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Finding Freedom From Offense

Do you get offended when something bad happens in your life? I know I have. It's an attitude that says, "This shouldn't be happening to me!" While it may seem harmless, offense is actually one of Satan's greatest tools to rob us of God's blessings. He uses offense to lure us into bitterness, resentment and unforgiveness—things that stunt our spiritual growth and make our lives miserable.

When difficulties come our way, they present opportunities for offense. They challenge our faith and what we believe about God. In fact, a lot of people use the trouble in their lives as an excuse to be mad at God or not believe in Him at all. In their minds, they can't reconcile the idea of a loving Creator allowing such pain and suffering.

Webster's Dictionary partially defines offense as "an act of stumbling." I find this interesting because the enemy would love for us to get offended by the trials in our lives and stumble or fall away from our relationship with God.

If you're like me, when things aren't going well, you're tempted to think, Why, God, why? But we're not always going to be able to figure out why. Sometimes other people's decisions affect us negatively or we make unwise decisions that hurt us. Our enemy, Satan, also works hard to come against us and prevent us from walking in God's good plan.

Whatever the reason, it's important to realize that suffering is not from God. The Lord originally created a world where everything was perfect, but when Adam and Eve sinned, it changed all of that (Gen. 3). Thankfully, through Jesus Christ, God has restored us to Himself (2 Cor. 5:17, 21), but that doesn't mean that our lives will be problem-free (John 16:33).

So what should we do when trials come our way? The best thing

we can possibly do is trust God, because it's the answer to every single problem we have!

There's tremendous freedom in trusting God. When something's not going our way, instead of getting offended, we can trust that He has a plan that's better than ours and He will ultimately work out the situation for good (Rom. 8:28).

We need to understand this, because sometimes when we're having trouble, we can even get offended at other people who are being blessed. We can have a self-righteous attitude that says, "Well, I'm a better Christian than you are. I deserve those blessings."

For example, maybe you want a promotion at work, but someone else receives it instead. You can choose to be offended, or you can trust God and say, "Lord, if this is where You want me right now, then I'm going to serve my boss with a smile on my face. And I know if You want to put me somewhere else, You will do it in Your perfect timing."

I've learned that God is smarter than we are. Sometimes He doesn't give us what we want because He has a different purpose in mind—something better than what we could have imagined. Many times the Lord has allowed me to go through things the hard way. Sometimes it has been extremely difficult, especially when I watched other people receive breakthroughs in the same areas more quickly. But when God allows me to walk this path, He wants me to experience and understand what people are going through so I can relate to their pain and help them walk through it successfully.

The Bible actually tells us that trials are good for us. James 1:2-3 (AMP) says, "Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace]."

Suffering doesn't originate from God, but He will use it to

help us grow up spiritually because He knows it will eventually bring out the best in us! (See Ps. 94:12-13.)

The Lord wants us to become stable and mature. He wants us to have joy and contentment in Him, even when our circumstances aren't perfect (Neh. 8:10). God never promised us a trouble-free life, but we can take comfort in knowing that He loves us tremendously, He has His eye on us, and He is already working behind the scenes to help us (Ps. 33:18, Rom. 8:38-39).

Remember, what you're going through now won't last forever. So don't live your life bitter and resentful over something you can't do anything about. Instead, choose to place your trust in God. He's the one who loves you unconditionally ... and He's the one who can turn your trials into something great.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times' best-selling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries Inc. She has written more than 100 books, including *Battlefield of the Mind*. She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs. For more information, visit .

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Listen in the Spirit With New Audio Charisma

Most readers know I started Charisma in 1975 when I was a 24-year-old newspaper reporter. The charismatic renewal and the Jesus movement were both going full force. I was excited about Jesus and wanted to use my journalistic talents for Him. Now, four and a half decades later, that's still true. But my, how things have changed!

The charismatic movement has morphed in the intervening decades, but it is still exploding in many ways, especially overseas. In the U.S., exciting ministries such as Bethel, IHOPKC and Hillsong—ministries we never heard of in the 1970s—continue to grow even as the culture becomes more hostile to the message of the Holy Spirit. Back then we covered leaders like Dennis Bennett, Derek Prince or Jamie Buckingham, all of whom passed away years ago. Over the intervening years, Charisma covered many new charismatic leaders when they were unknown, but who are now some of the most respected leaders in this new generation.

But the biggest changes since 1975 that have affected Charisma have been technological. I remind Millennials that the computer wasn't invented when I started Charisma and suggest that they will likely see in their lifetimes more change than I have. We did everything back then on typewriters and couldn't even have imagined the internet. We had telephones with dials and cords and couldn't have envisioned smartphones where people could access news, read books and buy products anywhere, any time of day.

The recent COVID-19 pandemic that has forced millions to stay home has even caused churches to minister to people online in new ways.

With new technology comes new opportunities to share the message of living in the Spirit. We communicate online through podcasts, electronic books and audio books. About a year ago, we began dreaming of doing an audio magazine. Audio books have become very popular in recent years. Why not let people listen to Charisma in addition to just reading it? Hence, the idea for Charisma Media Audio was born—an app where you can listen to each issue of Charisma, article by article, word for word. It so happened that it was approved by the app stores right when things were shut down for the pandemic. This meant while people were home, they could still download and listen so they could be blessed and ministered to by articles in Charisma.

As life and the economy get back to normal, we are beginning a major marketing campaign to introduce people to this new audio version of Charisma. I consider you my reading family, and I hope you're excited about doors the Lord is opening for us to encourage, inform, teach and even entertain with the content you've come to expect from each issue of Charisma.

We are also beginning a free Charisma Digital Daily—a digital magazine delivered online with three articles a day. Some will be excerpts from our books, and we will pull the best material from our archives in addition to fresh revelation from authors and leaders you know and trust.

The audio medium may be new, but the content is the same. In a world where forces of evil seem to pull us away from God, the body of Christ can grow and connect with the Spirit-filled content we continue to produce each day. Our promotions tell users that Charisma Media Audio is “listening in the Spirit.” And we remind them that “faith comes by hearing!”

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Stephen Strang is founder of Charisma. He believes God, Trump and the 2020 Election (Charisma House), available wherever Christian books are sold, is his most important book. Listen to his new podcast by the same name on the Charisma Podcast Network.

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Pastor's Simple Obedience Sparks Revival Among Mexico's

Assassins

God, how do I pray for a city?"

