

How a Simple Prophetic Prayer Birthed 'Godspeed' Magazine

Everyone knows the media world is changing—most of it not for the better. Recently, though, I had the chance to speak with someone who is making a difference in media for God's glory. Jeremy Lamont just started an online magazine called *GODSPEED*, something he never even considered until God burdened his heart to do it in 2012.

In my interview with Lamont, he shared how God led him to publish the digital magazine, the promises the Spirit gave him for the magazine's future and how this growing publication is making a difference. (Click [here](#) or scroll down to the end of this article to listen to our entire conversation.)

"In 2012, God—in prayer—specifically said that this was what I was supposed to do," Lamont tells me. "And so I started following the footsteps because He specifically said it had to be a digital magazine. And in the seven years since then, it has turned into exactly what He promised. Just as an example, He said it would look like *Time* magazine, and we now have David Aikman, who was the senior news correspondent for *Time* magazine for 23 years, as our editor-in-chief. So it's really God who has the glory on this one."

I've known Aikman since the late 1970s when he was senior correspondent for *Time* magazine, and our lives have intersected in so many different ways. There was a time when Aikman was one of the highest-ranking Christians in the journalism realm. So I was impressed when I learned he was working with *GODSPEED* magazine. When I asked Lamont how he managed to get an editor-in-chief of Aikman's stature, he gave all credit to God.

"It's so impossible to describe the things God has done with

GODSPEED magazine without going back to what God did," Lamont says. "I was specifically told in another prayer later that I would have a partner who was the granddaughter of the founder of the Pentecostal movement—or one of the founders—Charles Parham."

A week after that prayer, Parham's granddaughter, Roberta Parham Hromas—affectionally known as "Bobby"—invited Lamont to a meeting at her house with various representatives from the Christian Broadcast Network, Oral Roberts University, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and more. Lamont tells me he felt out of place at that meeting, but afterward, Hromas approached him, and the two decided to be partners in Lamont's digital magazine. That same night, Hromas put Lamont in touch with Aikman, and a year later, Aikman came on staff for *GODSPEED* as editor-in-chief.

In all this, Lamont sees the hand of God at work.

"In all of *GODSPEED* magazine, the common theme is that I literally cannot take credit for any of it," he says. "Rather, He's made it clear that it's His will that my primary role is to follow and go exactly where He takes me. And so our method is we take clipboards and fill them with information and planning, and then God somewhat swats them out of my hand and fills the clipboard with His information, and then we follow His planning."

GODSPEED is available for \$5 a month. You can download the app free of charge in the app store, on Google Play and on Amazon, and Lamont says you get two free issues when you do that. If you do subscribe, though, you'll get content every month centered on "God in action," as Lamont puts it.

In fact, Lamont says he won't publish stories simply for the sake of prominent Christian names. If a story doesn't show God moving in some way, he doesn't want it.

"That's what *GODSPEED* magazine is," he explains. "We cover

freedom from the point of view of, 'How is God using people right now to protect the freedom to worship Him?' If we cover 'infant lives matter,' we're really covering 'How is God protecting the right only He could give, which is life?'"

I'm happy to report on people like Lamont, who are resisting culture's secular pull toward godlessness and instead taking a firm stand for Christ in media. And in a way, I can relate with Lamont, since I felt a similar call many years ago to publish a magazine and report on how God is moving. Granted, I started *Charisma* magazine before personal computers were on the market—and this was long before the internet. So much has changed since *Charisma's* founding in 1975, but God's heart to reach the masses with truth has not.

I encourage you to listen to my entire conversation with Lamont below. I recently subscribed to *GODSPEED* magazine, and I encourage you to do the same at the App Store, Google Play, Amazon or . For more information, go to !

3 Ways to Recognize 'Christian' Warlocks Masquerading as Prophets

In this video, Jennifer reveals three ways to recognize warlocks masquerading as prophets, according to the Bible. There's so much talk about witches. But warlocks are wreaking havoc in the earth as well.

Church Plans Jesus Statue for Site Once Meant for Lenin's Likeness

Authorities in Vladivostok, the largest city in far eastern Russia, are planning to erect a gigantic statue of Jesus Christ on a site once designated for a monument of Vladimir Lenin.

The statue, which has not yet been approved by the Russian Orthodox Church, is to be 125 feet high—the same height as the Christ the Redeemer monument in Rio de Janeiro, according to blueprints made public by Vyatsky Posad, a Russian Orthodox Christian center. The statue will stand on top of a hill looking east over the Pacific Ocean.

Soviet authorities issued orders for the construction of a 98-foot-high bronze statue of Lenin at the site in 1972. Another statue, of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, was planned to be built on a neighboring hill. But construction hitches meant the plans were repeatedly postponed, before eventually being scrapped altogether in 1990.

