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2024

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**DISCERNING  
GOD'S VOICE**  
KATHY DEGRAW

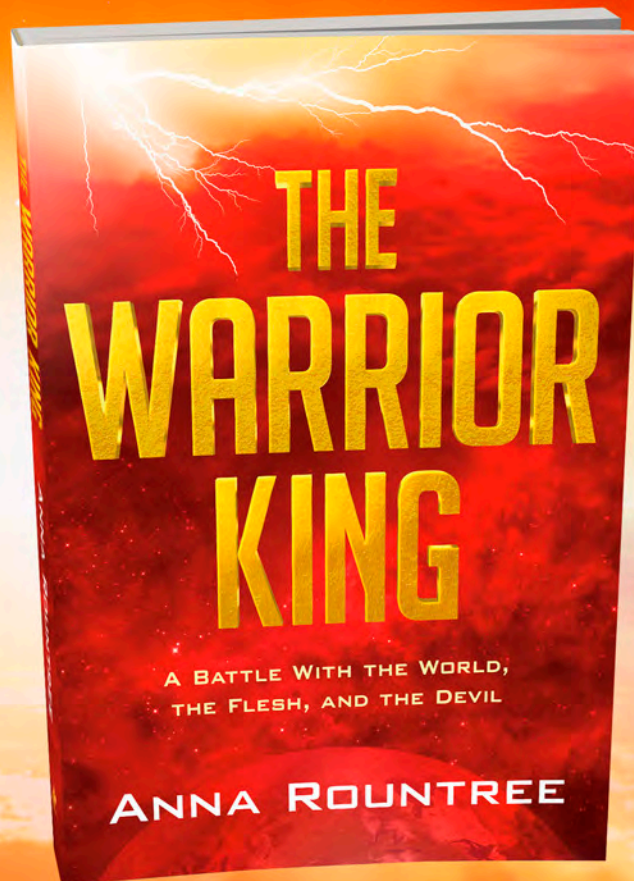
**THE FUEL OF  
REVIVAL**  
BILL JOHNSON

**GOOD  
OR GOD?**  
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**PROPHETS ARISING,  
GREAT MOVES OF  
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# PREPARE FOR WAR

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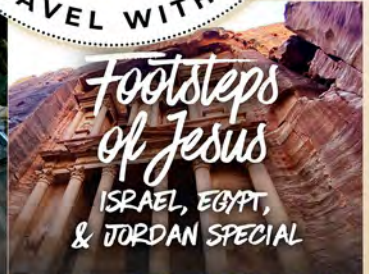
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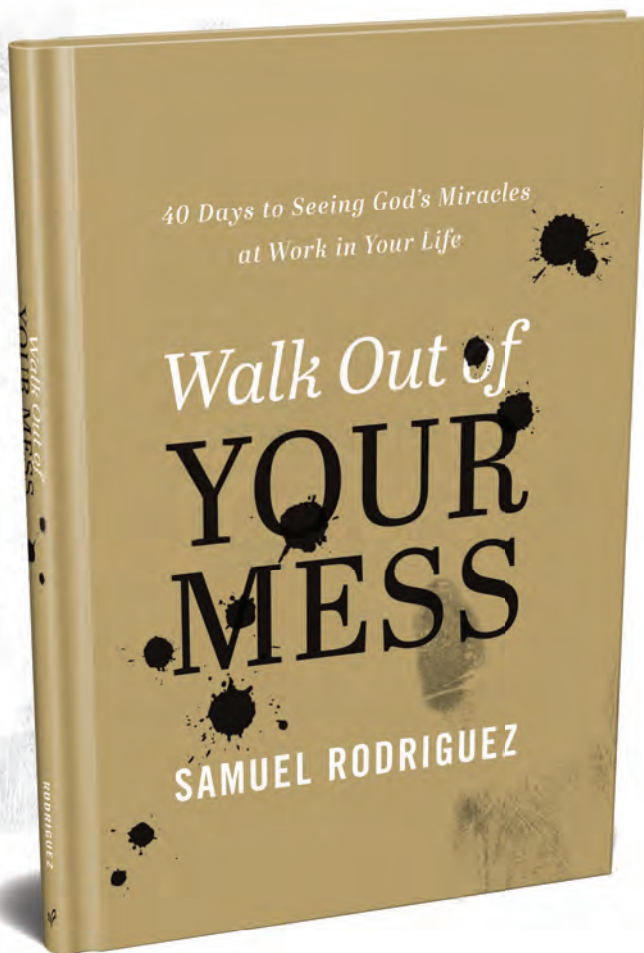
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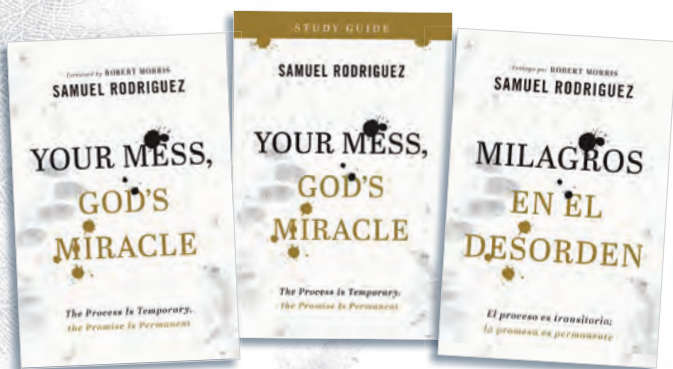
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# DISCERNING GOD'S VOICE

Know the difference between fleshly thoughts, satanic distractions and godly wisdom

BY KATHY DeGRAW

**Y**ou just received discernment and believe it is from the Lord. Your concern is: “What do I do next?” My concern is what you didn’t do next.

The next step is not taking action on the discernment you received, but testing it. Ask yourself questions such as: “Will this bear fruit and glorify the name of Jesus Christ, or will it distract and detour me from my godly assignment?”

When receiving discernment that you believe is from the Lord, you should stop and verify it is from the Lord, and not your flesh or the enemy trying to distract you. It is wisdom to verify the word (not analyze it) before you take action. Taking the word at face value without seeking confirmation and direction can detour you from the will of God.

We can prematurely act on a word because we feel it makes sense and we have comfort proceeding. We think, “*I can do this.*” We are comfortable because it makes sense to us in the natural, but the question is: Do we have peace proceeding forth in the spiritual?

We are not natural people; we are spiritual beings. Moving forward with an idea because of our natural comfort is one of the main ways the enemy and our flesh can cause us to proceed in a wrong direction.

When you receive revelation, a prophetic word or an answer to prayer, take the next step. Discern it. Dissect it. Don’t overthink and don’t analyze.

Test it. Bring it back to the Holy Spirit through prayer and test it against the Word of God.

We hear from three sources. We can hear from the Spirit of God, our own thoughts and the enemy. We hear God more clearly than we think. The challenge is sometimes we hear Him so clearly that we doubt what we heard and then we ask a person their opinion—leading to confusion. The enemy can send thoughts, which are lies, into our minds to confuse and distract, and our flesh can get involved by being analytical and letting our imagination take over.

## God’s Thought Downloads

God speaks to us through thoughts dropped in our spirit. When God speaks to us, we need not try to figure out the revelation, but rather receive the revelation He is giving.

You may have heard God’s voice before saying, “Don’t do that,” “Take this road instead today” or “Give this much as an offering.” You have heard God as you have prayed and felt you received your answer. However, don’t just feel you have received the answer. Rather, know you have received the answer.

When you receive discernment, ask yourself, “Is this the way God usually speaks to me?” Verify it. He may speak to you in different ways, but He usually speaks to you the same way for a season. Ask God, “Why do you want me to head in this direction?”

continued »



# good doesn't love you

# you're born matter

you are the worst person in the world  
you don't deserve forgiveness  
you are a sorry excuse for a christian  
you make me sick

# NOBODY

# kill yourself

# hypocrite

# now could you?

# everyone hates you







Kathy DeGraw giving a prophetic word

## Testing the Spirits

When testing the spirits, ask yourself if you are feeling convicted or condemned. Conviction from the Holy Spirit is quick and calls you to action. He presses you until you confess or act. Condemnation is from the enemy and makes you feel numb. Feeling heavy and bad about yourself produces complacency.

When you are confused, under pressure, scattered, stressed, oppressed and going through heavy trials and tests, your soul is highly activated and you could be experiencing demonic opposition.

As spiritual warfare occurs, you cannot automatically assume that you can hear God with the same clarity as in other times. All of us have heard wrongly at one time or another, and have regretted the decisions we made in the flesh.

In 1 John 4:1, the Word of God instructs us to test the spirits. If we are instructed to test the prophetic words given by prophets, then shouldn't we also test our own words and discernment?

There are times our flesh gets involved in the outcome. Increase discernment and cast down your flesh by being in the Word, praying and being around prophetic people who know how to test the spirits—people whose discernment produces results that are evident through the fruit of their ministry.

When you receive revelation from God, keep it in front of you and consistently pray it through.

Ask for His will to be further revealed and for Him to give you the spirit of revelation, knowledge, wisdom and understanding (Is. 11:2).

Be in tune and sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading.

You can and do hear from God. You just don't know how simple and clear it really is. ◀

**KATHY DEGRAW** is passionate about releasing and empowering people to share the love and power of God. She is the founder of DeGraw Ministries, a prophetic healing and deliverance ministry. DeGraw has written several books, including *Flesh, Satan or God?: Who Are You Hearing From?* Follow her on Facebook or online at [degrowministries.org](http://degrowministries.org).