That was Pastor Alfonso "Poncho" Murguía's question as he set up camp in a public park in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, almost 20 years ago. A public park may not seem like the safest place to spend the night, especially in Juárez, the largest city in Chihuahua state—and one of the most dangerous. Yet Murguía knew God was calling him to stay in the park for 21 days to fast and pray, consuming nothing but water and the Word of God.

The first few days of Murguía's fast didn't go quite as he planned, though. He recalls sitting in the park, unsure of his next step—or even his next prayer.

"I just said, 'Lord, I don't know what I'm doing here. Should I pray for the lights to be working pretty well? How do you pray for a city?'" he tells Charisma. "So I started opening the Bible and going through the Bible, looking for what God thinks about cities, and amazing things started happening."

For 14 to 15 hours a day, Murguía interceded for his city. His prayerful desperation would appear to be prophetic, since only nine years later, the crime rate in Juárez reached its peak, earning it the moniker "The Murder Capital of the World." In 2010, the Chihuahua state attorney general's office recorded 3,116 homicides in Juárez alone.

At the heart of that violence were the city's sicarios, or hit men. At \$30 to \$40 per murder, these assassins make bloodshed their business as they take orders from gang leaders and drug cartels.

But something happened in Juárez just a few years later that surprised the world. The city's crime rate plummeted by 2014, when the attorney general's office recorded 430 murders in

Juárez. In 2015, the number dropped to 311.

Secular media sources, including National Geographic, have given most of the credit for this transformation to the government's hard work and the people's lack of money to purchase drugs. But Murguía knows there is much more to the story. At the center of Juárez's transformation are several miracles that only God could have accomplished—and Murguía says he knows because he got to play a part in them.

The First Radical Call

Murguía's walk with the Lord could be described as a series of radical steps of obedience. While many in the city of Juárez saw the pastor's 21-day fast in the park as an extreme act, he never would have done it if he hadn't made his first radical decision when he was 18 years old.

That was when Murguía first heard the gospel—not that those who knew him thought he needed it. Murguía was the proverbial boy next door. He didn't smoke. He didn't drink. He didn't have sex outside of marriage. And he married the first young woman he dated. He worked hard to be a good person, and he thought he had succeeded.

"I was a very devoted Catholic, but I never knew the Lord," he says. "I never heard the gospel. So a good friend of mine shared the gospel, and to me, it was a very strong revelation. I was born again on the September 23, 1973. Since that day, I've been more and more in love with my Lord Jesus."

If the gospel was Murguía's first outlandish call, the second came two months later when he was discussing his recent conversion with a family friend. She asked him: "So what are you going to do about it?"

"And that was a very good question to ask, because that question has been behind my back since that day," Murguía says. "So I thought, What am I going to do about that? And she

said, 'We're helping a lady who is dying of cancer, and she's at the hospital. What are you going to do about that?' And I said, 'Well, I can go visit her and pray for her.' So I did."

At the hospital, Murguía saw a 34-year-old woman who looked like she was 60. He began visiting her every day, sharing the gospel and praying for her healing. Eventually, the two became good friends, and the woman asked Murguía to check on her six children who lived 45 minutes away from the city.

But before he had a chance to visit them, Murguía received a phone call from the hospital saying that the woman had died. He knew it was up to him to tell her children.

"I knock on the door [of the woman's home,] and there's this 12-year-old," he says. "She opens the door with this [8-month-old] on her lap, and then four more kids with her, and I have to tell her that her mom just passed away. And they don't know me, I don't know them. I don't have any experience with a situation like this. So I just told her, and of course she started crying.

"By this time, I was having ministry in my home. We had [around] 12 kids who were studying the Bible, so we went to do the funeral in this old town. And then after that, I couldn't just leave them like that, so I started coming back every single day to visit them."

When the government got involved and tried to send the children to different orphanages, Murguía fought to keep them together.

"This lady from the government came," he says. "I was giving her a hard time, saying, 'You cannot do this. You cannot do this. This is all they have.' She looked at me and said, 'I'm going to ask you a question. If I give them to you, will you take care of them?'"

Murguía was unmarried and only 18 years old, but he said yes

anyway. With the help of his then-girlfriend, María—whom he married three years later—Murguía adopted the six orphans. His group of Bible study friends supported Murguía as he and María took care of the six children for over 15 years. Later, the couple had three biological children of their own and adopted three more. But the Murguías' heart for children went beyond those they could raise themselves. The couple eventually started an orphanage, which for 19 years was a temporary home for hundreds of kids.

Murguía remembers saying, "Lord, if I can imitate what You've done for me with these kids, that would be a way to honor You."

The small Bible study in the Murguías' home also grew. What started as a "no-name church" in their living room soon became a congregation of hundreds by the name of Sovereign Grace Church. But Murguía's thriving ministry came to an abrupt halt in 2001, when God gave him his third outlandish call. He recalls painting his daughter's room when he says he heard the Lord tell him, "I want you to leave everything you're doing."

Murguía knew God was talking about his pastoral role in the church.

"I cried out to the Lord and told Him, 'You cannot do this. You're asking me to tear apart my heart. I've been loving these people as You told me to for so many years. You cannot ask this of me,'" he says. "I was having a very bad attitude. I was almost telling God, 'You need me.' He asked me one question that changed the way I was living. He said, 'Whose church is it?' When the Lord said that, I fell to my knees and scales came from my eyes, and I repented. I said, 'Thank You, God, for allowing me to serve You and serve Your people for 29 years.'"

As Murguía repented for his "temper tantrum," as he calls it, he realized one more obstacle standing in the way. How could

he break the news to María, who had faithfully served the church by his side for 29 years?

“When I finally told her, I remember so vividly, she was looking at me and a tear came from her left eye,” he says. “Then when she opened her beautiful mouth, she said, ‘Poncho, the Lord told me three years ago that He was going to ask you this. He asked me to pray for you so you would be ready. He asked me not to tell you.’ And I just couldn’t believe it. That is a suitable helper. I thought, I don’t deserve this woman as my wife.”

The next day, Murguía told the other pastors in his church about his decision to leave and, three months later, officially handed the church over to them. At this point, Murguía still had no clear directive from the Lord. He knew God was calling him to leave his pastoral role, but he didn’t know what the next step was.

