

END-TIME ADVENT | BREAK ADDICTIONS | EXPLOSIVE FAITH

# CHARISMA®

DECEMBER 2021

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT



## BE PART OF A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE

**Danita Estrella Watts**

has worked for over 20 years to  
save Haiti's children from poverty  
and here's how you can help

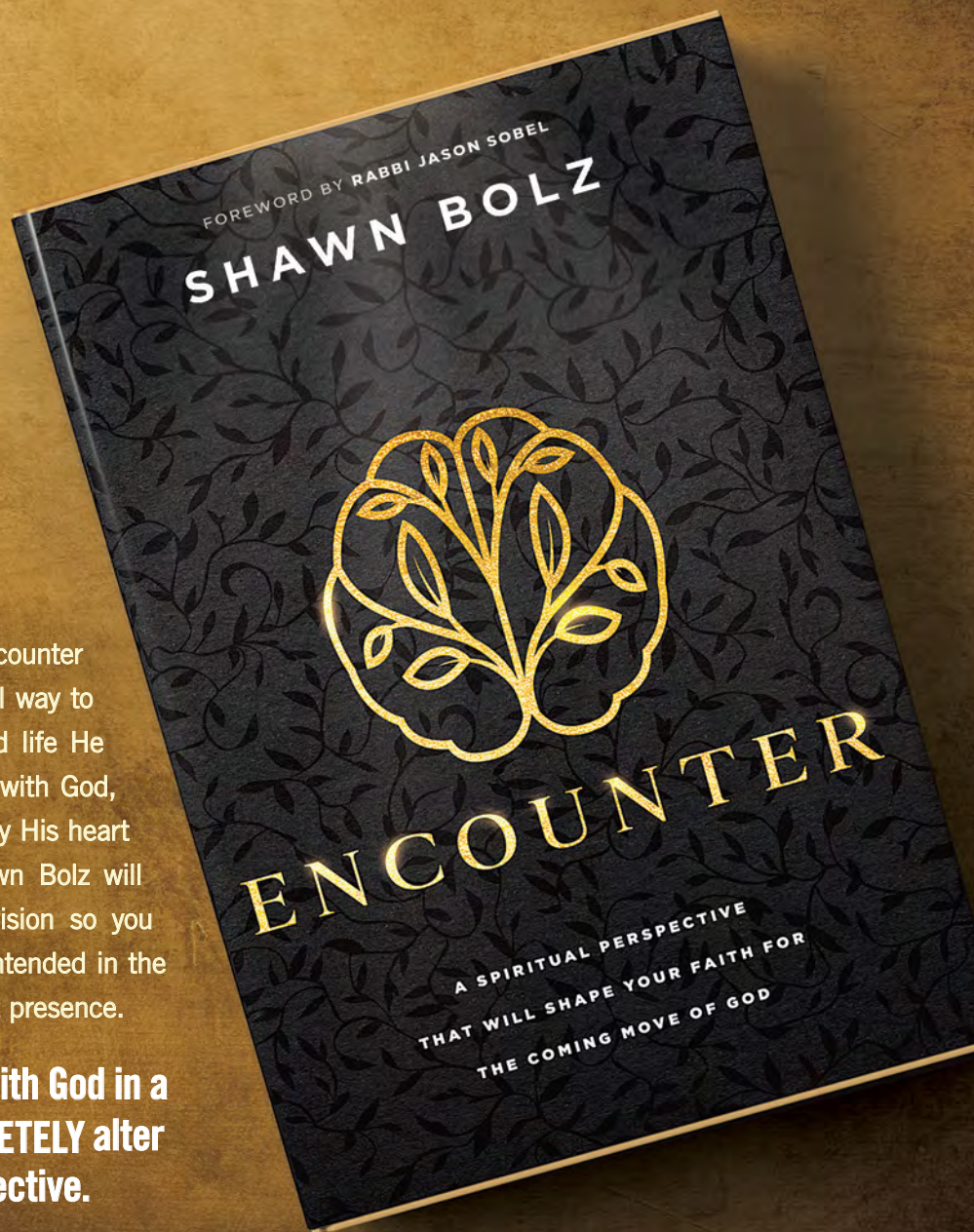
*Merry Christmas*

# One of the greatest spiritual battles

right now is over **PERSPECTIVE**—the way you see possibilities, limitations, and **WHAT GOD IS DOING**.