**“Be in tune and sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading. You can and do hear from God. You just don’t know how simple and clear it really is.”**

Test the Scriptures to confirm if the revelation aligns with or contradicts God's Word. God will not tell you to do something that is against His Word. I once knew a woman God had been convicting regarding giving. She felt led to write an offering check for \$5,000. She wrote the check in advance of a business transaction that was being completed. The deal fell through and she ended up in debt! That contradicts God's Word. If she would have tested the discernment, she would have stayed out of debt.

## The Flesh Blocks Revelation

Our flesh gets involved in receiving revelation because we think about it instead of pray about it. When thinking about whether a thought is from God, we tend to overanalyze it and get impatient waiting on God for an answer.

Analytical people can plan out the answer instead of praying and receiving the answer. During prayer time, analytical people have difficulty shutting down their minds to receive from God. When analytical thoughts come into your mind, transfer those thoughts to

your heart, to the place of love, where the Father is.

When you receive discernment and you are unsure about it, or even when you think you are sure of its source, ask yourself, “Is this the way I would think?” You may think you heard from God when really what you heard were your own thoughts.

## Deceptions and Distractions

The enemy speaks to us with thoughts such as: “They don't like you; they are over there talking about you,” or “You'll never lose weight; you can't do it.” We have all heard the lies of the enemy. If you pay attention, you will be able to discern when and how the enemy speaks to you. When he speaks to me, I will hear, “Listen to me,” in the sentence. God knows I hear His voice and doesn't have to say, “Listen to me.”

If confusion is present in times of discernment, it is from the enemy. “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace” (1 Cor. 14:33).

The enemy will attempt to distract. When we don't pray about things in advance, it leaves the enemy an open door to sidetrack us.



# Are You Ready?

## THE LORD IS PREPARING FOR A GREAT HARVEST IN 2024

He is asking “Are you ready?” Looking at the world today many are wondering if the Second Coming is imminent. Perhaps so, but we do not know. What we do know is that Jesus will not return until the number of the martyrs, and by extension the number of the Church, has been completed (Revelation 6:9-11). God is busy building His Church, and we should be also.

It has been prophesied that this is the time to harvest the low hanging fruit. Jesus said that we should pray for workers to gather His harvest (Luke 10:2). Are you ready to answer the prayer of Jesus?

This is a time of great shaking and people are afraid. But we have the answer: Jesus, and we should boldly show His love in word and deed (1 John 3:16-18). Be ready to give an answer for your faith, but with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15). And remember that your testimony is more convincing than any argument and has power to overcome the works of the Devil. (Revelation 12:11)

God is confirming His harvest time by sending His sign in the Heavens over America this year on April 8, a Solar Eclipse which will be visible throughout the land. The prophet Joel and the Apostle Peter pointed to Eclipses as prophetic signs, and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Acts 3:18-21).

**Please join us in the AMERICAN WAKE UP CALL on APRIL 8 to pray  
for America and reach out to the lost.**

**ARE YOU READY?**

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# THE FUEL OF REVIVAL

**Understanding the difference between the gospel of salvation and the gospel of the kingdom will radically change your thinking about transforming culture.**

**BY BILL JOHNSON**

**T**he Law and the prophets were until John. Since that time, the kingdom of God has been preached and everyone is pressing into it (Luke 16:16). “Until John” is a very significant phrase, but one that seems to be mostly ignored.

Both the Law and the prophets were trumped by a greater message, the gospel of the kingdom. One is the prevailing message while the other is obsolete, having been fulfilled. One has heaven’s backing; the other doesn’t. One reveals God’s purpose in this present day, defining our assignment; the other does not.

A message creates a reality. The nature of the message we carry determines the nature of the reality we will live and minister in. Those who fully embrace our

God-given assignment for the message of the kingdom will see the ever-increasing government of God displayed in the affairs of mankind. This is the only message that creates an environment suitable to the display of God’s love, His uncompromising purity and His unfathomable power. It remains the now word.

## **Which Gospel Are We Preaching?**

The church has largely replaced the gospel of the kingdom with the gospel of salvation. It’s the beauty of the salvation message that makes it so easy to miss the fact that it is only a part of the whole message that Jesus gave us.

The gospel of salvation is focused on getting people saved and going to heaven. The gospel of the kingdom is focused on the transformation of lives,

cities and nations through the effect of God’s present rule—this is made manifest by bringing the reality of heaven to Earth. We must not confuse our destiny with our assignment. Heaven is my destiny, while bringing the kingdom is my assignment. The focus of the kingdom message is the rightful dominion of God over everything.

Whatever is inconsistent with heaven—namely, disease, torment, hatred, division, sin habits and so forth—must come under the authority of the King. These kinds of issues are broken off of people’s lives because inferior realms cannot stand wherever the dominion of God becomes manifest. As we succeed in displaying this message, we are positioned to bring about cultural change in education, business, politics, the environment,





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HEATHER ARMSTRONG PHOTOGRAPHY



and the other essential issues that we face today. This creates a most unusual phenomenon: the fruit of revival becomes the fuel of revival. And as long as we stay true to the message, the movement increases unto reformation.

The kingdom is the message we're to carry forth into the nations of the world (Matt. 10:7; Acts 18:31). Our message is Jesus, who demonstrated what His world is like through words and actions.

There is no sickness in heaven. When the kingdom is manifest in a person's body, he is healed (Matt. 4:23.) There are no demons in heaven, which is why deliverance is normal when Jesus touches people (Matt. 12:28.) It's all about what His world looks like and how that reality can affect this one. The kingdom of God is in the unseen realm and obviously is eternal (2 Cor. 4:17.)

Perception is vital, so live with the

the prophets were until John because it was John who first declared, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matt. 3:2). John was the one who announced the shift in heaven's focus.

There is another place in Scripture where 400 years is unusually significant. Understanding the first mention of this phrase, "400 years," will help us understand its importance in this case. Israel lived in Egypt as a nation of slaves for 400 years. And then the divine moment came when everything changed. It was when the blood from a lamb was put on the doorpost of each Jewish home on the night specified by God. The angel of the Lord came and released Israel from their slavery in Egypt to their destiny as a promised-land people.

In one moment, they went from being slaves to being free, from absolute poverty to possessing the wealth of the most

## The Message of the Kingdom

Jesus made the amazing statement, "Now the kingdom of God is being preached and everyone is pressing into it" (Luke 16:16). Is it possible that the nature of the message determines the size of the harvest? He did say "everyone"! While I do not believe in Universalism, where everyone eventually ends up in heaven, the message of the kingdom has a greater reach than I previously thought possible.

This is the message: "His dominion is everlasting. It is now. Jesus' life demonstrated His dominion over everything that was inconsistent with God's will."

Don't skip over the bigger promises of Scripture simply because they are hard to believe because of their size. Whenever He declares something this big, He's hoping to capture people's hearts, making it impossible for them to be satisfied with mediocrity.

The promises are there, in a sense, waiting for adoption. Instead of trying to figure out the season for the promises to be fulfilled, why not come before God and see if God might want to fulfill them in our time? After all, how many times did the disciples get the timing right in their understanding of God's prophetic promises? I don't consider myself any better than they were.

These promises are not given to us to help us to know the future as much as they are given to create hunger for what might be. The promises of God are clearly seen when the people of God get hungry and cry out to God for their fulfillment. This is exactly what Daniel did in reading Jeremiah's prophecy (Dan. 9:2-6.) When you declare the right message, you create the atmosphere where everyone is able to press in. No matter the need, there is an answer now. The right message marries the truth of Jesus as the desire of the nations with the nations themselves. The right message changes the atmosphere to make the manifestation of His dominion realized. Perhaps this is the context in which the irresistible grace of God is embraced, thus fulfilling the desire found in the heart of every person alive. ♦

**BILL JOHNSON** is a fifth-generation pastor, senior leader of Bethel Church in Redding, California, and author of *God Is Good and many other books*.

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**"The gospel of the kingdom is focused on the transformation of lives, cities and nations through the effect of God's present rule—this is made manifest by bringing the reality of heaven to Earth."**

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realization that faith sees. Our conversion opens up that capacity to us all. "Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). The impact of His kingdom in the here and now goes beyond these two illustrations, having effect on every area of life—both internally (soul) and externally. The point is that the kingdom is to be preached and displayed so that all might know of His goodness in this life. Jesus illustrated this perfectly.

## When Heaven Was Silent

Why did Jesus say, "Until John"? Why didn't He say, "Until Jesus"? Because John was the one who broke heaven's silence with the message of the kingdom. Before John the Baptist came on the scene, there were 400 years without one word from God. Heaven was silent. No visions, dreams or prophecies. Nothing. Four hundred years of absolute silence, and then came John.

The Holy Spirit is not carelessly highlighting this detail that the Law and

prosperous nation in the world. It happened in a moment. The first mention of the phrase "400 years" resulted in the rescue of a people and the formation of a nation, Israel.