“I asked the Lord, and He ... gave me words from Scripture that to this day have been one of the pillars of my life,” he says. “He said, ‘What you need to know is My grace is sufficient.’”

Less than a year later, God called Murguía to the 21-day fast of water and the Word for the city of Juárez. And although he struggled to know how to pray for an entire city, he says as he began studying Scripture on the topic, God began changing his perspective. He realized that during his pastoral ministry, he wasn’t serving his city. Even his evangelism efforts were tainted with the goal of growing his own church.

After that mindset shift, Murguía says, God began to do some incredible things. Within a week of beginning his fast, a reporter approached him for an interview.

“Why are you hunger striking?” Murguía says the reporter asked him. “Tell me, who are you mad at? What are your petitions? We’re the most important newspaper in the city. We’ll put it in there, and we’ll back you up.”

But Murguía had no petition. He wasn't hunger striking. And he wasn't mad at anyone. So that's what he told the reporter: "I'm just praying and fasting for my city because I want God to bless my city."

"The guy scratched his head and said, 'Nah, that won't sell,' and he turned around and he left," Murguía says. "But the amazing thing was that he went to his boss and said, 'This crazy guy is not eating. ... He's spending the night there and he's not even hunger striking. He's not mad. He just says he wants God to bless the city. Boss, what do you want me to do?'"

Instead of telling the reporter to drop the story, the editor told him to go back to Murguía every day and ask him what God was telling him to pray. Each time the reporter came to Murguía, the pastor shared what God had laid on his heart, and the paper published it.

"What happened was people started coming to the park to be prayed for," he says. "I remember the first ones who started coming were the prostitutes, drug addicts and gang members, and then housewives, and then people from the government, and then businesspeople."

"And all of a sudden within those 21 days, I could actually feel the city by talking and praying for anybody who would come. And that gave me one of the biggest lessons at that time: I began to learn how to love my city."

Murguía says that lesson hinged on a fresh understanding of John 3:16, which says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." Murguía understood the latter part of that verse about believing in the Son. But he realized he fell short when it came to the former—loving the world as God does.

"The part that got me was that the whole thing was initiated

when Jesus came to the earth," he says. "It was all initiated by the Father who loved the world. ... I was preaching what was wrong with the world, but I wasn't loving the world the way God did."

Word of Murguía's 21-day fast spread throughout the city, to the point that 4,000 people came on the final day of the fast to receive ministry and pray for Juárez.

People in governmental power began to take notice of Murguía and his impact on the people. The mayor, in particular, was so impressed with Murguía's newfound ministry that he asked him to help clean up Juárez's prison.

But this was no ordinary prison. Juárez's Cereso self-governed prison was considered one of the worst in Mexico at that time, Murguía says, with 93% of the prisoners using drugs and 60% of the guards selling them. According to Murguía, the corruption was so rampant that some prisoners had restaurants within the prison, and some even owned tigers.

"So the mayor asked me to clean it, and I'm thinking, Why is he asking me?" Murguía says. "A few months later [in 2005], we came at midnight with almost 500 soldiers in police force, and we took the prison by surprise. The prison was actually cleaned in one day. ... It's the fifth-best prison in Mexico now."

Yet Murguía sensed that the transformation he had just witnessed wouldn't be confined to the prison.

"The Lord gave us a word," he says. "He said, 'What happened to the prison is going to happen to the city.' So we were rejoicing, saying, 'Wow, the Lord is going to do something in the city.'"

Yet Murguía and his ministry partners had no idea that just five years later, Juárez would be considered the murder capital of the world. The murder rate in the city skyrocketed

tenfold, from around 300 deaths in 2007 to over 3,000 in 2010, according to CNN. For three consecutive years, Juárez was ranked the most violent city in the world, according to studies published by Seguridad, Justicia y Paz.

“It was very difficult to handle, because of everything we had done, to see our city, the city that we loved, become like that,” Murguía says.

Loving the Sicarios

Soon after the fast in the park, Murguía began pastoring a new congregation, Cruz de Gracia (Cross of Grace). But this time, he had a new perspective. His goal was to love the world just like Jesus did. To do that, though, he had to learn how to love the most unlovable people in Juárez.

Murguía told his congregation one Sunday morning that God had given them a new task—love the sicarios. To start, he taught his congregation how to pray and bless them.

“We don’t want them to benefit from their business, but we bless them by praying for somebody to come and preach the gospel to them and that God would have mercy on them so they could open their eyes,” Murguía says.

Such a prayer required faith. After all, seeing a sicario come to the Lord wasn’t something that happened every day in Juárez. On the contrary, sicarios were well-known for their ruthless murders, often for only \$30 to \$40 per hit. On a “good day,” they earn \$200, Murguía says.

Sicarios first became a trend in Colombia when the infamous drug lord Pablo Escobar recruited teenagers to murder others on behalf of his cartel, according to Time magazine. As the Reagan administration intensified its war on drugs, focusing primarily on those coming from Colombia, drug cartels and the sicarios that worked for them focused on other countries, specifically Mexico and Honduras.

Although the media often glamorizes the sicario lifestyle as one full of wealth, power and sex, Murguía says these so-called advantages actually represent only a small part of their lives. What the media doesn't depict as often is the trauma sicarios experience due to the mass amounts of murders they commit—and the high volume of drugs they take to make those murders bearable.

Murguía tells the story of a 16-year-old sicario who asked him for help. The young man was a gang member when a drug cartel hired him as a professional hitman.

"They told him, 'You have to stay at home the whole week, and we will come three days a week and park right in front of your house, and we'll honk. Then you have to come out, and we're going to tell you who to kill,'" Murguía says.

Each time the teenage boy got into the car, his bosses gave him an AK-47 and drove around for hours. Every once in a while, they stopped the car, pointed to someone and told the teenager to kill them. On average, he killed two people a day, three times a week, Murguía says.

"How can someone like that kill people?" he says. "They have to be high on drugs, because this is not natural. Three months later, this guy calls me, and he says, 'Pastor ... I cannot sleep anymore. I get up at night screaming. I go to the bathroom and see my face in the mirror, and I see blood coming out of my face. I see blood coming out of the walls.' I mean, this guy was going crazy."

Unlike in the corporate world, though, sicarios can't simply quit their jobs. Murguía says if a sicario wants to quit, he has to take his favorite gun to his boss and let him shoot him with it. If a sicario somehow manages to get out of the business alive, he does so with a price on his head.