Supporters of the Jesus statue are enthusiastic, despite the lack of details about the project. Descriptions of the statue as a “symbol of the unity of the Russian people” that would “bless” ships leaving and arriving in the port city were later deleted from the Vyatsky Posad’s website, for reasons that remain unclear. Attempts by Religion News Service to contact the Vyatsky Center for comment were unsuccessful.

Other Russian media outlets, however, have published blueprints for the project, and plans for the statue were

openly discussed at a meeting at the proposed site in late February attended by Oleg Kozhemyako, the regional governor; Ali Uzdenov, a vice president of the Russian business conglomerate Sistema; and Gennady Tsurkov, the head of the Vyatsky Posad center, which is connected to Iliy, an influential monk who is spiritual adviser to Patriarch Kirill, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Tsurkov, in an interview with Russia's Govorit Moskva radio station, said the statue project had been inspired by Iliy.

"He really wants to put up a statue of Jesus Christ as a protector of our Russia from the east," Tsurkov said. "He says, 'we need to make it higher (than the statue in Rio).'"

Tsurkov clarified that while the statue itself would be the same height as the Christ the Redeemer monument, it would also stand atop a 98-foot-high pedestal. "Altogether, it will be 68 meters (223 feet)," he said.

Tsurkov said that private investors would fund the construction of the statue but that total costs had yet to be finalized.

Kozhemyako said a small chapel that could hold up to 30 people would also be built close to the statue. "Delegations will just arrive, go in, and light a candle," the regional governor said, according to online footage of the on-site discussion.

Online opinion has been almost entirely negative. "Is there nothing else for us to spend our money on?" wrote Svetlana, on a forum for residents of Vladivostok. "We'd be better off spending the money on hospitals, schools, roads ..."

Others on the same forum suggested the project could be part of "a money-laundering scheme."

Roman Lunkin, a religion analyst at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, told RNS that it was not certain that the

Russian Orthodox Church would approve the project, because the proposed design was more in keeping with Roman Catholic statues and monuments. "There is a tradition in Orthodoxy of putting up crosses, but not statues," he said.

With the Russian Orthodox Church closely aligned with the Kremlin, Lunkin explained, the project contained a "political-patriotic" element that apparently underlines what President Vladimir Putin has described as the religious values that bind modern Russia.

"This huge statue of Christ is proposed to act as a kind of border post in Russia's far east to guard our motherland," Lunkin said. He also criticized comments attributed to Ilya, the patriarch's spiritual adviser, about making the statue larger than its counterpart in Brazil as an ill-considered attempt to "demonstrate Russian greatness" to the entire world.

The construction of a massive statue of Christ in Vladivostok would also neatly symbolize Russia's startling transformation from an officially atheist state in the Soviet era, which ended in 1991, to today's Christian-majority country. Around 80 percent of Russians currently identify as Orthodox Christians, including Putin, a former KGB agent. Few, however, attend church services or observe religious fasts.

The Vladivostok statue wouldn't be the first time that a Christian structure has been built on the site of a monument to Lenin. In 2000, Moscow's Christ the Saviour Cathedral was consecrated at a location within sight of the Kremlin towers, replacing a previous cathedral building that was demolished on Stalin's orders in 1931 to make way for a planned 1,000-foot-high Palace of Soviets.

The palace, which would have been the world's tallest building at the time, was to have been topped by a colossal statue of Lenin. Construction was postponed and then later scrapped with

the outbreak of World War II.

It's not only in grandiose architecture that Lenin and Jesus compete in today's Russia. Gennady Zyuganov, the leader of the modern-day Communist Party, frequently compares Lenin to Jesus Christ and has claimed the Soviet Union was an attempt to establish "God's kingdom on earth." {eoa}

Â© 2019 Religion News Service. All rights reserved.

4 Life-Lifting Lessons to Help You Navigate Your Single-Again Path

Being single again often seems harder. As difficult as navigating singleness as a never-married young (or not-so-young) person can be, finding yourself "alone" again after the end of a marriage through either death or divorce adds special challenges. Here are some things I've learned from being single-again.

Whether short or long, painful or nourishing, your previous marriage changed you. You are different because of your marriage to your spouse. You've experienced the good, the bad and perhaps the ugly of marriage. You've known some or most of these things:

- The thrill and hope of saying "I do!"
- Building a life with someone you loved.
- Parenting together.
- Disappointment when your spouse let you down.
- Navigating communication and intimacy differences.

- Having sex knowing it was sanctioned by God.
- Perhaps betrayal and rejection.
- Perhaps grief over the loss of someone you loved.
- The end of a dream as your marriage ended.

What do you do now? As much as you might wish things to be different, you cannot go back in time. You cannot be “single, never married” ever again.

I’m single again right now. Learning to live single again since my husband died has not been easy, though perhaps I’ve had it easier than some. I had learned to live single before being married. My marriage had been a very loving one. And I have a relatively clear sense of what God is asking of me in this next season of my life.

