

TN Pastor Shot in Mouth Returns to Pulpit to Preach on Easter

A Tennessee pastor returned to the pulpit Easter Sunday, just one month after being shot in the mouth outside of his church.

"You know it's resurrection Sunday, but it also is a testimony Sunday for me," said Pastor Clemmie Livingston Jr. of New Zionfield Baptist Church in Memphis. "I'm a living testimony."

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As CBN News reported, Pastor Livingston was critically injured when he attempted to stop two men from trying to steal a Sunday school teacher's vehicle on February 25.

The assailants shot the pastor while driving away from the scene.

"The victim was shot when he came out of the church as the suspects were stealing a 2019 silver Chevrolet Corvette," a statement from the Memphis Police Department said at the time. "As the suspects fled the scene in the stolen vehicle, they fired shots, striking the victim."

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The bullet completely shattered Livingston's jaw and he had to undergo several surgeries to repair it.

"At this time, he is unable to eat or speak and communicates with us through notes and hand gestures," his wife, Gwendoline, told news outlets. "Surgeons have drilled ... and

attached a brace to the right side of his face to try and hold the jaw closed, because the bullet shattered his jaw bone into many pebble size pieces.”

The road to recovery was predicted to be slow, but the 71-year-old was determined to preach.

“I believe in the Scriptures, where Paul says, ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,’” Livingston told the local FOX13 station. {eoa}

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