But Murguía had a plan: "I said, 'Well, this is what you're going to do. First thing in the morning, you're going to

go'—and I never thought I would advise someone to do something like this—'and you're going to go into a store and steal something. It has to be worth more than 1,000 pesos. But you need to let yourself get caught so they will send you to prison.'"

While in prison, the teenager gave his life to Christ through Murguía's ministry, and when he got out, the cartels had no interest in hiring him since he was officially in police records.

Arturo Laredo was another young man who spent years of his life making money as a sicario. He tells Charisma that sicarios in Juárez used to bribe corrupt police officers and captains to gain control over a certain area of the city, making it easier for them to kill their targets. In fact, it was his job to know the police officers and their routes.

Laredo was serving a five-year sentence for drug trafficking when believers told him about Jesus, and he gave his life to Christ.

"What amazed me so much when I was coming to know Jesus was the love God had poured out in the hearts of the brothers who came to visit us [in prison]—even at Christmastime, a time to spend with their families," he says. "They dedicated their time and love to those of us who were considered unfit to be in society."

When he got out of prison, he asked God to lead him to a good church where he could grow in his faith.

"I asked the Lord to lead me to where I should go to church, and He led me to Cruz de Gracia church with Poncho Murguía," Laredo says.

When he arrived the first time, he says, Murguía was preaching on agape love from 1 Corinthians 13. Laredo had experienced love in the world, and he had even experienced Jesus' love at

salvation, but seeing Murguía's passionate love for his city touched Laredo more deeply than he expected.

One day, he approached Murguía with a burden to reach out to a man he led to the Lord while in prison. The two men were released from prison around the same time. But while Laredo got plugged into Murguía's church, the other man got involved with another drug cartel in a small town close to Juárez.

"This guy's responsibility was to train 80 assassins, and his job would be to kill people in the United States and Mexico," Murguía says. "The Lord told [Laredo] to go to the city [where this guy was] and tell him that God loves him and wants him back."

It took a prophetic insight from the Lord to find Laredo's friend, Murguía says, but after a series of God-inspired events, the man's heart softened, and he came back to the Lord.

But there was just one problem. The prodigal sicario wanted to come to Murguía's church.

"I'm thinking, I cannot have this man in the congregation, because [the cartel he worked for] can kill him in the parking lot; they could kill him inside," Murguía says. "And I didn't want to be the kind of pastor that people would come to and say, 'Because of you, my 5-year-old child is dead.'"

But he says the Lord rebuked him, saying, "Poncho, when you came to Me, did I close the doors to My church?"

Murguía knew he had to have an uncomfortable conversation with his congregation. That Sunday, he told them an ex-sicario was coming who likely had a price on his head. He understood, he said, if they were afraid of the danger and wanted to go to another church from then on.

"I was thinking at least 70% of the people would not come," he

says.

But that Sunday, a family with young children was the first to arrive. Then an elderly woman sat down. Then the next person came, and the next. That Sunday, the entire church came, despite the danger.

"I was saying, 'I don't deserve to serve people like this,'" he says. "So the sicario came—and praise God, nothing happened—and then he started sharing. And we started sharing [the gospel] with other sicarios. Other sicarios started coming, and all of a sudden, we had dozens of sicarios coming to the congregation. The word spread out in the sicario world that 'If you want to change your life, that's a good place to go, because they are willing to risk their lives for you.' And that's how a lot of them started coming to the Lord and getting out of the profession they were in."

But it took more than saving sicarios to transform Juárez.

"We started loving the city in those years and working with the government and with the police and with the schools, where a lot of parents were being assassinated," Murguía says. "We did everything we could, and God did amazing miracles all over the place."

He and several other pastors in the city worked together not only to serve the community, but also to invite God into the process of citywide transformation. One of those pastors was José Luís Aguilar, who, although he considers Murguía his pastor, leads his own congregation called Rey de Gloria (King of Glory). Aguilar also served as a councilman on the City Council of Juárez from 2013 to 2016.

The pastors focused on the areas in Juárez where the most drugs were sold, reaching the community with messages of respect, morals and hope, Aguilar says. They cleaned parks, painted schools and streets, and continued transforming the prisons by providing ethics classes, education and jobs.

"We reached out with music, dramas, movie showings and workshops for kids," he says. "In whatever way we could, we began to give the people another way of life. But it all began when the church ... understood there needs to be light outside. There needs to be light in the streets—light that's not just inside. Rather, God calls us and commands us always to go."

Juárez also implemented a program called Avanza sin Tranza (which, loosely translated, means "Advance Without Corruption"). The program focused on helping Mexican citizens and officials create a moral society. According to Aguilar, Juárez became the first municipality to implement Avanza sin Tranza, which eventually became a popular program throughout Mexico. With the help of journalist Daniel Valles, Aguilar says he helped implement an ethics course that each of Juárez's 7,000 government employees had to take. The goal was to stamp out widespread corruption in Juárez's government.

Murguía says God was at the center of this governmental reformation, and much of it was thanks to State Attorney General Carlos Salas.

Before becoming fiscal general of the state of Chihuahua, Carlos Salas attended Cruz de Gracia, Murguía says. One day, Salas received a call asking him to take the position of state attorney general. But he had an issue—doing so would force him to send his family out of the country for their protection, and it was practically suicide for him.

"But he prayed and prayed, and we believed that this call was from God, so he was assigned to be the state attorney general," Murguía says. "I remember the first day we were there. He was sworn in, and then he dedicated the office with 60,000 employees to the Lord. He said, 'I'm going to serve God, and I'm going to do the right thing. I'm not going to get into corruption, and we're going to do whatever God wants me to do.'"

Five minutes later, Salas received a phone call saying an American woman had been kidnapped. At that time, Murguía says, there were around 20 kidnappings per day in Chihuahua. Under Salas' direction, though, the woman was recovered unharmed. One by one, kidnapped victims were rescued—with no civilian casualties—through Salas' trained teams.

"The reporters said, 'This is impossible. The only explanation is that God is intervening. ... This is God; there's no other explanation,'" Murguía says.

It took only 18 months for Juárez's crime rate to plummet, Murguía says. Such a fast transformation is largely unheard of, he points out, especially with cities with a strong reputation of violence and crime. For instance, in the 1990s, New York City's crime rate dropped dramatically, more so than in the U.S. as a whole, according to the U.S. National Bureau of Economic Research. That process took nearly a decade, by comparison. Murguía calls Juárez's transformation a "miracle."