Regardless of why you are single again, I hope these things that I’ve learned over the past few years will be helpful to you.

Embrace the Person You Have Become

Your marriage changed you. That’s not an indictment; it’s a reality. And in many ways those changes may be truly wonderful. Even if your marriage was painful, there are ways you have grown and things you have learned as a result of your relationship.

It’s important to grieve the loss of your marriage regardless of whether it came through death or divorce. But it’s perhaps even more important to look at how that relationship is now a part of who you are and who you have become.

What did you learn about love? About intimacy? About sex? About your own heart—good and bad? About forgiveness? About suffering? About God’s grace? About commitment? About communication? About giving and receiving? About how a relationship changes over time? About the impact *you* have on another human being? About how another human being impacts

you?

Who have you become as a result of your marriage? What understandings do you have now that you would not have had without this relationship? What memories are now a part of you— good and bad? And what life experience are you able to take with you into this next season of your life?

You are different as a result of your marriage. Who are you now?

Connect With Others

Some people respond to the pain of death or divorce by curling up into a ball and isolating physically and/or emotionally. Other people respond to that same pain by frantically grasping at new relationships, trying to either heal the wound or recreate the good things you had. Neither is a healthy way to go forward.

Other people cannot do your healing or grieving for you. A new marriage will not fix you. But it is vitally important you not walk this journey completely alone. Learning to relate to people as a single-again adult will feel different and probably very awkward. Do it anyway.

Invest in connecting with people—not for the purpose of getting something for yourself, but for the purpose of both giving and receiving. Yes, you will get insight, friendship, encouragement and more from healthy relationships. But the point is to learn what it means to give those things freely to others as well.

You may be learning for the first time what healthy relationships look like in such areas as trust, communication or unselfishness. Connecting with others in intentional ways can help you here.

Choose to Love Again

This does *not* mean necessarily getting married again! A new marriage, even if wonderful, will *not* replace your previous marriage, heal those wounds, meet all your needs, cure your loneliness or fix you.

Instead, choosing to love again means *the world is not all about you*. It means God has given you something to do, and you are choosing to invest of yourself in doing that. You have something others need, and you are giving of yourself to them.

For people who have been wounded in love, this is a big step. It's also a big step after a very loving relationship has ended. Love someone, anyone, even an animal, and you make yourself vulnerable. Love means you can be hurt.

Remember, God is love. He considered loving to be worth it, even though it cost the death of His Son. You may need to spend some time healing and grieving, but lifting your eyes from yourself and loving people again will be worth it for you too, and a sign you are moving forward.

Give God a Chance

God sees you as you. Most people who are married define themselves largely in relationship to their marriage. Jesus died for you not as a married person, not as a single or single-again person, but as *you*. He walks with you now, you as the lonely, hurting, grieving, anxious or desperate *you*. He sees you, understands you and is right beside you, closer than any spouse was or ever could be.

Give Him the chance to be with you. Spend time with God, seeking His presence. In the miraculous way only He can, God can take the end of your marriage and all the complicated angst involved and turn it into something of meaning and growth and even beauty.

Give Him that chance.

Your Turn: *As a single-again adult, what has been the hardest part for you? What has helped you take steps forward into this next season of your life? Leave a comment below.* {eoa}

Dr. Carol Peters-Tanksley is both a board-certified OB-GYN physician and an ordained doctor of ministry. As an author and speaker, she loves helping people discover the **Fully Alive** kind of life Jesus came to bring us. Visit her website at .

This article originally appeared at .

These Objects May Be Opening Your Home to Demons

The demonic realm is real, and demons are looking for a body to host or an object in which to attach. In the Bible, we see examples of territorial spirits in Mark 5 who wanted to occupy a region.

Familiar spirits know what is in our generational line and what we struggle with. They operate to keep the same negative patterns and habits repeatedly manifesting. Territorial spirits and familiar spirits can be in the atmosphere, attempting to inflict our souls and attach to objects. Spirits can attach to objects that are not of the Lord, have been cursed, or dedicated to a false god.

There are times we go through another territory or region, and we can feel the darkness. Additionally, there are also times we feel something is just not right. These are examples of how the demonic can infiltrate other places, and we are sensitive to it, and the Spirit makes us aware. It is similar to when we go into a church or home that has been prayed up and permeated

with the presence of the Lord. We can feel an atmospheric shift, lightness and peace; that is how we want our homes to feel. It is wisdom to do a spiritual housecleaning and purge anything in our homes that could be instituting spiritual warfare on our behalf.

I remember one time going to the store and purchasing bags of crosses on clearance. As we were in prayer and worship, the bags were in the room when two of us looked up and felt something amiss in the spiritual atmosphere. We were immediately drawn to the bag of crosses. As we looked at the crosses, we could see faces in the designs. We later discovered crosses made in China were made in the same factories as Buddhas, and that they are dedicated to Buddha before they leave China. We immediately got rid of them and prayed over my home.