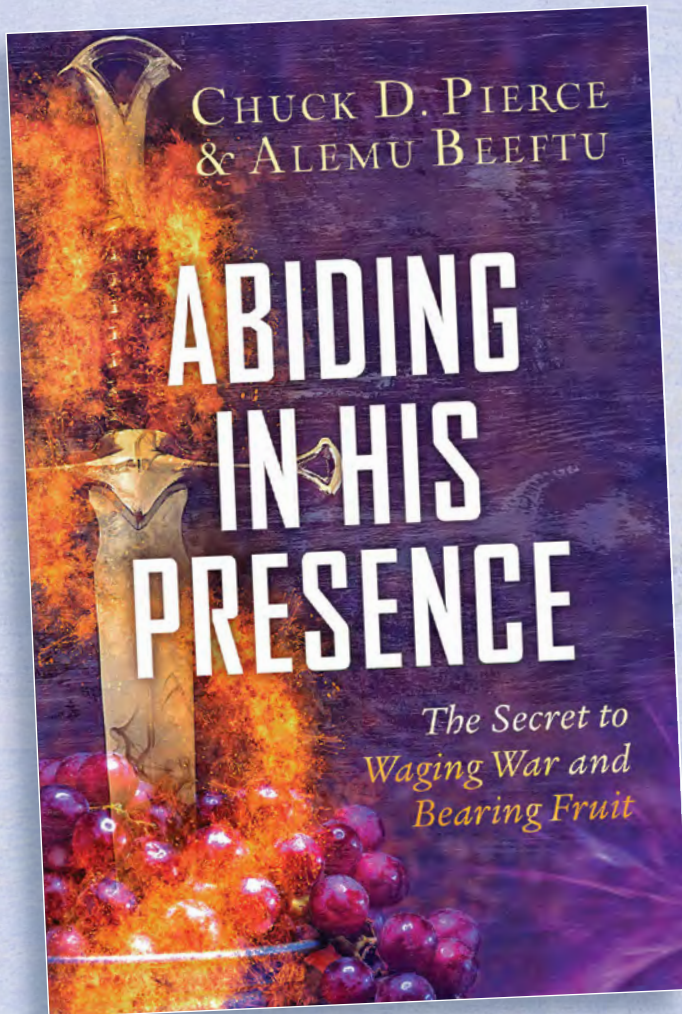
This was the redemption of God's people. In the time of John the Baptist, God announced the rescue and creation of a new nation, declaring, "It's a new day!" This time it would be a nation formed in the Spirit through conversion, including people from every tribe and tongue on the planet. For the first time since Genesis 1, there would actually be a "new creation" (2 Cor. 5:17), which is a people "born of the Spirit" (John 3:6-8).

That is exactly the message of Jesus in Luke 16:16. It's a new day! The new day is marked with a new message. One message is over, and another has begun. When John the Baptist came forth, it was even more significant than deliverance from 400 years of slavery under Egypt. That deliverance dealt with the nature and potential of mankind, but John's pronouncement changed everything.



# REVEAL THE **FULLNESS**

## OF GOD'S GLORY



Offering healthy doses of hope, global prophetic leaders Chuck D. Pierce and Alemu Beeftu reveal that **THE KEY TO A LIFE OF PURPOSE AND POWER LIES IN THE HIDDEN PATH TO ABIDING IN CHRIST.**

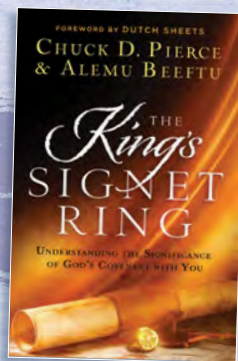
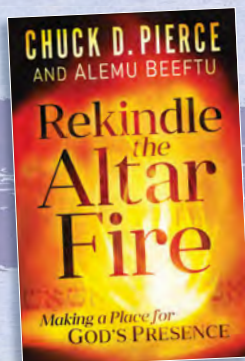
Through sound biblical teaching, prophetic insight, and real-world application, they guide you through the process of walking with him and remaining in his presence, including how to

- be set apart
- link godly desire to faith
- embrace your covenant relationship with God
- overcome the deception of the enemy

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# HAVE WE GOOD

If good is so obvious, why does the Bible

**BY JOHN BEVERE**



A person wearing a blue plaid shirt is sitting on a wooden floor. An open book is lying on the floor in front of them. The background is a dark, textured wall.

# SUBSTITUTED FOR GOD?

say we need discernment to recognize it?

**G**ood and evil. We all know the difference, don't we? Aren't we born into this world with an inherent knowledge of what is right and wrong?

I've often heard people say human beings are inherently good. We hear someone say "he's a good man" or "she's a good woman," and we accept the evaluation at face value. The vulnerable let down their guard and embrace every statement or action from those

proclaimed to be good.

But are these assessments always accurate? Could we ever fall into the delusional state of calling good evil or evil good? Surely not. The distinction is too obvious. Right?

Consider the following story. Many centuries ago, a wealthy young leader approached Jesus with a question: What must I do to gain eternal life? This leader was an honest man and a model citizen. When he came to Jesus,



he honored Him with the greeting “Good Teacher.”

The man’s question was one Jesus could certainly answer. However, before Jesus acknowledged his inquiry, He countered, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good, except God alone” (Mark 10:18).

Wait a minute. Why would Jesus correct a man who called Him good? He is good! I’d like to propose an answer to that question: Man’s standard of good is different from God’s.

Here’s how Scripture puts it: “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Prov. 14:12).

There is a way that seems right. It seems good, wise, beneficial and so forth. Yet the warning is clear: What seems good may actually be detrimental, harmful and nonproductive—the way of death.

## Knowing Good from Evil

This is why Hebrews 5:14 says we need discernment to know the difference between good and evil. It’s why King Solomon prayed, “Give Your servant therefore an understanding heart ... that I may discern between good and bad” (1 Kin. 3:9).

This isn’t the way most of us naturally think, myself included. Years ago, I was puzzling over this issue when God said something that transformed my perspective. “Son, it wasn’t the evil side of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil that Eve was drawn to,” He said. “It was the good side.”

I opened my Bible to Genesis 3 to confirm what I’d heard. Sure enough, I read:

“When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasing to the eyes and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she gave to her husband with her, and he ate” (Gen. 3:6).

I saw the words good, pleasant and desirable and my jaw dropped. I heard God say, “There is a ‘good’ that is not of Me. It is not submitted to Me.”

God proceeded to show me how most “good” people, especially Christian people, are not drawn to blatantly evil behavior. Instead, they’re drawn

to things that seem good but are contrary to His wisdom. That’s what happened to Eve.

This brings me to another nagging question, one I’ve wrestled with for years. Just how did the enemy get Eve to turn on God? It’s important to ask this question, for Paul states, “But I fear that somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve through his trickery, so your minds might be led astray from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Cor. 11:3).

Think about it. Eve lived in a perfect environment. She enjoyed total peace and abundant provision. Best of all, she lived in harmony with her Creator. So how did Satan do it?

You can find the full account of the story in Genesis 3:1-6. But let me give you two big takeaways. First, the enemy directed the woman’s attention away from all the things God had given and got her focus on the one thing He had forbidden. Satan said to the woman, “Has God said, ‘You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?’” (Gen. 3:1).

Thousands of known fruit trees exist in the world. My guess is that every one was represented in the garden. Eve could have eaten from any of the trees, but after Satan’s question, she couldn’t get her eyes off the only one that was forbidden.

It’s no different today. God has freely given each of us so many gifts—every blessing heaven offers (Eph. 1:3). However, our enemy seeks to cover up God’s generosity, so we only see what is “withheld.” We forget that when God restrains us, it’s because He knows what’s best for us.

## Satan’s Strategy

That brings us to the second aspect of Satan’s strategy. He called God’s character into question. Then the serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die! For God knows that on the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil” (Gen. 3:4-5).

Eve saw that the tree was good, pleasant and would make her wise. At Satan’s words, her thoughts began to go down a new road. If this strategy

was successful in a perfect environment, how much easier is the enemy’s task today?

It’s for this reason we’re strongly warned by the apostle James: “Do not err, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no change or shadow of turning” (James 1:16-17).

Here’s the gist of what he’s saying—and don’t take this next statement lightly. It doesn’t matter how good something looks, how happy it makes you, how much fun it is, how rich and successful it will help you become, how deeply spiritual it appears, how sensible it seems or how popular or accepted it is.

If something is contrary to the will of God, it will ultimately bring sorrow to your life. Great news: God isn’t trying to hide His best from us. He promises that those who seek will find. The key to discovering His perfect will is found in Romans 12:2: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

We cannot discern what is truly good for our lives without first having our minds renewed. To walk in the fullness of God’s good plan for us, we have to turn away from the wisdom of this world and let our minds be shaped by His Word.

If we live by what human reasoning calls good, we can easily be swayed from God’s wisdom, confusing good and bad. But if we rely on God’s inspired Word to set our standard, we will be unshakeable.

Whose standard of good guides your life: man’s or God’s? I encourage you to ground yourself in the perspective of heaven. Get in God’s presence, study His Word and ask His Spirit to lead you along the way of life! ◀

**JOHN BEVERE** and his wife, *Lisa*, are the founders of *Messenger International*. A minister and best-selling author, *Bevere delivers messages of uncompromising truth with boldness and passion.*



# Simply Christ

## Gospel Insight

with Keith Surface

### Paul's Agony

In the 7th chapter of Romans, the Apostle Paul vividly describes the events which led to his conversion to Jesus. He begins the chapter by speaking of the Law's dominion and tells of his efforts to serve God under the Law. He describes this time as being *"in the flesh."* He says, *"For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death."* Romans 7:5. He had lived his entire life under the Law and *"in the flesh,"* and for the most part had done fairly well. Sin was no great problem for him, and he viewed himself as exceedingly righteous. In fact, he looked back to his life under the Law and said, *"...touching the righteousness which is in the law, (he was) blameless."* Philippians 3:6.