Yet it has proven to be an ongoing battle. In 2018, Juárez was listed as the fifth-most violent city in the world, with 1,251 murders. But Murguía is confident in God's ability to continue transforming Juárez and even the rest of Mexico. Instead of pastoring one church, Murguía now oversees more than 100 congregations in Mexico.

Murguía is part of a movement called Transform Our World, which works with churches in more than 400 cities worldwide. The movement's goal is to equip congregations to change their cities for Christ, to go beyond the four walls of their church buildings, work with their governments and see God do miracles in the streets.

"If we want to love the world the way God the Father does, it's going to cost," Murguía says. "We have to pay; it's a sacrifice, whatever the Lord asks us to do in our situation. I learned that because my life was threatened. People came into

my office to do that.”

And although the threat on his life has lessened—since most of the people who wanted to kill him are dead—Murguía knows that each call of God requires a sacrifice. That’s why he’s made it a habit, ever since he received the radical call of the gospel at 18, to follow every outlandish command God has given him—no matter the cost.

“We need to wake up to the most amazing message,” he says. “At the end, Jesus says there are 10 commandments, but there are actually two, and there’s really only one—love God and love your neighbor. That’s loving the world.”

READ MORE: To learn more, listen to the Inverse Podcast’s “Poncho Murguia: Cartels and Christ,” available wherever you listen to podcasts.

Jenny Rose Spauldo is the online news director for the Charisma Media Group and host of the Charisma News podcast.

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Watch Healing Miracles Manifest When You Choose This Christlike Action

Each week, people come to experience God in the baptismal waters at Christ Fellowship Church in Dawsonville, Georgia—a small community 50 miles northeast of Atlanta.

In January 2018, during a 21-day fast, I had an open vision while praying alone in the sanctuary. While slowly walking across the platform, I looked up and saw our baptistery. In the natural, the baptismal tank was empty, but in my 10-second vision, it was full of water, and fire burned on top of the water, similar to the way gasoline burns on water. Immediately, the Lord spoke to my spirit, “Todd, I am going to baptize people with Holy Spirit fire.”

People from all over the world have traveled to our church to experience Christ in the water, and miracles of all sorts have taken place. I have seen stage 4 cancers healed, scars from self-harm disappear, mental illnesses cured, skin conditions eradicated, deaf ears opened and people set free from lifelong addictions when they encounter Jesus in the water. Over 14,000 people have been immersed in the baptismal pools since February 2018.

But more than the miracles, perhaps the greatest and most beautiful result of this move of God is how people are rediscovering forgiveness. They are finding the strength to let go of lifetime grievances and hurts. For some, that means releasing the bitterness and unforgiveness they have carried for decades. When they choose to let go and forgive, tremendous miracles have taken place.

I know this truth firsthand, because before God did it in the lives of people at my church, He had to do it in me.

Make It Right

Have you ever made a declaration to God in the form of a promise, and then later wished you hadn't? I have.

It was a sincere declaration, and I meant it with all my heart. But I didn't know He was going to cash in on that promise just three seconds later.

At the time, the revival was 2 months old. There is a wooden altar bench about 3 feet wide in front of our altar. I remember kneeling at it one afternoon. The sanctuary was dark, and I was alone, spending time with God. Overwhelmed and astounded by His presence at our church, I boldly told Him, "God, I love you so much, and I will do whatever You ask and pay whatever price You want me to pay to have You here."

This sounds good, right? I thought it was very noble and inspiring. But then God replied, and I wasn't prepared for what He said: "Todd, you have hurt some people in your past—your previous elders. I need you to go make that right with them."

"Excuse me, God," I said. "What did You say?"

I was not expecting that at all. I quickly responded back to the Lord as if He didn't have all the information necessary to make such a request: "God, they hurt me. They need to come to me and ask me to forgive them."

As soon as those words left my mouth, I literally felt the Lord step away from me. He didn't leave me, but He simply pulled back. I felt it and knew He had distanced Himself from me.

Despite my lofty declaration just a minute earlier, He and I both discovered at that moment the level of glory I could handle and carry. If I wasn't willing to obey Him, then I was at my limit. He wasn't going to send more glory than we had

already received.

After feeling the Lord withdraw, I promptly and brokenly agreed that I would ask for forgiveness from the ones He would show me. It had been many years since I had seen some of my previous elders. However, the moment I committed to making things right between us, they started appearing everywhere.

Going to these men and asking them to forgive me was one of the hardest things I ever had to do. Every time I saw one, the Lord would say, "There is one." My stomach would immediately get knotted up. I would begin to make excuses or say, "God, can I do it next time?"

One night while enjoying dinner with my family, an elder walked into the restaurant. He had placed a to-go order, picked it up and then made his way straight to our table. I couldn't believe it.

The Lord said, "There he is. I brought him to you."

I tried to avoid eye contact with this man. Occasionally, I looked up, hoping he would leave. The whole time he was talking, I was talking to myself and the Lord. I told the Lord, "God, I am eating dinner with my family, and you know how important family is. I can't do this now in front of everybody."

After a few minutes, he said goodbye and headed out the door. I heard the Lord say, "There he goes."

"I know," I responded. "I know, but God—?"

Deep down, I knew God had brought him to me—not just to my vicinity, but exactly to my table. He was making it easy on me.

I made eye contact with my wife, Karen, and I knew what I had to do. As the elder exited the restaurant, I got up from my table and chased him down. I stopped him and said that I

needed him to forgive me. He was very gracious, and God blessed our meeting.

But not every encounter went according to plan. I remember one specific meeting. I saw one of the elders in a parking lot while he and his wife were preparing to leave. His car was parked about 200 yards from mine, but those 200 yards felt like 2 miles. Every step of the way, the devil was clowning with me. My own mind was trying to convince me I shouldn't do this—at least not now. But I was determined.

When I finally made it to his car, he was standing outside the driver's door, and his wife was already in the passenger seat. After some small talk, I asked him to forgive me. Instead of saying, "Yes, I forgive you," he made a sarcastic remark and derogatory comment. For a brief moment, I wanted to throat-punch him and got the fighting shakes. But I took a deep breath and overcame my emotion by God's grace.

Now composed, I leaned into the car to speak to his wife and asked her to forgive me as well. She had a different response, and it changed everything. I looked at him again, he softened and the two of us reconciled. It was beautiful.

