

# Your Fiercest Tactic for Defeating Devilish Darkness

Our world is increasingly dark. Through the aid of traditional news sources, online and social media, the darkness seems to be growing more dense and pervasive. The result is a climate of anger, fear, hatred, persecution, prejudice, violence, immorality and danger. There is a spirit of oppression, agitation and uncertainty. As I have pondered the global condition, I've wondered if it really is worse than the first century A.D. when armies were mobilizing, nations were shifting, the people were cowering, and the men who were leading bordered on the insane... yet held absolute power.

Into that first century world, good news erupted like the sun bursting through blackened, stormy clouds. The good news that there is one, true, living God who loves each and every man, woman, and child so much that He gave His own Son as the sacrifice for sin. Anyone and everyone who chooses to place faith in His Son Jesus receives forgiveness of sin, reconciliation with God, and eternal life! The good news for those who believe in Jesus is that God transforms each one from the inside out. He replaces war with peace, hatred with love and fear with the hope that this life is not all there is—the best is yet to come. He gives life purpose, meaning and eternal significance.

I suspect what makes today seem worse than the world of the first century is the saturation of news and opinions through the web and social media. Therefore, I believe the time has come for you and me to rise up, to offer hope. We can use the same social media and web platform to proclaim good news. The time has come to heed what God said through Isaiah the prophet: "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For the darkness shall cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; but the Lord shall

rise upon you, and His glory shall be seen upon you. The nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising" (Is. 60:1-3).

In 2016, I offered *God Speaking: Are You Listening?* Together over 200,000 of us listened to the reading of God's Word from Genesis, Matthew, Acts and Revelation. It was thrilling. Many of you wrote expressing what my family and I were also thinking: "Let's do it again!" So I asked the Lord to make me aware of when He would want to speak to us all once more, at the same time, through a Bible listening program. To my mind, He seemed to whisper that the time is now. It's time to rise up, to rediscover the same power of God that changed everything in the first century. That power is still available—undiluted and undiminished—to change our world today. It's the power of God's Spirit working through ordinary men and women who proclaim the Good News.

So once again, AnGeL Ministries is partnering with Faith Comes By Hearing to offer *God Speaking: Rise Up!* The book of Acts will be our base, the person of the Holy Spirit giving birth to the Church will be our subject, and the early disciples will be our role models. As the Apostle Paul embarks on his three missionary journeys, planting churches all over the known world, we will then listen to the letters being read that he wrote to those early churches—letters that conveyed Good News that turned the world upside-down... or perhaps I should say rightside-up.

Join me each day for ten days from May 26, the Day of Ascension, until June 4th, the day of Pentecost. Let's listen to what God has to say for 40 minutes each day, together online.

God *is* speaking. Will you listen? Rise up, and proclaim Good News! {eoa}

*Reprinted with permission from Anne Graham Lotz's blog.*

**Anne Graham Lotz**, second child of Billy and Ruth Graham, is the founder of AnGeL Ministries and chairman for the National Day of Prayer Task Force. She has authored 15 books, including her latest, *The Daniel Prayer*.