Yet something began to trouble this *"righteous"* Pharisee, as the tenth commandment began to speak to him in a way he never considered before. The first nine commandments dealt with his actions, but he began to see that the tenth commandment dealt with the content of his heart. He said, *"I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet."* Romans 7:7. Paul (then known as Saul of Tarsus) had always viewed himself as a righteous man because he kept the deeds of the Law. Now he was faced with the realization that sin in his heart made him a commandment breaker. It seems Saul thought he could remedy this by taking control of his thoughts and desires, just as he controlled his actions, but this is where sin deceived him! Romans 7:11.

When Saul recognized that sin in the heart was in fact sin, he endeavored to purge this iniquity from his own consciousness. However, the more he struggled with it the more he discovered its grip upon his soul. The harder he fought, the more pronounced the sinful desires became. Romans 7:8. Sin, which for most of his life Saul had kept subdued, and thought was dead, revived! Romans 7:9.

Saul became so *"exceeding sinful"* Romans 7:13 in his own sight, that he was forced to acknowledge something which shattered his great religious self-image. I can imagine the horror which gripped this great *"Hebrew of the Hebrews"* who believed himself to be spiritual above

others, when he had to admit to himself, *"I am carnal, sold under sin."* Romans 7:14. These words do not describe a child of God. Those who are born of God are not carnal (unregenerate), they are *"spirit"* because they are *"born of the Spirit."* John 3:6. Neither are the people of God *"sold under sin."* God's children have been *"redeemed from all iniquity."* Titus 2:14.

Listed below is the evidence Saul considered about himself which forced him to acknowledge that he was not spiritual, but was in fact a slave to sin.

***"For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I."*** Romans 7:15. A slave is forced to do the things he hates and cannot do the things he desires to do.

***"...for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not."*** Romans 7:18. A slave will live his live longing to do certain things which his master will never allow him to do.

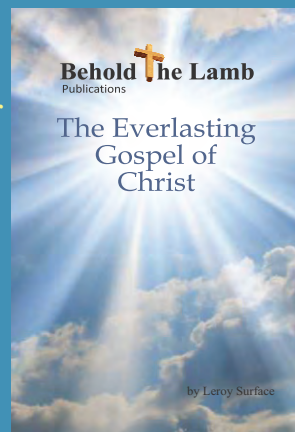
***"For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me."*** Romans 7:19-20. Saul could no longer deny it. He was controlled by something more powerful than himself. Sin was his master and he was its slave! Jesus had spoken of this slavery, saying, *"Whosoever committeth sin is the servant (slave) of sin."* John 8:34.

This was Saul's condition when he met Jesus on the Damascus Road. The *"pricks"* he was fighting were destroying him. In his heart he was crying, *"O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"* Romans 7:24. He tells us he found that deliverance *"through Jesus Christ our Lord!"* Romans 7:25. He discovered that Jesus Christ truly does wash sin from the human heart. His promise is still true: *"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."* John 8:36.

We are constantly told we are all sinners, and nothing can change that reality. But consider this: Since Jesus said, *"the truth shall make you free"* John 8:32, how can anything which says you can never be free from sin be *"the truth?"* It simply cannot be!

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# UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES

**T**he conditions in the world have deteriorated substantially in the last few years. Wars and rumors of wars. Economic hardship. Freedoms under attack. People are again wondering if we live in the times of the Second Coming.

There are few things more important than understanding the times you live in.

In the Old Testament men from the Tribe of Issachar were commended because they understood the times and knew what to do. They helped bring about the ascension of King David and the establishment of Christ's lineage. On the other hand, the generation who rejected Christ was criticized for not knowing the signs of the times, and they destroyed their nation. So it can be seen that understanding the times is the key to destiny.

One of the reasons that Jesus was so critical of His generation was their ignorance of the book of Daniel. Daniel's prophecies described the nations of Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome which came into power over Israel. He described the desecration and rededication of the Temple. And, most importantly, His prophecy of the 70 7's pinpoints the year when Jesus began His ministry and dated His atoning death

3 ½ years later. Daniel wrote the history of the nations, Israel, and the ministry of Jesus almost 600 years before it happened. The signs were there for anyone to see.

Our generation also has a prophetic book which records the history of the nations and Israel, and of the coming of Christ. Our book also tells of a new prophetic player, the Church. This book spans a period of almost 2000 years with amazingly detailed pictures of the nations, the church, Israel, and the second coming of Christ. We can look to the book of Revelation for the signs of our times.

Let us start with the nations, whose history is written in the vision of Babylon in the 17th chapter of Revelation. Here the book shows a seven headed beast which we are told represents seven great empires. Five, being Babylon, Egypt, Assyria/Babylon, Persia and Greece, had fallen when the book was written. The sixth was Rome, which ruled when the book was written. The seventh is believed to be the reconstituted Roman Empire under the Popes. By now, of course, the sixth and seventh kingdoms are in the past along with the other five.

The vision next describes 10 Kings, which would be the European nations which formed after the Popes lost their



power. These 10 nations became the great colonial empires and they, and their offspring, did in fact rule the world until the middle of the 20th century. Just look at a world map in 1914 to see the accuracy of the prophecy from Revelation.

But then two world wars broke out and led to the dissolution of the colonial empires. The 10 Kings are no longer in power, but they will make way for the 8th King, whom we call the Anti-Christ.

So, in the history of the nations, we are at the twilight of the era of the 10 Kings and are awaiting the appearance of the 8th King, the Anti-Christ. He is not here yet, and we know he is coming, but this is no time to hide out in fear as some are suggesting. We are not yet in the time of the end.

The times of the Church can be understood from the vision of the Seven Seals, which are opened by Christ because He purchased the Church with His sacrifice. The first four seals, popularly known as the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, actually represent four false religious systems which have attacked the Church. The white horse represents persecution under pagan Rome, the red horse war with Islam, the black horse persecution by the Secularists, and the pale horse persecution by the emerging New Age movement. All of these are present in the world today, with the New Age movement making its national debut in Hitler's Nazi Germany.

The fifth seal answers the question of when God will bring an end to the persecution of the Church. It will end, says He, when the number of the Church has been completed. In other words, God is holding back the end while He is building His Church. And, if you look around the world today, God is building His Church by millions and hundreds of millions. This is the Great Age of the Harvest, the most glorious and exciting time in the history of the Church. And we who understand the times must forget about hiding in the hills and instead partner with God in His Great Harvest as this Age is winding down.

Time is also winding down for Israel, and its history can be told from the vision of the Seven Trumpets. The first four trumpet visions describe the effect of the Church's enemies on Israel. Thus, the Romans drove them out of the land, the Islamism's took the blazing Temple Mount, the Secularists persecuted the Jews, and the New Age Nazis killed one third of the "Sun, Moon and Stars," a prophetic description of the Jews. As with the Church, these four trumpet visions are now history.

The fifth trumpet vision describes a people who worship a meteorite, are told not to harm the trees or grass and who have the key to the Abyss. This is an amazing description of the Arabs, who are prophesied to wage a 150 year war on Israel. This war, which began with Israel's nationhood in 1948, would last until 2098 if the 150 year prophecy is correctly understood. Thus, there will be no peace in the Middle East as the world marches on toward the end of time.

The Bible tells us that after our times the Anti-Christ will arise on the strength of a new religion similar to the New Age religion. He will start a world war and will be victorious, establishing a totalitarian state which persecutes Christians and Jews. The Church will be "raptured" to meet Jesus, but only after He has destroyed the Anti-Christ in the battle of Armageddon. The Church is instructed to have patience, endurance and faithfulness during this time.

So we, too, should have patience, endurance, and above all faithfulness as we understand our times. It is true that the dark times of the Anti-Christ are coming, and the world will be unstable because Israel will be at war with the Arabs until then. However, this is also the Golden Age of the Church and the greatest time ever to be alive for Christians.

Our calling, and our destiny, are to partner with God in His Great Harvest until the number of the Church is completed and Jesus comes to take us home.

It is our prayer that, like the men of Issachar, we will understand the times and know what to do.

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# GOD'S WAKE-UP CALL

## The message trumpeted by a new wave of prophets

BY JENNIFER LECLAIRE

**W**hen Cindy Jacobs emerged as a prophetic voice to the nations in the 1980s, prophets didn't have a platform in the traditional church—but that didn't stop the woman of God from blazing a trail. Since then, she's delivered the prophetic word of the Lord to over 100 nations—including specific prophecies to heads of nations.

Although Jacobs still travels the world prophesying the heart of God over peoples, releasing prayers that heal the land, and equipping the saints to hear God's voice, she is excited about what God is doing in America. She sees a prophetic church rising in the midst of a culture that seems to be growing darker by the day.

"The prophetic gift is always a trumpet call," says Jacobs, co-founder of Generals International. "I believe we're hearing many voices crying out against the ills of society right now. In my many years of prophesying, I have not seen that to this degree. We are on the verge of an awakening, and any time you are moving toward awakening, you have awakeners."

These awakeners are forerunners who trumpet a call for repentance mixed with hope for God's mercy that triumphs over judgment. They are prophetic messengers who recall nation-shaking revivals like the First and Second Great Awakening, Azusa Street, the Voice of Healing Movement and the Toronto Blessing and fervently cry out, "Do it again, Lord!"

At a time when some prophets are cursing America, a new breed of prophetic people—some younger, some older—are declaring and decreeing the greatest-ever great awakening. It's an awakening that will spill over America's borders and touch

the nations of the earth with great signs, wonders and miracles that demonstrate Jesus is alive. These prophets are equipping a generation of prophetic people who see, hear and say what the Lord is doing in their cities and regions—and have the persistence to contend to the end.