Over a two-week period of time, I satisfied my promise to the Lord, and with each encounter, I could sense the glory of God increasing in my life. The glory not only increased in my life, but in my church as a whole. Our church services experienced a greater dimension of His presence.

Shortly after I made peace with my former elders, I shared what I had done with my church. I felt they needed to know the journey I was on to walk softly before the Lord.

I will never forget the overwhelming severity of the service. As I spoke about making things right with people we have hurt or offended, the fear and awe of the Lord came upon us. People knew what they had to do. Our desire became to please Him no matter the cost. Because of that, I am now able to share two

incredible testimonies of people who attended our church and experienced the supernatural power of forgiveness.

Healing Through Forgiveness

Kristy became a part of a blended family when she was very young. Her biological mom's addiction to drugs had a devastating effect upon her family. Her parents divorced, and eventually her father married another woman. But because Kristy continued to live with her mom, her childhood was rough.

When she was 15, her house was raided by the police. A policeman threw her to the ground, pointed a gun at her head and commanded her not to move. She was quickly handcuffed and questioned. She did not understand what was happening or why the police were in her home. The police took her mom and her mom's boyfriend into custody. That was when Kristy discovered her mom was a drug dealer, and her world turned upside down.

As a result, Kristy was sent to live with her dad and his new wife. The transition was problematic from the start. She felt neglected, mistreated, unwanted and abandoned. In this new environment, even though she was living with her dad, she felt unprotected, and those feelings had an extreme impact on her relationship with her stepmom.

Kristy ultimately developed so much anger and resentment toward the two of them that at 16, she left home and moved in with a friend. Kristy told me, "I lived most of my life bitter and angry and had not forgiven my stepmom."

One Sunday night while at home, Kristy was watching the North Georgia Revival on Facebook. She saw her stepmother enter the waters to be baptized.

"Something came over me, and I was brought to tears," Kristy says. "God allowed me to see my stepmom as His daughter—a good person who has struggles just like me."

The next week, Kristy went to the North Georgia Revival for herself. God laid it on her heart to reconcile the relationship with her stepmother by asking for her forgiveness. Kristy was taken aback by God's instruction because she felt her stepmom was the one who needed to apologize to her. But God pressed in upon her until she agreed to repent to her stepmom.

Kristy decided to be baptized in the fire water, but she didn't want to be baptized alone. Church leaders found her stepmother and asked if the two could be baptized together. Her stepmom agreed. I watched as Kristy looked at her stepmother and, before the entire church and on a national livestream, she repented for hating her. The presence of God manifested as both women repented to each other, and forgiveness was granted. They were both immersed, and God restored their relationship.

Incredibly, Kristy's story doesn't just end with their reconciliation. A miracle resulted from her obedience. Kristy's daughter was born with an extra bone in her foot, and it caused extreme tightness and significantly restricted her mobility. For 10 years, she was closely monitored by the doctor, and surgery was scheduled to remove the bone.

The following Tuesday, at a special children's ministry event hosted by our church, her daughter came down for prayer during an altar call. Almost a dozen children gathered around her to pray for her foot. Instantly, the Lord healed her and removed the extra bone. She got up and started running without pain up and down the hallway.

Later that week, this little girl had a doctor's appointment, and she told him what had happened. He instructed her to jump and run in the office. After she did just that, the doctor said, "Well, it doesn't look like we have to do surgery anymore."

Open the Heavens

One night, a woman named Katrina suddenly felt something wasn't right with her pregnancy, so she rushed to the emergency room. When she arrived, the hospital was overly crowded, and the doctors were extremely busy. Still, she got an ultrasound ordered. The ultrasound revealed that her son Isaac's umbilical cord was wrapped around his neck. Due to the high levels of amniotic fluid, Isaac was able to move around quite easily in Katrina's womb; however, on this day, his movement escalated. And as he moved around, the cord around his neck frequently caused his oxygen supply to be cut off, causing stress on Isaac's developing mind and even more frantic movement.

Due to the high volume of patients in the emergency room, a doctor never attended to Katrina and Isaac; only nurses were able to help. They were eventually sent home without ever seeing a doctor and told there was nothing they could do at this time.

Katrina and her husband, Anthony, told me what happened next.

"When Isaac was born, it was immediately noticeable that some things weren't normal. There was an immediate hush over the hospital room. I'll never forget that moment. I knew exactly what had happened, and my 21-year-old self was overwhelmed with fear, anger and guilt for not knowing better.

"There was damage to Isaac's brain. Throughout the years, we have seen the best specialists and developmental pediatricians. There were abnormal MRIs. Five years after his birth, one of Isaac's neurologists found some white spots on his brain. She told us it was most likely due to oxygen loss sometime during utero.

"Isaac, who is now 12, has had significant struggles with learning. His label through the school system has been 'moderate to severe developmental delay.' He loves books and

being read to, and he has always wanted to learn to read. We have tried several programs, tutors and private therapy with no success. We have even heard him cry out in his sleep, 'I can't read.'"

But Anthony says an encounter with John and Carol Arnott—leaders of the Toronto Blessing—at the North Georgia Revival changed his perspective.

"I was helping at the altar," he says. "I watched as Pastor John asked people whose fault their ailments were—and then asked them to forgive those people. Over the next couple of days, the Holy Spirit began to deal with my heart about unforgiveness I'd held onto against the doctors and nurses we saw during Katrina's pregnancy. On Tuesday night of that week, my wife and I prayed together and asked God to help us release the offense.

"On Wednesday, we received a call from Isaac's teacher. She was crying, talking about how Isaac's reading and school work had dramatically improved overnight. He was reading his books at school and adding numbers and even putting together fractions. ... It's a miracle. Since then, even more has improved, including sentence structure, sensory processing and overall academic improvement."

The breakthrough for Isaac came the night his parents, Anthony and Katrina, chose to forgive the negligence of the doctors.

The power of forgiveness is enormous, and the devil knows it. He gives us a plethora of reasons why we shouldn't and cannot forgive others. But God's Word is very specific about this issue. Scripture reveals that unforgiveness is the root cause of all types of ailments and delays in our lives. The enemy has legal access and an open door to our lives when we harbor bitterness and refuse to forgive.

There is no telling what kind of breakthrough is being held back in our lives due to unresolved conflict. The glory of God

went to the next level in each of the lives I have shared.