In the Bible, we receive instructions on what to do with an object that could have spiritual attachments.

You must burn the graven images of their gods with fire. You must not desire the silver or gold that is on them nor take any of it, lest you be snared by them, for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. You shall not bring an abomination into your house, lest you become cursed like it, but you must absolutely detest and abhor it, for it is a cursed thing (Deut. 7:25-26).

We could have received an ungodly object from our grandparents (not intentionally), something we purchased while traveling or as a gift. I suggest praying over the gifts you receive. I remember one of my assistants often having to dispose of gifts her daughter would send her from overseas. But how do we know what we need to get rid of and what we can pray over and keep? We need to seek the Holy Spirit for wisdom, guidance and leading.

Objects we shouldn't have in our homes would include Buddha,

false gods, dream catchers, rabbit's foot, yin-yang symbols, peace signs, anything representing the demonic or darkness and any objects that are rooted in a false religion.

There are also what I call undercover objects we need to discern such as jewelry, gifts, wall hangings, knickknacks, heirloom items and sentimental items.

Items you should question and discern with the Holy Spirit:

- Jewelry from an ex-lover or former spouse.
- Items from friendships that have ended in disunity.
- Items that remind you of emotional or physical trauma.
- Heirloom items unless you know your ancestry and grandparents' spirituality.
- Jewelry from your generational line.
- Jewelry with occult symbolism or symbolism that cannot be identified.
- Items with no reasoning behind them.
- Items people left in your house without permission.

How should we discern or decide what to keep and what to dispose of?

- Pray and seek the Holy Spirit.
- What feeling does the item bring forth?
- Do you have a "check" in your spirit—an uneasiness about the item?
- Do you have an unusual special attachment to the item?
- Pray and bring in a mature friend or Christian to help you.
- Remove your flesh and natural opinion—it is just an object.
- Don't take into consideration the sentimental value. The sentiment of the item is still inside you, in your heart or the memory, even after the item is removed.
- Don't take into consideration the value of the item. The warfare the item brings costs you more than the physical

item itself.

Don't feel you have to throw every item away that you have a check or uneasiness about. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit if you can pray over and anoint the item or if you have to remove it. I am clearly not telling you to keep occult objects, statues of false idols or items of that nature. What I am saying is don't go through your house like a crazy person throwing everything away because it could have a spiritual attachment. Ask the Holy Spirit. Pack the item away in the basement for a few weeks if it is in question, while you pray and discern, and bind and restrict the spiritual realm from activating through it while you are discerning.

Be wise in the decisions you make, but also don't be ignorant of the enemy's devices. Clean up your home and get rid of objects that don't glorify the Lord or that have demonic attachments. Create and permeate an atmosphere conducive for the Holy Spirit to move in your home and life. Eliminate open doors to the enemy to cause spiritual warfare attacks against you. {eoa}

Read articles like this one and other Spirit-led content in our new platform, CHARISMA PLUS.

End-Times Expert: College Admissions Scandal Exposes the Ultimate Hypocrisy

Popular blogger and writer Michael Snyder certainly does not condone the actions of actress Lori Loughlin and others, who were recently charged in a multimillion-dollar college

admissions scam. Snyder says justice will be served for those involved, and deservedly so.

But, Snyder says, while we are paying such close attention to this particular scandal, there are more pressing and more evil elements of society that are going grossly unchecked—including the continual government funding of Planned Parenthood by our own government, resulting in the auctioning off of baby parts to be used in scientific experiments.

“This is the level of evil that’s far beyond, in my opinion, any college admission scandal,” Snyder told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of “Greenelines” on the Charisma Podcast Network. “We have these members of Congress who say, ‘I’m a good Christian, I’m pro-life, vote for me. I’m a Republican.’

“But then they go to Congress and they keep voting to fund Planned Parenthood. They keep voting to fund this research which was just renewed, even after all the horrible things that were happening. To me, you cannot be pro-life and vote to fund these things.

“This exists on every level of society. So to condemn one element of it while ignoring the rest of it is just plain hypocrisy.”

To hear more of Michael Snyder’s interview with Dr. Greene, listen to the podcast below.

**Prophetic Word: ‘Your Frozen
Muscles Will Thaw in My**

Spirit's Fire as I Stretch You'

Author's Note: This article was originally written in 2013.

There was a time when I felt I could no longer endure the painful trial going on in my life for so long. In frustration, I cried out to God. "What are You doing to me?" He said, "I'm making a man of God out of you!" He continued, "I did not cause your pain, but I'm using it."

The orthopedic doctor calls it a frozen shoulder. Jesus calls it healed. It's a muscle beneath the shoulder that becomes locked up and is painful. The orthopedic doctor said, "You must stretch your arm to loosen that muscle. Here are six exercises twice a day for six weeks including hanging on a bar. You must stretch your arm until it hurts. Then lean into the hurt and count for 20 seconds with excruciating pain and then repeat."