**Are you ready** to encounter God in such an impactful way to live the super-empowered life He desires for you? To walk with God, you need to know not only His heart but also His mind. Shawn Bolz will help you gain a fresh vision so you can live exactly as God intended in the coming move of His great presence.

**Learn how to walk with God in a way that will COMPLETELY alter your spiritual perspective.**

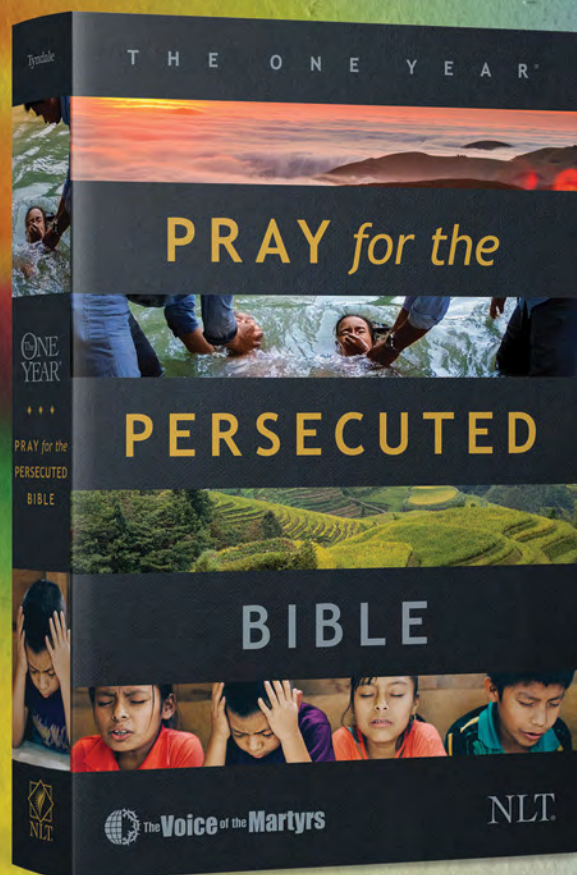


Preorder before January 4 and receive FREE bonus items. [CharismaHouse.com](http://CharismaHouse.com)

One in eight  
Christians lives  
in a country  
where they are  
persecuted for  
their faith.

Their first  
request is for  
us to PRAY.

*How will you  
respond?*



**THE ONE YEAR PRAY for the PERSECUTED BIBLE** helps you to connect your daily prayer time to the needs of persecuted Christians around the world.



Each day's reading features a prayer prompt created by **The Voice of the Martyrs** that focuses on pressing requests from Christians around the world. The complete text of

Scripture is arranged into daily portions from the Old Testament, the New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. **Will you join us as we get into God's Word and on our knees in prayer?**



# CONTENTS

DECEMBER 2021/VOLUME 47, NUMBER 5



22 COVER STORY

## How One Woman Touched a Nation

Danita Estrella Watts has worked for over 20 years to save Haiti's children from poverty. Here's how you can help her

By Maureen Eha

## FEATURES

30

### 50 Years Since the Jesus Movement

In 1971, *Time* magazine announced in a legendary cover story that a "Jesus revolution" had hit the nation. Could it happen again?

By Nik Walker

38

### End-time Prophetic Signs Revealed in the Christmas Story

The living Word of God reveals the truth about the supernatural signs that pointed to Jesus' birth—and now, to His return

By Caleb Cooper

44

### How to Break the Power of Addiction

Many Christians today live with secret habits. If you are tired of the chains, take these steps to freedom

By Peter Horrobin

50

### 4 Keys to Walk in the Explosive Power of Faith

Don't let skepticism and disappointment take hold in your soul. Rediscover God's supernatural power and see supernatural results

By Abner Suarez

## 2021 CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS BEGINS WITH CHRIST



17

## DEPARTMENTS

### Dear Charisma 6

### Charismata 16

The Study Stunning the American Church, David Yonggi Cho Dead at 85

Hurricane Ida Aid, Dr. Immanuel Vaccination Awakening, Trump Speaks

### Spirit-Led Resources 54

*Empowered by Praise, Focus On the Future, The Case for Heaven*

Reviews: Charisma Courses, for KING&COUNTRY's "Relate"