Investigate your own heart. Ask the Holy Spirit to search you and reveal to you any offense you may have caused others, as well as any bitterness you may harbor toward others.

God is ready to open heaven over your life, but often He cannot due to the grudges and hurts we cling to. If we want breakthrough, we must first obey Jesus' commands from Matthew 5:23-24: "Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go on your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." {eoa}

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE: To read more about forgiveness and its supernatural power, check out .

Todd Smith is the pastor of Christ Fellowship Church in Dawsonville, Georgia.

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How God Is at Work in the Deadly Coronavirus

None of us had heard of the coronavirus at Christmas. Now we hear of it daily in the news. Thousands have died, and no one knows what will happen as it continues to spread. But we do know we can't believe the Chinese government regarding how it started or the number of infected and dead. The doctor who blew the whistle, Li Wenliang—who is reportedly a Christian—and seven other scientists were arrested and forced to sign documents stating they were wrong. He died a few weeks later from the virus.

In February, I began getting calls about the story behind the story—that people in China are turning to the church and there have been unverified healings. It's a story few other media outlets know about or care to report. For American media like us, it was not easy to cover. Yet we were able to do podcasts with three sources and are beginning to piece together what is happening. I urge you to visit to read our articles and listen to the podcast interviews about this topic.

In February, I got a call from Pastor Frank Amedia, whose Chinese friends told him the numbers of infected and dead were far greater than reported. Frank was told the virus started, not in a marketplace from exotic animals, but from a high-level laboratory that had been established by the French and Chinese government as a response to the SARS virus to develop vaccines. Only time will tell how the virus really started.

Frank put me in touch with a Chinese pastor living in the U.S. who had contact with many people in China. To protect his identity, I did not use my recorded interview with him, but it gave credence to what Frank said. I contacted missionary Dennis Balcombe too, who has ministered in China for 50 years and was on Charisma's May 1994 cover. My only visit to

mainland China was with Dennis in the 1990s when I was arrested for smuggling Bibles (and released after a few hours due to his intervention). I knew Dennis to be one of the most knowledgeable Americans about what was going on in China.

Dennis wrote an opinion piece for Charisma News saying that, for the church, this has been a blessing in disguise. Citywide prayer meetings are uniting denominations, and he says people are even getting healed through prayer and becoming Christians.

“Many Christians and local churches are using this as an opportunity to help many in the panicking society,” Dennis wrote. “Several weeks ago, when face masks were in short supply in Wuhan, many Christians were on the street freely distributing them to the people with a gospel message and prayers for the people.”

In addition, his Revival Christian Church (RCC) provides free small bottles of disinfectant alcohol, which are in short stock in the stores. Through this, they share the gospel with the people in China. Many have accepted Christ in their services.

While both Frank and Dennis got their information from others in China, I was able to interview a young Christian woman from my hometown who was teaching English in Wuhan and was quarantined by the government until the U.S. Embassy was able to fly her home with other Americans who were stuck there. Alexandra Rodriguez told me how afraid she was and how she was praying to get out. Yet she sees a spiritual significance in what happened.

“This could be the rumblings of something bigger,” she told me. “I believe that the Lord works in mysterious ways. I’ve seen His hand in all of this. It could be a prophecy coming true.”

Dennis says the Chinese word for “crisis” is comprised of two

characters—the first means “danger” and the second means “opportunity.” Despite the coronavirus’ threat, the church has an opportunity through prayer and supernatural gifts to bring healing to the sick.

As of now, there is no telling how this outbreak will affect China’s future. But Alexandra is praying this virus would come to a swift end. I hope you’ll join her in that prayer. While this coronavirus could certainly be a sign of something bigger, let’s agree in faith that God will show mercy and allow this virus to be contained.

I urge you to subscribe to my daily “Strang Report” newsletter by going to and clicking “Subscribe” at the bottom of the page. You can also visit to read all three of our exclusive reports.

Stephen Strang is the founder of Charisma and CEO of Charisma Media. He is author of the best-selling book Trump Aftershock (FrontLine/Charisma House). Follow him on Twitter (@sstrang), Facebook (stephenestrang) or Instagram (stephenestrang).

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A New Prophetic Era

As I have prayed and sought the face of God, I have been given a series of revelations concerning the destiny of the approaching days. We are not just crossing a threshold from one season to the next or from one decade to the next, but rather, we are crossing over into an entire new era in the global body of Christ. It is a time of inheriting generational prophetic promises.

Could it be that we are in a season described in Joshua 4? On one side of the Jordan River, great prophetic revelations were received and released. Then there came a critical crossing-over moment. The priestly leaders led the way into the river and were instructed to pick up stones and deposit them on the other side of the Jordan. This pile of stones became “memorial stones” speaking to the generations to come of their inherited prophetic promises.

Moses had released amazing prophetic revelations that apparently were years ahead of their time. The revelation that the “meekest man” who ever walked the face of the earth was given did not find immediate fulfillment. These were generational prophetic words. They were passed down from one generation to the next. I believe we are in such a season again today. Let me share with you concerning another period of time where the baton was being passed from one generation to the next.

The Naba and the Seer streams of the prophetic anointing came forth with a mighty outpouring in 1948. Two divergent streams appeared on the scene in the form of the Healing & Deliverance Movement and the Latter Rain Outpouring. These were two different operations of the Holy Spirit, each having a major impact on the body of Christ.

One generation later, these two diverse streams reemerged. In

1988, a combustion of prayer and prophetic activity was released on a global level. Bishop Bill Hamon of Christian International became one of the primary fathers of the Naba prophetic stream. The Kansas City prophets became stewards of the Seer prophetic stream. As a younger man, I was identified with this group of seer prophets.

Two streams. Two diverse operations. Two prophetic expressions. At that time, the baton was being passed from one generation to the next. Great promises. Great impact. Great inheritance.

Thirty-two years have already come and gone since these two historic streams of the prophetic found their place of prominence on a global scene.

Today we have the benefit of cross-pollination, the joining of the generations, the inclusion of numerous highly gifted women in the prophetic, and a new emergence of prophets and prophetic intercessors on an international level.

The body of Christ has never seen this level of diverse prophetic profusion—ever! We are in a new era. We are inheriting the promises of these trailblazing forerunners and crossing the Jordan River once again to walk out the words that a previous generation declared. It is a time of generational prophetic inheritance.