After a few exercises I thought about the doctor, "He's got to be kidding me! It feels like I'm tearing my muscle apart. Like I'm ripping it out of my arm."

Is It a Good Pain or a Bad Pain?

He also advised me to visit a massage therapist. As she was working on my arm muscle, I had to let her know something. "It hurts! That's painful!"

She asked, "But is it a good pain or a bad pain?"

I said, "I am a no-pain person."

I was told if you want to recover faster, you can have someone else stretch your arm because they will pull it farther than you would. I thought to myself, *How stupid is that?* But in desperation to end this ordeal, I chose a physical therapist

to stretch my arm. The pain was so great, I laughed.

I said to him, "Am I going crazy? Why did I laugh when I felt the worse pain of my life?"

He said, "That's your release! That laughter is your release!" I now believe pain can be an ingredient of laughter. I promise if you are now in pain that is beyond words, there will be a time when you will laugh again, and even drown in God's laughter.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh" (Luke 6:21, NLT).

There was a time when my pain almost stopped my ministry. On a ministry trip, I became powerless to the pain that justified me not going to the next meeting. My wife and I prayed, but no relief. I phoned home to our intercessors for prayer. One intercessor, after praying, said, "Bill, you are on a mission. God has sent you there. You can trust Him." Something clicked in my spirit. I dragged my body to that meeting. The moment I stood up to minister the pain left me.

After the meeting, it returned with a vengeance. It fought me to the next meeting two days later. When I got up to minister, it left again and then followed me home. As this took place with many of my meetings, something dawned on me. I am stretching my spiritual muscles!

I want to encourage you. Sometimes you must walk through some stuff to get to where God is. But remember, you are on a mission and the great I AM has sent you!

Spiritual Frozen Muscles in the Body of Christ

Many times what I experience in my physical body is what is going on in the body of Christ. I sense the Lord showing there are some spiritual frozen muscles in His Body.

And I hear the Lord saying, "You need to stretch those

muscles. Stretch until it hurts! Many of your healings will come while you are being stretched by others. I am stretching you this season out of your frozenness. I am stretching your arms further than you would like, so they can reach around a world full of pain, sin and brokenness. Those frozen muscles will thaw from the fire of My Spirit as you allow Me to stretch you.”

Being Stretched Against the Odds

A woman kept standing for the healing of her husband who suffered a stroke, leaving a third of his brain dead. The doctor said to her, “He will never fully recover and will be a vegetable the rest of his life.”

The woman said, “No, by the stripes of Jesus he is healed.”

The doctor got upset with her and said, “I don’t think you are taking me seriously. I have been doctoring these cases for 30 years.”

The woman responded, “Jesus has been healing longer than that!”

Nine days later, her husband walked out of the hospital whole.

“In that day his burden shall be taken away from off your shoulder, and his yoke from off your neck; and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing oil” (Isa. 10:27).

After several months of pain, prayers of many, stretching exercises and some laser treatment, my frozen shoulder is finally loosed. The pain is gone. God has intervened again in my life.

Lord, help us to keep stretching and allowing You to stretch us beyond our pain. {eoa}

Bill Yount *has been a member of Bridge of Life Church in Hagerstown, Maryland, for the past 40 years and is in*

leadership. He faithfully served in prison ministry at Mount Hope Inc. for 23 years and now travels full time, ministering in churches and Aglow circles. He is currently an adviser at large for Aglow International. Bill has authored several prophetic books. His latest book is Handfuls of Purpose. His prophetic email list is: @. Visit Bill's website at .

Is This a Sign of Psalm 68 Coming to Pass in Israel?

As we near the end of an unusually—but much needed—wet winter in the holy land, the water level of the Sea of Galilee, Israel's main freshwater reservoir, had risen meters (74 inches) putting it slightly out of the “danger zone” as of last week.

This comes after last winter brought the worst drought in 100 years leaving the country's water tables at a dangerous deficit and prompting Israeli officials to enforce water preservation measures.

“The Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) has risen beautifully in the past few days and we are very heartened, although we still have to consider the deficit that remains,” Uri Schorr, head of the Water Authority, said last week.

Even with the rains this year, the water supply is still 4 meters (13 feet) under full capacity.

The surface of the Sea of Galilee is now above the “lower red line” (213 meters below sea level), the marker at which the lake could suffer long-term ecological damage. Full capacity is considered 208.8 meters (685 feet) below sea level.

While a blessing for the depleted water supply, the heavy rains last week also brought floods across the country. Some 1,200 trapped were students in a Jerusalem school. They were evacuated after an access road flooded. Also in Jerusalem, two drivers were trapped in their vehicles and had to be pulled to safety by rescuers after water gushed through the road.