With this in mind, I reached out to a number of prophetic voices—some I have known and worked with for many years and others who are just now appearing on the scene. These men and women of God have one thing in common: They are prophesying about an awakening that brings supernatural manifestations back to the church. I'm seeing it at historic revival sites such as the Cane Ridge meeting house in Paris, Kentucky, and at churches large and small across America. Prophetic ministry plays a key role in the next great move of God.

### A New Breed Rising

When the prophetic movement was restored in the 1980s, most prophets didn't expect God's ultimate goal was to raise up people with prophetic gifts in cities around the world. Nor did they guess that these men and women would serve as a catalyst to release the next great move of God. But that's exactly what's happening.

Most prophets didn't expect it—but Bishop Bill Hamon did. Hamon, founder of Christian International Ministries, started teaching about the Saints Movement in 1997. As he describes it, the Saints Movement is a time when the saints, believers in Jesus Christ, recognize and act on the understanding that Christ has empowered and commissioned them to be the church





Cindy Jacobs



Ryan LeStrange



John Eckhardt

“We are on the verge of an awakening, and any time you are moving toward awakening, you have awakeners.” —Cindy Jacobs

24/7—manifesting the kingdom of God wherever they live and work.

The Saints Movement is the fruit of the fivefold mandate to equip the saints for the work of the ministry (Eph. 4:11-13). One aspect of the work of the prophetic ministry is to prepare the way for the Lord, to make His paths straight (Mark 1:3).

“We’re getting ready for a great move of God, and it’s awakening the saints,” says Hamon. “The saints have always been an army, but we’ve been a Cold War. We’ve been neutral. Every saint who is willing and obedient to walk in and press into the truth—to be a kingdom demonstrator—is being activated. Nobody will enter this next move of God (who) is not dedicated to God 100 percent. God is really taking us through the fire to purify us seven times.”

As Hamon sees it, the next great move of God will be all of the past moves of God rolled up into one. He is convinced the sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that’s now being revealed in us—we’re part of this now. He sees what he calls a “great, great move of God” above and beyond anything we’ve ever known or seen that will fill the earth as the waters cover the seas and will prepare every nation for Christ’s return.

“There’s a new breed of prophetic people rising around this world as the next great move of God emerges,” Hamon says. “The Lord showed me 2008 was the launching from heaven of a third and final church reformation. The revelation that every saint has a ministry prepares the way for the seven-mountain teaching that God wants to use saints wherever they are—and they can be effective.”

What about the deluge of doom-and-gloom prophecies? He’s not buying into them. He is listening to the prophetic voices that are in agreement with God’s heart in Jeremiah 29:11: “For I know the plans that I have for you, says the Lord plans for peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” He believes America has not fulfilled all of its purpose, and as Americans cry out in prayer, God will respond.

### Signs and Wonders Following

Ryan LeStrange, co-founder of *awakeningtv.com* and a senior leader of the New Breed Revival Network, agrees. He sees God raising up a prophetic people





**Cindy Jacobs, co-founder  
of Generals International**

who move in signs, wonders and miracles—and it’s waking up the church. LeStrange, who worked alongside Word of Faith general Norvel Hayes for many years, sees a clear link between the prophetic spirit and the miraculous in the next great move of God.

“Miracles should be the spirit of the kingdom, and we need to press in to carry the kingdom. We are truly transitioning into a new era, and it’s the kingdom era,” LeStrange says. “We are no longer just looking for a church expression on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights—we’re looking for a kingdom expression. When we start manifesting the kingdom, signs and wonders flow, the prophetic ministry flows.”

While many in the kingdom are hyperfocused on the judgment of God, LeStrange says the spirit of prophecy is the testimony of Jesus (Rev. 19:10)—and the testimony of Jesus in the New Testament is grace and redemption. To him, that means that the prophetic ministry needs to be rooted in grace and redemption. After all, even when the apostle Paul turned a young man over to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, the end goal was redemption.

“We’ve been bombarded and overwhelmed by gloom-and-doom prophets lately,” LeStrange says. “The Lord told me, ‘I want prophets of awakening. I want people (who) will begin to speak to the root systems.’ In Genesis 1, God

spoke to the seeds and called them forth and they gave birth to food. I believe there needs to be a prophetic expression that speaks to the root of revival.”

LeStrange sees prophetic people as vital to ushering in the next great move of God and encourages prophetic people not to yield to a spirit of isolation like Elijah did after Jezebel threatened him. Prophetic people are often misunderstood and even rejected. David was alone in the wilderness. Prophets and prophetic people go through a difficult process, he says, but it’s worth it to find your ultimate destiny.

“This is the moment America needs clarity. America needs accurate, Holy Ghost-filled prophetic ministry,” says LeStrange, co-author of *Revival Hubs Rising*. “America does not need another opinion. America doesn’t need more opinionated prophets. America needs people who have heard from the throne room and are unbiased, sharing the Father’s heart.”

### **A Shift in Prophetic Ministry**

The shift in prophetic ministry since Hamon and Jacobs pioneered the movement in the 1980s is clear—and timely. If ever America needed prophetic voices declaring God’s heart for a nation, it’s now.

John Eckhardt, author of *Prophet Arise* and apostle and overseer of Crusaders Church in Chicago, sees churches that once shunned prophetic ministry

embracing prophetic people. He agrees that God is moving us toward transforming revival.

“I believe the Pentecostal and charismatic movements were foundational for what God wants to do today,” Eckhardt says. “There has been a great amount of prayer worldwide for revival and awakening, and God is answering those prayers by raising the level of the prophetic. When prophetic people speak, something great is released. Before God does anything in the earth, it has to be declared, and prophets and prophetic people are the ones who make that declaration.”

Prophetic ministry helps the church advance, which is vital at a time in our history when the world is changing so rapidly that the church seems left behind. Eckhardt puts it this way: If we don’t have prophetic people, we can’t remain “current,” and we lose our witness to the world. He sees a real danger of the church growing “obsolete and outmoded” in its methods and strategies. Thankfully, he also sees prophets on the cutting edge that are making intercession and declaring God’s heart for the nation in this hour—and those with an ear to hear what the Spirit is saying to the church are grabbing the revelation and running with it.

“Prophets primarily release the next great move of God through prayer,” says Eckhardt. “They help prepare the church to receive glory and walk in power. When the church walks in the glory of God revival and awakening (are) inevitable. Prophets rejoice in awakening and help maintain it. Sometimes the church loses revivals because we allow things to pollute and corrupt (them)—whether greed, ambition or pride. Prophets help us stay the course.”

Shawn Bolz, senior pastor at Expression 58 in Los Angeles and author of *Translating God: Hearing God’s Voice for Yourself and the World Around You*, is expecting to see God fulfill His promises in Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17—that He would pour out His Spirit in the last days and “your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.”

“We’ve had nearly 750 million people





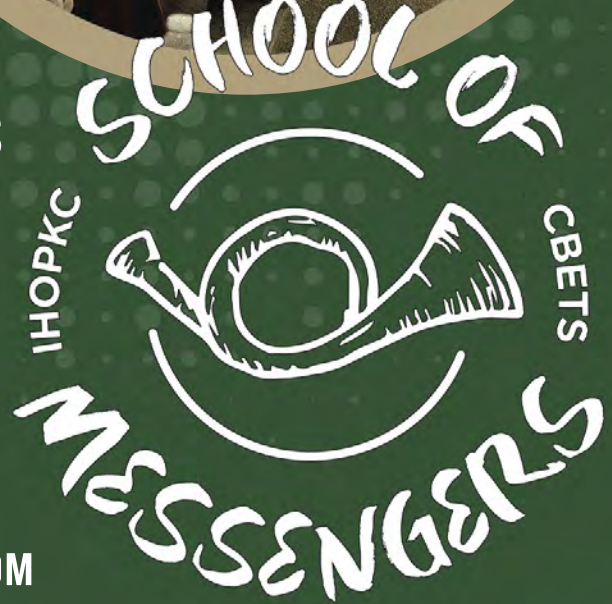
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Ryan LeStrange, senior leader of the New Breed Revival Network

“The Lord told me, ‘I want prophets of awakening. I want people (who) will begin to speak to the root systems.’” —Ryan LeStrange

come out of the Azusa Street Revival a century ago because of a group of people who believed in speaking in tongues and prophesying,” says Bolz. “I think it speaks that God wants to do something in our generation that is unique and to prepare us as a people for His return. He’s releasing the people who are really ready to hear His heart to bring the world to a place of faith. I think that’s what the prophetic does—it brings great faith to God’s big-picture purposes.”

### Supernatural Faith

Chuck Pierce, founder of Glory of Zion International Ministries, is connected with thousands of “Houses of Zion” in cities all over the world. In these home churches, people are praying, prophesying and understanding how to watch with prophetic revelation. He believes the Lord is raising up prophetic people—as opposed to just prophets—to speak. This is key to the new breed of prophetic people rising since most churches do not allow for the free flow of prophetic ministry.

“I believe revelation will drive the awakening,” says Pierce, author of *The Apostolic Church Arising*. “In the coming year, the church will be driven from revelation from past seasons. That means

we’re going to be bringing down prophetic revelation that has been seeded in other seasons in the heavens. We’re going to be establishing it in the years ahead. That will cause the administration of the church to change. The wineskin we call the church will have to become more pliable or we will miss a season like we did in the ’60s in America.”

