

# The No. 1 Hindrance to a Blessed Life

Every true believer wants God's choice blessings for her life. But when we take the Father for granted and serve Him not on His terms but ours, we forfeit the spiritual riches promised to us in this life. Salvation is free for the asking, but the blood of Jesus doesn't come cheap. We must imitate the life of Christ and surrender wholeheartedly to the Holy Spirit. Watch the videos below.

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## What the Church Needs to Know About Israel

✖ While flying to Israel for the first time last year, I wondered what the country was really like. My daily dose of cable and network news made me think I was about to encounter some unfriendly people. But nothing could have been further from the truth. What the church needs to know about Israel can't be found in a nightly newscast; it can be found in the Words of the Person who created it. Let's open our Bibles and get to reading. Watch the video below.

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# Coalition Appeals Ruling Denying D.C. Marriage Vote

✖ Advocates for traditional marriage in the District of Columbia are appealing a ruling last week that denies voters a referendum on marriage.

In the 23-page ruling, D.C. Superior Court Judge Judith N. Macaluso upheld a D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics decision that the Marriage Initiative of 2009 would “authorize discrimination” against homosexuals and thus violates the city’s Human Rights Act. She also ruled that previous court decisions banning gay marriage in the district are no longer valid.

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## When Jews Assimilate Into the Christian Faith

✖ In the early 1970s, a significant number of Jews committed their lives to Yeshua and came to the conviction that they should call themselves Messianic Jews rather than Christians. There were several reasons for this. One was the history of institutional Christianity and its impact on the Jewish people.

From a Jewish perspective, Christianity was a movement of semi-paganism, oppression and anti-Semitism. We wanted to project ourselves in such a way that the Jewish people would take another look at Yeshua without the barriers of their pre-formed perceptions of Christianity.

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# How to Get Back Your Joy

☒ Who better to tell others how to turn their pain into purpose than a divorced woman and single mom who has learned to trust God no matter the situation? Award-winning gospel artist Yolanda Adams says we don't have to succumb to sadness, bitterness and other joy killers when we experience difficulties in life. She says the Holy Spirit wants to reveal the Father's grace and power to us. Let Adams show you how to get back your joy—and keep it! Listen to podcast below.

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# Martin Luther King: A Supporter of Israel

He would have been 81 years old today had he not been gunned down on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. But Martin Luther King Jr.'s message of nonviolence, justice and love will never die. It can be heard from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, where he gave his famous "I Have A Dream" speech, to the mountaintops in Israel. King said, "Bigotry in any form is an affront to us all." Continue to live the dream. Watch video below.

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# Waiting for the Fulfillment of the Promise

When someone tells us “thus saith the Lord,” many of us hold on to every prophetic word, waiting for the fulfillment of the promise. But we must not wait passively; God wants to reveal Himself to us now in a fresh way. We want results, but He wants relationship. Let’s ask the Holy Spirit to infuse us with a passion to know the Father intimately, no matter how He brings about His will. Watch the video below.

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## When Therapy Comes to Church

Chené Tucker is Spirit-filled and a licensed therapist who says there is a place for therapy in the body of Christ. For decades, Chené, a full-time associate professor of clinical social work at Oral Roberts University, has helped Christians and unbelievers alike find freedom from emotional struggles and other problems. She knows the tension that exists between deliverance ministry and therapy but says God is not limited in His ability to make people whole. To learn more, listen to podcast below.

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## In Search of the Biblical

# Emmaus

✖ We may never know with certainty which of the four sites associated with “Emmaus” is the true location. Which one is the actual location where Jesus appeared to His disciples following His resurrection?

The story in Luke 24 recounts how two of Jesus’ disciples met Him while traveling. They were heading west from Jerusalem, to Emmaus. They spoke with the “stranger” for a while and only later, when they ate together, was Jesus’ true identity revealed. Later, the two disciples headed back to Jerusalem.

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## A New Year’s Prayer for Zion and the Nations

Prayer is one of the most valuable weapons of spiritual warfare. When we slip to our knees to communicate with God, He spiritually transforms our hearts and we send out prayers that can effect change in Israel and other hot spots around the world. The Bible says we “ought to always pray” and never let up (Luke 18:1). Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you with a passion for prayer and watch Him bless you, Zion and the nations in 2010. To pray with us, [click here](#).