Of course, “rains” and “floods” can also be seen as spiritual blessings. Often God acts in the natural to prophetically show what He wants to do in the spirit. We need a spiritual downpour! We need a flood of revival. The country is blinded. I was listening to my friend Don Finto, now approaching 90, share that the day is coming where God is going to visit whole Orthodox Jewish families in dreams and visions about Yeshua.

The prophet Hosea prophesied that the “the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days” (Hosea 3:5). That day is now!

America’s First ‘Nonbinary’ Person Admits ‘It Was All a Sham’

Four years ago, I wrote about my decision to live as a woman in *The New York Times*, writing that I had wanted to live “authentically as the woman that I have always been,” and had “effectively traded my white male privilege to become one of America’s most hated minorities.”

Three years ago, I decided that I was neither male nor female, but nonbinary—and made headlines after an Oregon judge agreed

to let me identify as a third sex, not male or female.

Now, I want to live again as the man that I am.

I'm one of the lucky ones. Despite participating in medical transgenderism for six years, my body is still intact. Most people who desist from transgender identities after gender changes can't say the same.

But that's not to say I got off scot-free. My psyche is eternally scarred, and I've got a host of health issues from the grand medical experiment.

Here's how things began.

After convincing myself that I was a woman during a severe mental health crisis, I visited a licensed nurse practitioner in early 2013 and asked for a hormone prescription. "If you don't give me the drugs, I'll buy them off the internet," I threatened.

Although she'd never met me before, the nurse phoned in a prescription for 2 mg of oral estrogen and 200 mg of Spironolactone that very same day.

The nurse practitioner ignored that I have chronic post-traumatic stress disorder, having previously served in the military for almost 18 years. All of my doctors agree on that. Others believe that I have bipolar disorder and possibly borderline personality disorder.

I should have been stopped, but out-of-control, transgender activism had made the nurse practitioner too scared to say no.

I'd learned how to become a female from online medical documents at a Department of Veterans Affairs hospital website.

After I began consuming the cross-sex hormones, I started therapy at a gender clinic in Pittsburgh so that I could get

people to sign off on the transgender surgeries I planned to have.

All I needed to do was switch over my hormone operating fuel and change my biological parts. Then I'd be the same as any other woman. That's the fantasy the transgender community sold me. It's the lie I bought into and believed.

Only one therapist tried to stop me from crawling into this smoking rabbit hole. When she did, I not only fired her, I filed a formal complaint against her. "She's a gatekeeper," the trans community said.

Professional stigmatism against "conversion therapy" had made it impossible for the therapist to question my motives for wanting to change my sex.

The "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" (Fifth Edition) says one of the traits of gender dysphoria is believing that you possess the stereotypical feelings of the opposite sex. I felt that about myself, but yet no therapist discussed it with me.

Two weeks hadn't passed before I found a replacement therapist. The new one quickly affirmed my identity as a woman. I was back on the road to getting vaginoplasty.

There's abundant online literature informing transgender people that their sex change isn't real. But when a licensed medical doctor writes you a letter essentially stating that you were born in the wrong body and a government agency or court of law validates that delusion, you become damaged and confused. I certainly did.

Painful Roots

My trauma history resembles a ride down the Highway of Death during the first Gulf War.

As a child, I was sexually abused by a male relative. My

parents severely beat me. At this point, I've been exposed to so much violence and had so many close calls that I don't know how to explain why I'm still alive. Nor do I know how to mentally process some of the things I've seen and experienced.

Dr. Ray Blanchard has an unpopular theory that explains why someone like me may have been drawn to transgenderism. He claims there are two types of transgender women: homosexuals that are attracted to men, and men who are attracted to the thought or image of themselves as females.

It's a tough thing to admit, but I belong to the latter group. We are classified as having autogynephilia.

After having watched pornography for years while in the Army and being married to a woman who resisted my demands to become the ideal female, I became that female instead. At least in my head.

While autogynephilia was my motivation to become a woman, gender stereotypes were my means of implementation. I believed wearing a long wig, dresses, heels, and makeup would make me a woman.

Feminists begged to differ on that. They rejected me for conforming to female stereotypes. But as a new member of the transgender community, I beat up on them too. The women who become men don't fight the transgender community's wars. The men in dresses do.

Medical Malpractice

The best thing that could have happened would have been for someone to order intensive therapy. That would have protected me from my inclination to cross-dress and my risky sexual transgressions, of which there were many.

Instead, quacks in the medical community hid me in the women's bathroom with people's wives and daughters. "Your gender

identity is female," these alleged professionals said.

The medical community is so afraid of the trans community that they're now afraid to give someone Blanchard's diagnosis. Trans men are winning in medicine, and they've won the battle for language.

Think of the word "transvestite." They've succeeded in making it a vulgar word, even though it just means men dressing like women. People are no longer allowed to tell the truth about men like me. Everyone now has to call us transgender instead.

The diagnostic code in my records at the VA should read Transvestic Disorder (302.3). Instead, the novel theories of Judith Butler and Anne Fausto-Sterling have been used to cover up the truths written about by Blanchard, J. Michael Bailey, and Alice Dreger.