Pierce is referring to the Jesus Movement, which he describes as a prophetic movement the church didn’t receive. He agrees with many others who are convinced the two-party political system can’t deliver America from its problems. Pierce says God gave him revelation about America in 10-year increments from 1986 to 2026—and the nation is about to change drastically. He expects America to look more like China.

“I see that the body of Christ has to become very supernatural to move forward,” Pierce says. “Starting in 2016 through 2026, America changes greatly. God showed me 21 states in alignment with Him in America. He showed me two states hanging in the balance for the future. In other words, God’s going to deal with America state by state. Entire states will become godless, and others are going to become filled with glory. That will create a schism in the

next 10 years in America. There’s going to be a lot of glory and a lot of darkness, and the two are going to be in conflict.”

Despite this revelation, Pierce lives by this prophetic truth: Even when God releases a word of judgment, He’s releasing it for revelation. Put another way, when truth is spoken without restoration, something is wrong. Pierce likes to remind prophetic people that we don’t live in the Old Covenant, when prophets spoke truth without restoration. Pierce may release prophetic words about floods and fires coming within a certain time frame—and the floods and fires come. But he also offers the hope of how God will restore through the floods and the fires.

“I know our nation is in a hard place, but faith comes by hearing, hearing the word of the Lord,” Pierce says. “I have a problem with prophetic words that leave no room for mercy or hope. That’s not how God works.”

### Shaking and Awakening

Despite all the talk of awakening, some prophets are holding to words of judgment—and even cursing America with foretelling of tsunamis that put Florida under water, a massive asteroid that hits Puerto Rico, “new Madrid” earthquakes that split America down the middle and other fearful prophecies. So which is it? Judgment or revival? Shaking or awakening? In 2007, God showed me a great awakening would come, but not without things growing darker first. He’s showing other prophetic voices the same thing.

Hubie Synn, author of *The Tales of a Wandering Prophet*, says prophetic gifts are coming to the forefront because there are so many unknowns in today’s world, and people are looking for answers from the Lord. Discerning Christians know that a great awakening is the only answer for our nation.

“I expect a great awakening to occur when things start to deteriorate because people turn to God in times of famine rather than times of prosperity,” Synn says. “When 9/11 happened, people rushed to church who hadn’t been there in decades, but it didn’t last. But it shows that in times of distress, people turn to God. As things begin to change,



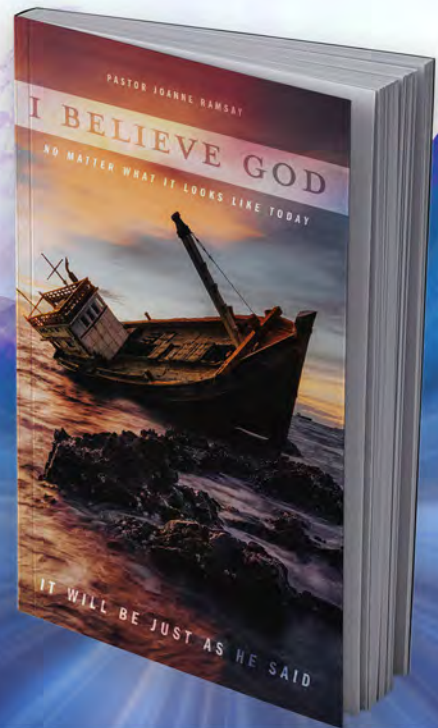
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then there will be a great awakening.”

Darrel deVille, co-founder of Shekinah Today Ministries and co-author of *God's Answer for America*, says we are entering a time when “everything is going to be shifting and changing. The days ahead are going to be days of wonder and days of dread—days of great shaking and yet days of great awakening.”

I agree with Jacobs, who strongly cautions prophetic believers that we need to be careful how we give a prophetic word so we don't release fear into body of Christ and cause people to panic. She reminds Christians that it's the kindness of God that leads us to repentance, and she prays that “in judgment, we remember mercy.”

Although America certainly deserves judgment, Jacobs says God is a merciful God and gives us a window of time to repent.

She's concerned that many people prophesy without thought of how their prophecies will impact people. Jesus said that in the end times, men's hearts would fail them because of fear, but God does not prophesy unto a spirit of fear.

With the rise of people prophesying the heart of the Father, Jacobs is seeing an outpouring of miracles across the board. She says she couldn't remember such an outpouring of healing since the charismatic movement, describing the miracles as “frequent.”

“We're running out of time,” Jacobs says. “People should exercise their faith to pray for miracles because we're in a season of miracles.”

## A Prophetic Army Rising Up

I'm sober. My eyes are wide open. I see the conditions in America. I hear the cries of legitimate prophetic voices that are warning us of the destruction they see in the days ahead. But I believe there is evidence of a great awakening that is here and coming.

Yes, I do believe God is disciplining America. Yes, I do believe that we're reaping what we've sown as a nation—the abortion, the immorality, the idolatry, the racism and more. Yes, I do believe that things are going to get worse before they get better. But I absolutely,

positively refuse to buy into the notion that God is not going to pour out His Spirit once again. I reject the idea that widespread transforming revival that sees a great harvest of souls is impossible in America.

Yes, I believe God does send warnings through prophets. I receive many of these warnings myself, pray over them and trumpet them with clarity, humility and weeping—but always with hope that God can change His mind if we stand in the gap and continue to walk in 2 Chronicles 7:14, even when it looks like nothing is happening.

I believe we need to lift up our voices and speak the hard truths so that we don't end up with the blood of lost souls on our hands. But I refuse to lose hope for a Third Great Awakening. Even Isaiah, who offered plenty of prophetic words about judgment, goes down in Bible history as the prophet of hope.

Like Hamon, I see prophetic believers rising as part of the great end-time intercessory army to prepare the way of the Lord. They are decreeing and declaring revival—and making an appeal to heaven for awakening.

Like Eckhardt, I see hope rising in communities where prophetic believers are allowed to express what they sense the Lord is saying and doing because God is a God of hope even in the midst of what appears to be dark clouds on America's horizon.

Like Jacobs, I see pastors partnering

with prophets like never before and encouraging them to walk in the Ephesians 4 reality of equipping the saints for the work of the prophetic ministry. Like LeStrange, I see the fruit of prophetic ministry springing forth, with believers praying prophetically, engaging in spiritual warfare with the gift of discerning of spirits operating and making announcements of what God is saying and doing in that local body, the region and in the nation.

As prophets come alongside prophetic believers to help them judge what they are hearing and seeing, they will speak forth with more confidence, and their words will help wake the sleeping church. As mature prophets disciple prophetic believers with clear guidelines on intimacy, balance and how to release the gifts of the Spirit accurately, I see a prophetic army rising up as part of the Saints Movement that Hamon prophesied so long ago. And I see it pushing back the darkness that's trying to overshadow the next great move of God. ◀

**JENNIFER LeCLAIRE** is senior leader of *Awakening House of Prayer* in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, founder of the *Ignite Network*, and founder of the *Awakening Prayer Hubs* prayer movement. Jennifer formerly served as the first-ever female editor of *Charisma* magazine and is a prolific author of over 50 books. You can find Jennifer online or shoot her an email at [info@jenniferleclaire.org](mailto:info@jenniferleclaire.org)



**Chuck Pierce, founder of Glory of Zion International Ministries**



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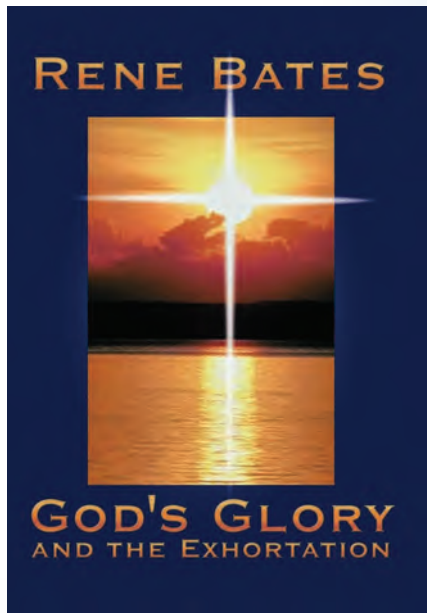
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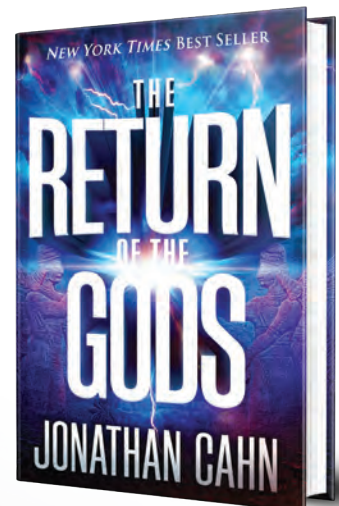
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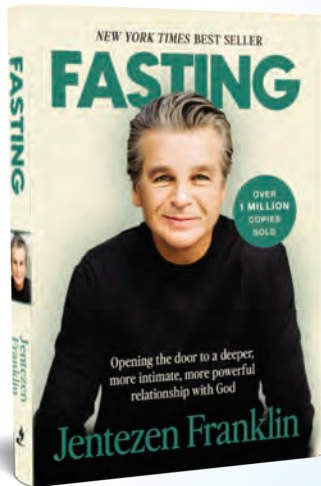
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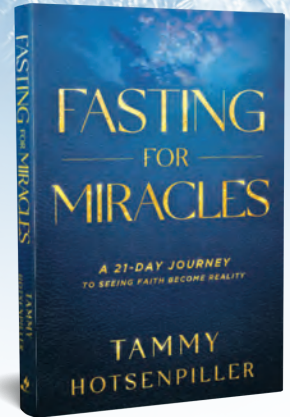
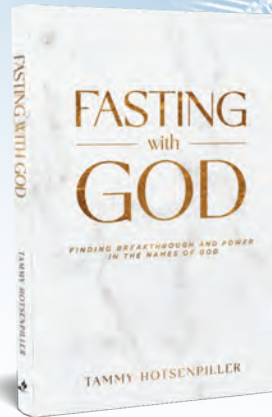