It is time to inherit the prophetic words of a billion-soul harvest of youth. It is time for stadium Christianity to have its beginning! It is time for a move of purity and righteousness to be restored. It is time for God's majestic presence and gifting to impact all seven cultural spheres of society. It is time to see with our own eyes the greatest harvest the church has ever seen. It is time to move from the great reformation to an era of the great transformation. It is time to posture ourselves to believe this is the time and we are the people to win for the Lamb the rewards of His

suffering!

We each have a strategic role to play. We each have a unique prophetic expression to release. You have a voice that needs to be heard. It is a voice that cries in the wilderness, "Make way for the kingdom of God!"

Our voices together exemplify the sound of many rushing waters. The voice of the Lord is thundering once again. Will you be a part of the symphonic sound the world is waiting to hear? The choice is yours to make.

It is time to bring appropriate applications to our collective generational prophetic inheritance. It is not just a season of increased prophetic revelation. It is a new era of divine prophetic fulfillment!

James W. Goll is the founder and president of God Encounters Ministries.

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7,000 Churches Show Pro-Israel Documentary

Over 7,000 churches have shown the award-winning movie, "I Am Israel," in their congregations, and the film is on track to

cross 10,000 congregations worldwide by the end of this year. "I Am Israel" tells the story of the rebirth of the Promised Land through inspiring stories of Jewish men and women who, according to the Bible, are part of the fulfillment of ancient prophecy.

Produced in a grand cinematic style similar to IMAX and National Geographic documentaries, the film has helped change the perspective many people have towards Israel and the Jewish people. "I Am Israel" was specially invited to the Knesset in Jerusalem for a historic screening in the Israeli Parliament and has aired worldwide as a television special.

Click below to watch the movie trailer:



David Kiern, the film's writer-director, said the film was made so Christians around the world can experience the miracle of what God is doing today in Israel. "Something extraordinary is happening right now in the Christian world," said Kiern. "Millions of believers are developing a deep love in their hearts for the Jewish people and connecting to the Land of Israel like never before in our history. In the making of this movie, we wanted to produce a film that was emotional, exciting and celebrated the promises of God."

"I Am Israel" is narrated by acclaimed actor, John Rhys-Davies, best known for his roles as Gimli in Lord of the Rings and Salah in the Indiana Jones movies. The film is full of stunning aerial shots of Israel, giving viewers the chance to fly above the Land they read about in their Bibles.



Vineyard owner, Yaakov Berg, one of the main characters featured in "I Am Israel." Photo by David Kiern.

It is completely free to show "I Am Israel" in any church, synagogue, small group or school anywhere in the world. For more info, visit

Why 'Charisma' Is Still 100% Behind Trump

When Mark Galli, the recently retired editor-in-chief of Christianity Today, wrote an outrageous op-ed in December saying President Donald Trump should be removed from office, it created a firestorm on Twitter and the internet. The leftist media quickly latched on to it, since they finally found a prominent evangelical who bought into their anti-Trump narrative.

Immediately, major evangelical leaders such as Franklin Graham, Jerry Falwell Jr., Jim Garlow and David Lane tore apart Galli's op-ed. Others signed a letter blasting CT, as did the online news website Christian Post and commentator Dennis Prager, an orthodox Jew.

Since the secular media seems fixated on what evangelicals think about President Trump, I want to go on the record that the "other" evangelical magazine—Charisma—is 100% behind the president because even though he is not perfect (no one but Christ is), God has raised him up as president to give America a reprieve.

When I started Charisma as a 24-year-old newspaper reporter in 1975, Christianity Today was already a highly respected and influential publication founded 19 years earlier. Over the years, I've known most of the CT leaders and editors, including Mark Galli, whom I respect. However, over these intervening years, I have become alarmed to see how liberal CT has become.

CT President Timothy Dalrymple has written that CT has always been apolitical. Of course, it had to be, as a 501(c)3.

Because of the Johnson amendment, the magazine could have lost its tax-exempt status if it had endorsed candidates as Charisma has every four years since 1984, since we are privately owned and have that right.

During the 2016 election, Charisma reported on modern-day prophets in the charismatic community who prophesied Trump would win because God had raised him up as He did King Cyrus to rescue the children of Israel in the Old Testament. CT never reported this because the segment of Protestantism it represents believes the gifts of the Spirit, like prophecy, died with the apostles.

Now, thanks to Mark Galli, the “Never-Trump” arm of evangelicalism (less than 20% based on how many white evangelicals voted for Trump) is back in the news. As I write in *God, Trump and the 2020 Election*, the term “Never-Trumper” represents a very dangerous strain of evangelicals who still hold to the feeling that they should vote for anyone but Trump (even if the Democratic challenger is an extreme leftist).

When I told my friend Dr. Mark Rutland I was writing this article, he said something I thought was worth repeating: “The term ‘Never-Trump’ is a statement of stubborn pride. Never say ‘never’ to God. Saying it means not even God can change my mind. Those married to the term ‘Never Trump’ can never retreat from it no matter what—because their pride cannot admit they might have misjudged.”

Still, these liberal evangelicals are a factor that can’t be ignored. Franklin Graham recently criticized these members of the “Christian left” in *Decision* magazine.

“Using new terms like ‘Progressive Christianity’ and the ‘Christian left’ may sound appealing to some, but God’s laws and standards do not change ... (Mal. 3:6),” Graham wrote. “Progressive Christianity is simply another name for theological liberalism and its accompanying permissive

lifestyle that ignores God's call to holiness and obedience. There is really nothing progressive about it, other than an increasing slide into sin and disobedience."

And that may be the crux of the divide between the 80% of what I call "red evangelicals" and the 20% who tend to be "blue evangelicals." One has to wonder if the status quo will be good enough as the country moves further left. Or is a disruptor what we really need to bring a much-needed course correction?

However, I wrote *God, Trump and the 2020 Election* to try to emphasize how important this election is. I believe when evangelicals know what the real issues are and see Trump from a spiritual perspective, they will support the president's reelection in even greater numbers.

By the way, as I document in the new book, several prophets also have said he will serve two terms.

Stephen Strang is founder of Charisma. He believes *God, Trump and the 2020 Election* (Charisma House), available wherever Christian books are sold, is his most important book. Listen to his new podcast by the same name on the Charisma Podcast Network.

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The Real Reason People Misunderstand Galatians

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