I confess to having been motivated by autogynephilia during all of this. Blanchard was right.

Trauma, hypersexuality owing to childhood sexual abuse, and autogynephilia are all supposed to be red flags for those involved in the medical arts of psychology, psychiatry, and physical medicine—yet nobody except for the one therapist in Pittsburgh ever tried to stop me from changing my sex. They just kept helping me to harm myself.

Escaping to 'Nonbinary'

Three years into my gender change from male to female, I looked hard into the mirror one day. When I did, the facade of femininity and womanhood crumbled.

Despite having taken or been injected with every hormone and antiandrogen concoction in the VA's medical arsenal, I didn't look anything like a female. People on the street agreed. Their harsh stares reflected the reality behind my fraudulent existence as a woman. Biological sex is immutable.

It took three years for that reality to set in with me.

When the fantasy of being a woman came to an end, I asked two of my doctors to allow me to become nonbinary instead of female to bail me out. Both readily agreed.

After pumping me full of hormones—the equivalent of 20 birth control pills per day—they each wrote a sex change letter. The two weren't just bailing me out. They were getting themselves off the hook for my failed sex change. One worked at the VA. The other worked at Oregon Health & Science University.

To escape the delusion of having become a woman, I did something completely unprecedented in American history. In 2016, I convinced an Oregon judge to declare my sex to be nonbinary—neither male nor female.

In my psychotic mind, I had restored the mythical third sex to North America. And I became the first legally recognized nonbinary person in the country.

Celebrity Status

The landmark court decision catapulted me to instant fame within the LGBT community. For 10 nonstop days afterward, the media didn't let me sleep. Reporters hung out in my Facebook feed, journalists clung to my every word, and a Portland television station beamed my wife and I into living rooms in the United Kingdom.

Becoming a woman had gotten me into The New York Times. Convincing a judge that my sex was nonbinary got my photos and story into around the world.

Then, before the judge's ink had even dried on my Oregon sex change court order, a Washington, LGBT legal aid organization contacted me. "We want to help you change your birth certificate," they offered.

Within months, I scored another historic win after the

Department of Vital Records issued me a brand new birth certificate from Washington, D.C., where I was born. A local group called Whitman-Walker Health had gotten my sex designation on my birth certificate switched to "unknown." It was the first time in D.C. history a birth certificate had been printed with a sex marker other than male or female.

Another transgender legal aid organization jumped on the Jamie Shupe bandwagon, too. Lambda Legal used my nonbinary court order to help convince a Colorado federal judge to order the State Department to issue a passport with an X marker (meaning nonbinary) to a separate plaintiff named Dana Zzyym.

LGBT organizations helping me to screw up my life had become a common theme. During my prior sex change to female, the New York-based Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund had gotten my name legally changed. I didn't like being named after the uncle who'd molested me. Instead of getting me therapy for that, they got me a new name.

A Pennsylvania judge didn't question the name change, either. Wanting to help a transgender person, she had not only changed my name, but at my request she also sealed the court order, allowing me to skip out on a ton of debt I owed because of a failed home purchase and begin my new life as a woman. Instead of merging my file, two of the three credit bureaus issued me a brand new line of credit.

Walking Away From Fiction

It wasn't until I came out against the sterilization and mutilation of gender-confused children and transgender military service memberstransgender military service members in 2017 that LGBT organizations stopped helping me. Most of the media retreated with them.

Overnight, I went from being a liberal media darling to a conservative pariah.

Both groups quickly began to realize that the transgender community had a runaway on their hands. Their solution was to completely ignore me and what my story had become. They also stopped acknowledging that I was behind the nonbinary option that now exists in 11 states.

The truth is that my sex change to nonbinary was a medical and scientific fraud. Consider the fact that before the historic court hearing occurred, my lawyer informed me that the judge had a transgender child.

Sure enough, the morning of my brief court hearing, the judge didn't ask me a single question. Nor did this officer of the court demand to see any medical evidence alleging that I was born something magical. Within minutes, the judge just signed off on the court order.

I do not have any disorders of sexual development. All of my sexual confusion was in my head. I should have been treated. Instead, at every step, doctors, judges, and advocacy groups indulged my fiction.

The carnage that came from my court victory is just as precedent-setting as the decision itself. The judge's order led to millions of taxpayer dollars being spent to put an X marker on driver's licenses in 11 states so far. You can now become male, female, or nonbinary in all of them.

In my opinion, the judge in my case should have recused herself. In doing so, she would have spared me the ordeal still yet to come. She also would have saved me from having to bear the weight of the big secret behind my win.

I now believe that she wasn't just validating my transgender identity. She was advancing her child's transgender identity, too.

A sensible magistrate would have politely told me no and refused to sign such an outlandish legal request. "Gender is

just a concept. Biological sex defines all of us," that person would have said.