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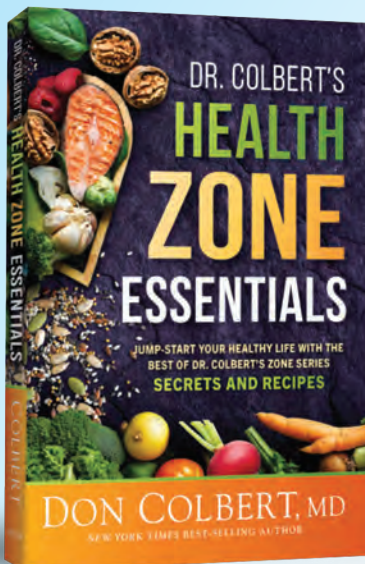
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# IS THE LAST GREAT MOVE OF GOD AROUND THE CORNER?

If you've been praying for unity, signs and wonders and the prodigals, now is the time to press into this prophetic perspective.

**BY R.T. KENDALL**

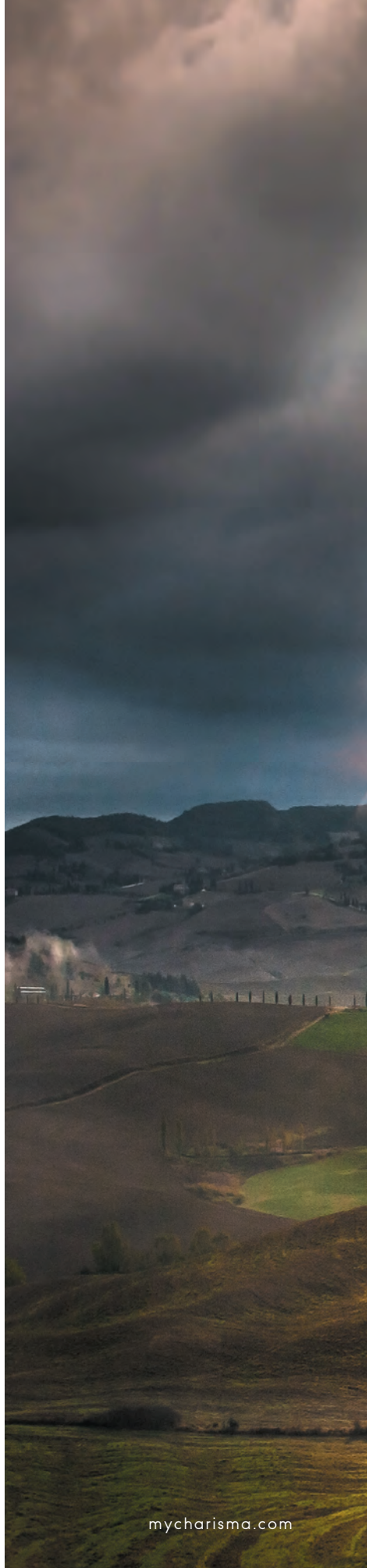
**W**hat will the church be like after the Midnight Cry? The words “revival” and “awakening” are often used interchangeably. Since this is partly a matter of semantics, we should not press the distinction too far. But one might argue that revival refers to Christians being revived and that awakening refers to the community outside the church being shaken.

Yet sometimes the church itself needs to be awakened, and that is what the parable of the 10 virgins is partly about. The 10 virgins refer to the church. But as the bride is not mentioned in the parable of the 10 virgins, we must remember the principle that a parable does not stand evenly on all four legs.

The church is depicted as a bride in at least four places in the New Testament. John the Baptist may have been the first to teach this in John 3:29. Paul brings it up in Ephesians 5:25-32 and 2 Corinthians 11:2. By the time John records these words, “For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready” (Rev. 19:7), it is clear that the church is to be seen as Christ’s bride. But Jesus is still physically at the right hand of God when this happens.

And yet the wedding itself, though it is at hand, does not take place yet. The bride is “ready.” This means the church has at long last become what God wanted it to be—pure like a virgin. The actual wedding takes place later in God’s scheme (Rev. 21:1-4).

continued »





# REVIVAL



The point here is this: Although the church has been asleep and part of the church is described as foolish virgins, the wise virgins who are invited to the wedding banquet fulfill the ultimate purpose of God regarding the church. The wise virgins—namely those who were “ready” (Matt. 25:10)—demonstrate the kind of church God has willed.

## Why the World Does Not Respect the Church

When the church is revived, Christians will become more like what they ought to have been all along. When the church is what it ought to be, the world will begin to respect the church. Sadly, the world does not respect the church.

Mary Queen of Scots reportedly said she feared the prayers of John Knox more than all the armies of Europe. But who respects the church today? Virtually no one. The world laughs at us. No one is afraid of us. Typical Christian television is all about money, feeling good and “What’s in it for me?” There is virtually no fear of God.

The Midnight Cry will result in an immediate fear of God—in the church and the world.

But should the world be afraid of the church? Yes. The world should be very respectful of it. In the earliest church, those outside it stepped to one side with



been in a backslidden state, got right with God, “the terror of God was on the cities that were around them, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob” (Gen. 35:5).

In our parable, the foolish and wise virgins were all awakened. After the middle-of-the-night cry “all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps” (Matt. 25:7). The cry indicated that the Bridegroom’s coming was finally at hand. And all believed it. One of the most extraordinary things about the Midnight Cry will be that the entire church throughout the world will be convinced that the coming of Jesus is truly at hand. The church’s awakening will spill over into communities outside the church.

the right hand of God—was at hand but had not yet arrived. It was a time for the church to get ready for the Second Coming and for those outside the church to get ready for it. The message will be that the Bridegroom’s coming is at hand indeed, but there is still a degree of time. For one thing, the wise would repent of being asleep. And although it was too late, the foolish would plead with the wise for spiritual help.

Picture this. Those in the church who had been on the periphery of the life of the church suddenly pleading tearfully with the faithful: “Pray for us. Please pray for us.” The reply will be: “We wish we could help. We have barely enough grace for ourselves.”

But foolish virgins will not only be comprised of those on the periphery; it will include those thought to be stalwarts! People like this become smug and, sadly, out of touch with communion of the Spirit. They too will be among those who plead with the wise, “Give us some of your oil.” But it will be too late.

The door will be shut. There is no way that the foolish virgins can have a part in this great revival. This is one of the ways “weeping and gnashing of teeth” can be applied to those in the church. They will realize what they have missed.

In the meantime, the Bridegroom will come. We will see further below that the coming of the Bridegroom initially means the coming of the Spirit in power. The wise virgins—those who are “ready”—will go into the wedding banquet. The foolish virgins will appeal to the doorkeeper for entrance into the celebration. “Open the door for us!” they will plead. “I do not know you,” the doorkeeper will tell them (Matt. 25:11-12).

## 10 Signs of an Awakened Church

1) *The gospel restored:* It makes perfect sense that the book of Romans, and especially Romans 4, will be the key to this great move of the Holy Spirit. Romans was the key New Testament book in the time of the Protestant Reformation. Romans 4 is Paul’s expounding of justification by faith

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“One of the most extraordinary things about the Midnight Cry will be that the entire church throughout the world will be convinced that the coming of Jesus is truly at hand.”

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deepest respect when the believers in Christ were around. The early church met in Solomon’s Porch, part of the ancient temple. “No one else dared join them, but the people respected them” (Acts 5:13). This means that the non-believing Jews knew their place when around these believers. They showed a very deep respect for those who believed that Jesus was the Messiah. Why? It is because a fear of God settled on all. An awakened church will gain the world’s respect for it. When Jacob, having

Evangelism will have top priority. Instead of endless introspection and Christians chasing after a “feel good” state of mind, the church will turn to the lost outside it. What will impel the church to evangelize will be the consciousness of God’s coming judgment on unbelievers.

Matthew 25:8-9 tells us an animated conversation followed between the foolish and the wise virgins. This is partly because the Second Coming of Jesus—Jesus leaving His throne at



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alone—the central teaching of the Reformation. The world was turned upside down by this teaching.

The same exact message is what led to John Wesley's conversion—when his heart was “strangely warmed” at Aldersgate Street in London in 1738. This led him to preach it all over England for the next generation. It was the message of Jonathan Edwards in Northampton, Massachusetts, that led to the Great Awakening in New England. The same gospel of Paul, Luther, Edwards and Wesley will be revived and upheld with an unashamed command for people everywhere to be saved by faith in the blood of Christ propitiating the justice of God the Father, and there will be a return to the preaching of the eternal wrath of God.

2) *Holiness*: Holy living—a care to please God by financial integrity, sexual purity, a demonstration of the fruit of the Holy Spirit and a desire to glorify God in the whole of one's life—will become the norm. This will mean a restoration of Christian marriage between a man and a woman—and couples living in faithfulness to one another. People living in homosexual practice will be convicted by the Holy Spirit that they are in sin and will volunteer to honor the clear teaching of Holy Scripture. A return to unfeigned care for the family will be widespread throughout the world. The fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, gentleness, faith, meekness and self-control—will be sought after for Christian character.

