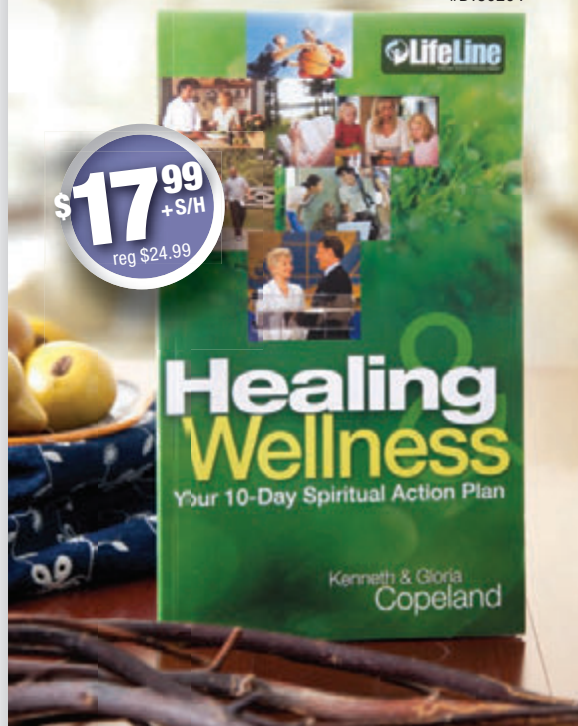
If you haven't practiced living that way, it's time you got started. Tune your heart to the Word and to the voice of the Lord by spending more time with Him. Get up a little earlier every day to read the Word and pray. Before you leave for work in the morning, acknowledge His lordship over your life, put Him first place in your day and ask for His guidance. **DO WHAT HE SAYS!**

Proverbs 3:5-6 (AMP) puts it this way: "Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize, and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths."

If you'll put your faith in God's Word and walk on those straight paths, you'll enjoy the kind of long, tranquil, satisfying life your ancestors may have dreamed of. The kind that can't be found in a bottle or a pill. The kind that comes only through THE BLESSING of God. **♥**

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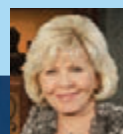
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Jeremy and Sarah Pearsons

Sunday, Feb. 10

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Kenneth Copeland

Feb. 11-15

The Tribulation Unveiled

Gloria Copeland and Billye Brim

Sunday, Feb. 17

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Feb. 18-22

The Fulfillment of End Time Prophecy

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Sunday, Feb. 24

God's Power Transmitters

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