In January 2019, unable to advance the fraud for another single day, I reclaimed my male birth sex. The weight of the lie on my conscience was heavier than the value of the fame I'd gained from participating in this elaborate swindle.

Two fake gender identities couldn't hide the truth of my biological reality. There is no third gender or third sex. Like me, intersex people are either male or female. Their condition is the result of a disorder of sexual development, and they need help and compassion.

I played my part in pushing forward this grand illusion. I'm not the victim here. My wife, daughter, and the American taxpayers are—they are the real victims.

This article originally appeared on The Daily Signal. Reprinted with permission.

Listen to the podcast to hear a former transgender person share his radical testimony.

These Objects May Be Opening Your Home to Demons

The demonic realm is real, and demons are looking for a body to host or an object in which to attach. In the Bible, we see examples of territorial spirits in Mark 5 who wanted to occupy a region.

Familiar spirits know what is in our generational line and what we struggle with. They operate to keep the same negative

patterns and habits repeatedly manifesting. Territorial spirits and familiar spirits can be in the atmosphere, attempting to inflict our souls and attach to objects. Spirits can attach to objects that are not of the Lord, have been cursed, or dedicated to a false god.

There are times we go through another territory or region, and we can feel the darkness. Additionally, there are also times we feel something is just not right. These are examples of how the demonic can infiltrate other places, and we are sensitive to it, and the Spirit makes us aware. It is similar to when we go into a church or home that has been prayed up and permeated with the presence of the Lord. We can feel an atmospheric shift, lightness and peace; that is how we want our homes to feel. It is wisdom to do a spiritual housecleaning and purge anything in our homes that could be instituting spiritual warfare on our behalf.

I remember one time going to the store and purchasing bags of crosses on clearance. As we were in prayer and worship, the bags were in the room when two of us looked up and felt something amiss in the spiritual atmosphere. We were immediately drawn to the bag of crosses. As we looked at the crosses, we could see faces in the designs. We later discovered crosses made in China were made in the same factories as Buddhas, and that they are dedicated to Buddha before they leave China. We immediately got rid of them and prayed over my home.

In the Bible, we receive instructions on what to do with an object that could have spiritual attachments.

You must burn the graven images of their gods with fire. You must not desire the silver or gold that is on them nor take any of it, lest you be snared by them, for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. You shall not bring an abomination into your house, lest you become cursed like it, but you must absolutely detest and abhor it, for it is a

cursed thing (Deut. 7:25-26).

We could have received an ungodly object from our grandparents (not intentionally), something we purchased while traveling or as a gift. I suggest praying over the gifts you receive. I remember one of my assistants often having to dispose of gifts her daughter would send her from overseas. But how do we know what we need to get rid of and what we can pray over and keep? We need to seek the Holy Spirit for wisdom, guidance and leading.

Objects we shouldn't have in our homes would include Buddha, false gods, dream catchers, rabbit's foot, yin-yang symbols, peace signs, anything representing the demonic or darkness and any objects that are rooted in a false religion.

There are also what I call undercover objects we need to discern such as jewelry, gifts, wall hangings, knickknacks, heirloom items and sentimental items.

Items you should question and discern with the Holy Spirit:

- Jewelry from an ex-lover or former spouse.
- Items from friendships that have ended in disunity.
- Items that remind you of emotional or physical trauma.
- Heirloom items unless you know your ancestry and grandparents' spirituality.
- Jewelry from your generational line.
- Jewelry with occult symbolism or symbolism that cannot be identified.
- Items with no reasoning behind them.
- Items people left in your house without permission.

How should we discern or decide what to keep and what to dispose of?

- Pray and seek the Holy Spirit.
- What feeling does the item bring forth?
- Do you have a "check" in your spirit—an uneasiness about

the item?

- Do you have an unusual special attachment to the item?
- Pray and bring in a mature friend or Christian to help you.
- Remove your flesh and natural opinion—it is just an object.
- Don't take into consideration the sentimental value. The sentiment of the item is still inside you, in your heart or the memory, even after the item is removed.
- Don't take into consideration the value of the item. The warfare the item brings costs you more than the physical item itself.

Don't feel you have to throw every item away that you have a check or uneasiness about. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit if you can pray over and anoint the item or if you have to remove it. I am clearly not telling you to keep occult objects, statues of false idols or items of that nature. What I am saying is don't go through your house like a crazy person throwing everything away because it could have a spiritual attachment. Ask the Holy Spirit. Pack the item away in the basement for a few weeks if it is in question, while you pray and discern, and bind and restrict the spiritual realm from activating through it while you are discerning.

Be wise in the decisions you make, but also don't be ignorant of the enemy's devices. Clean up your home and get rid of objects that don't glorify the Lord or that have demonic attachments. Create and permeate an atmosphere conducive for the Holy Spirit to move in your home and life. Eliminate open doors to the enemy to cause spiritual warfare attacks against you.