We do things in our sleep we would not do when awake. When the church is awakened by the Midnight Cry, there will be deep repentance in the church all over the world for the way we have lived—as if in a dreamlike state. We will be shocked over the kind of lives we lived and how we tolerated the things that no longer gave us a sense of outrage.

3) *Priority of family life*: Possibly the saddest fact of our generation is the utter disintegration of the family unit. Fathers in particular have abdicated their parental responsibility in America and Britain. The result is unprecedented numbers of single parents—mostly

mothers—having to bring up their children. Many children growing up today have no relationship with their fathers. This is a recipe for lack of sexual identity later in life. Some have no idea who their fathers are because sometimes mothers are not sure. But there will be a great sense of repentance coming to parents after the Midnight Cry, restoring families and bringing dads home to love their children (Mal. 4:5-6; Luke 1:17).

4) *The return of millions of young people to the church*: The generation gap that has developed so sharply in the last 50 years in the church—resulting in more and more young people leaving it—will close more and more as a result of the Midnight Cry and the spiritual coming of Jesus. The restoration of parents and children means not only a return to focus on the family, but also the return of young people to the church.

We have been losing countless numbers of young people in recent years. The main reason for the loss of young people is that they do not see the Chris-

tian message as relevant or true. The Pentecostals, Christianity has appealed largely to the middle class. And yet in the New Testament it is said of Jesus: “The common people heard him gladly” (Mark 12:37, KJV).

Not only that, but Paul also made it painfully clear that God's elect are largely chosen from ordinary people (1 Cor. 1:26-28). The next great move of God will reach the poor, the rejected, the homeless, the uneducated and the jobless. No one will feel left out. Because Jesus left no one out.

6) *Concern for the poor and the “underdog”*: Evangelicals' uneasy conscience for neglecting the “poor” of James 2:6, for example, will lead the church to show their faith by “good works”—not merely saying “God bless you” but by active involvement for hurting people (vv. 14-17). An awakened church will no longer sweep the dirt under the carpet by showing disdain for the underprivileged and the unemployed but will show compassion not unlike that of the William Booths of this world. This will be a part of the

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“Many young people—teenagers and those in their 20s and 30s—will flock to the church in anxiety, desperation and heart-searching. The spiritual coming of Jesus will fill the need.”

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istian message as relevant or true. The Midnight Cry will change that overnight. Many young people—teenagers and those in their 20s and 30s—will flock to the church in anxiety, desperation and heart-searching. The spiritual coming of Jesus will fill the need.

5) *The working class and ordinary people leading the way in number of people converted*: Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones used to say to me, “Christianity has not touched the working class in Britain.” Those words gave me pause. He is so right. When I was at Westminster Chapel, we tried to reach all classes of people but had only modest success. It was the middle class who came to the chapel by and large. The same is true in America. Whether it be Southern Baptists, Presbyterians or

bride making herself ready.

7) *Evangelism*: I do not anticipate organized mass evangelistic campaigns but rather many Christians doing the work of an evangelist. Although we will need the leadership of high-profile evangelists, I predict that there will be few superstars. I expect the evangelism to be spontaneous, as it was when Philip approached the Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-36) or when Peter took advantage of the platform provided by the healing of the man by the gate of the temple called Beautiful (Acts 3:1-20).

This is to say nothing of the power of the Holy Spirit falling all over the church throughout the world at the onset of the Midnight Cry—with countless people being saved because they cry out to God in Jesus' name. Muslims will be open



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to the gospel. Thousands of people—including imams—who have had dreams that Jesus was the Son of God and died on a cross will surface and openly turn to Jesus Christ. Truly, the glory of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Indeed, the angel Gabriel stated that John the Baptist would bring many of the people of Israel back to the Lord their God (Luke 1:16). Do not forget: The Midnight Cry will result in a John-the-Baptist ministry to the church.



are many who made professions of faith but deserted the church. A John-the-Baptist ministry will touch people like that. Many backsliders will return to the church.

If someone asks, “Why cannot this apply to the foolish virgins? Were they not backsliders too?” I reply: the foolish virgins were in a category that describes those who could not be restored to repentance, as in Hebrews 6:4-6. It is not easy

8) *Church unity*: The first Pente-

wonders—including people like Ananias and Sapphira being struck dead (Acts 5:1-11)—can be expected after the Midnight Cry. The fact of holiness generally being the norm in the church would not mean that anyone is sinless.

to draw the line between foolish virgins in the church who cannot be restored and backsliders in the world who may be restored.

I would only suggest that the foolish virgins were not like those who had not gone back into the world but were like the Laodiceans—smug, who “have need of nothing” (Rev. 3:17). Jesus said there were prostitutes who believed John the Baptist, and people like them enter the kingdom of God before Pharisees (Matt. 21:31-32). The foolish virgins were more like Pharisees—self-righteous, judgmental and unteachable—that is, until it was too late for them.

Third, as John the Baptist brought many “of the people of Israel” back to the Lord, so would the Midnight Cry do this for modern Israel. This would mean Jews today—anywhere in the world. The coming revival will result in the lifting of the blindness in Israel, as we have seen. Therefore the John-the-Baptist-type of ministry that precedes the physical Second Coming of Jesus will play a huge part in the restoration of Israel in the very last days. ◀

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## “Signs and wonders—including people like Ananias and Sapphira being struck dead—can be expected after the Midnight Cry.”

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cost came when the disciples were of one accord (Acts 2:1). This was without doubt an essential ingredient in the initial coming of the Spirit to the church. Jesus prayed for church unity in John 17:21, that the church may be “one.” This too will be a vital factor in the bride making herself ready for the coming of the Lord.

The Midnight Cry will bring about true fellowship with all Christians. Instead of a prevalence of suspicion toward those who don’t see eye to eye with us, there will be a love for one another—an overlooking of nonessentials. The coming movement of the Spirit will bring a beautiful church unity—a great part of the bride making herself ready.

9) *Signs and wonders*: Apart from multitudinous conversions, many people will be healed. Signs and

But I fully expect the blind to be healed, even hospitals sometimes to be emptied and the dead to be raised—just to demonstrate the power of the ascended Christ before He makes all His enemies His footstool.

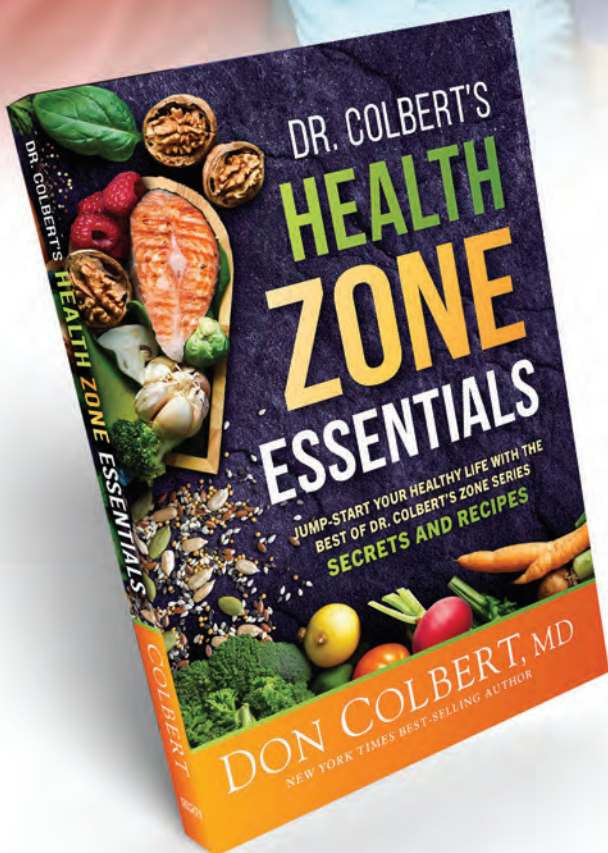
10) *Many backsliders restored*: A vital part of the John-the-Baptist ministry was that he would “turn many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God” (Luke 1:16). This verse in Luke could mean more than one thing. First, in the original context it would refer to those within Israel—the household of faith—who are backslidden but get restored. This no doubt happened when John preached “repentance” (Luke 3:8). Thousands came back to a right relationship with God through John’s ministry.

Second, I would anticipate this to happen in the coming awakening. There

**R.T. KENDALL** was the pastor of *Westminster Chapel in London, England, for 25 years. Born in Ashland, Kentucky, he was educated at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and Oxford University (D.Phil.). Kendall is the author of more than 60 books.*



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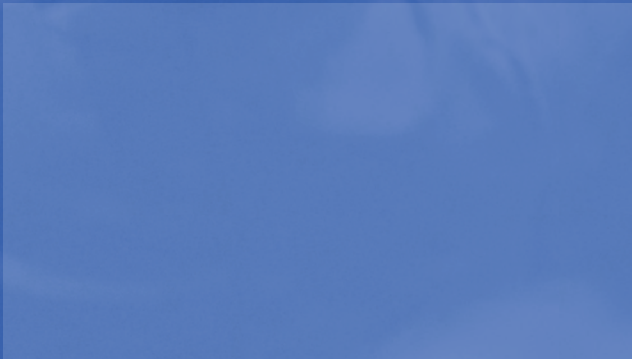
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