## COLUMNS

### 8 Greenelines

May each of us remember that our deeds will speak of us for eternity

By Dr. Steve Greene

### 10 Fire in My Bones

Instead of fighting about COVID, let's mourn its victims

By J. Lee Grady

### 12 Straight Talk

Trusting God to live beyond our emotions and please Him

By Joyce Meyer

### 14 Things to Come

Divine convergence and revelatory alliance

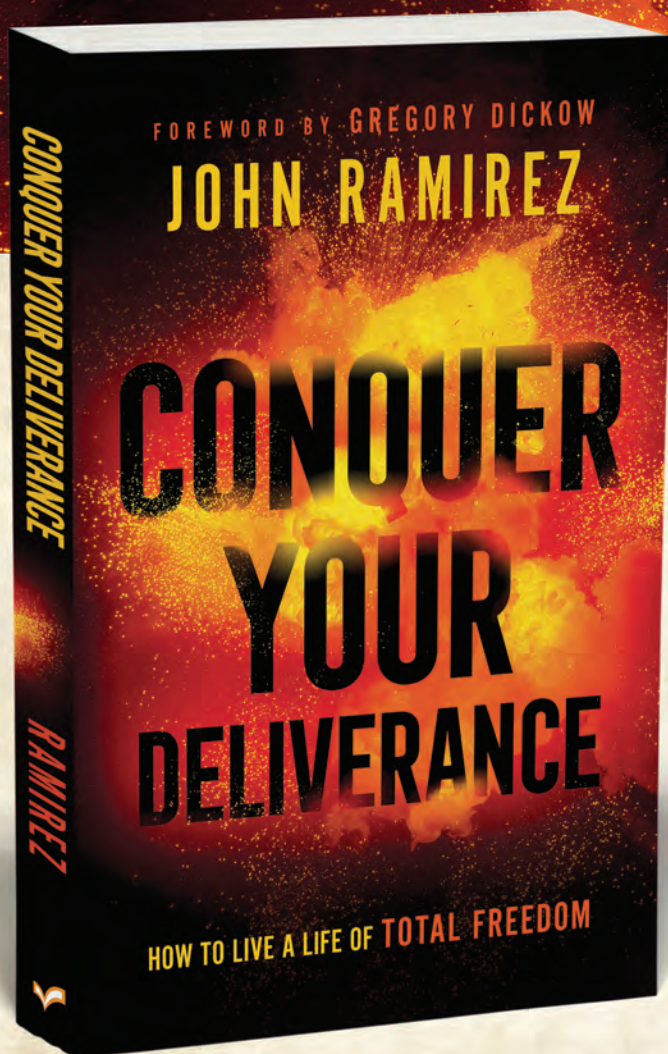
By Chandy Thomas

### 58 Strang Report

Christmas is for giving, please join me in blessing the children of Haiti

By Stephen Strang

# CANCEL THE ENEMY'S ASSIGNMENT THAT IS STEALING YOUR BREAKTHROUGH!



You've been saved and delivered. But the enemy doesn't consider you off-limits. You must learn how to shore up your defenses, prepare for the next attack, and remain free in Christ. Former high-ranking satanic priest, evangelist and author John Ramirez knows how to live assured in the victory and deliverance won in Christ Jesus. His newest book, *Conquer Your Deliverance*, will equip you with strategies, Scriptures and deliverance prayers so you can stand firm in your breakthrough and maintain a life of total freedom.

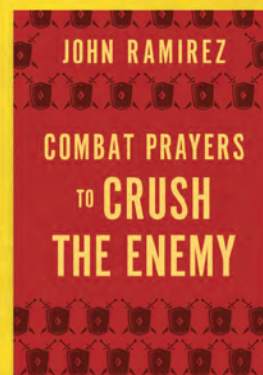
 **Chosen**  
chosenbooks.com a division of Baker Publishing Group

## MORE BOOKS FROM JOHN RAMIREZ

**GET 30% OFF**  
AND FREE SHIPPING AT  
[BAKERBOOKHOUSE.COM](http://BAKERBOOKHOUSE.COM)



 SCAN TO SHOP



**STEPHEN STRANG** | Founding Editor and Publisher  
steve.strang@charismamedia.com

**JOY F. STRANG** | Chief Financial Officer

**DR. STEVE GREENE** | Executive VP  
drsteve.greene@charismamedia.com

**JEFF STRUSS** | Director of Content Development  
jeff.struss@charismamedia.com

**ROBERT CAGGIANO** | Content Development Editor  
robert.caggiano@charismamedia.com

**SHAWN A. AKERS** | Assistant Online Editor  
shawn.akers@charismamedia.com

**BLAIR PARKE** | Copy Editor  
blair.parke@charismamedia.com

**MARCISHA SCIOVILLE** | Director of Print Production

**RALPH RAMIREZ JR.** | Art Director

**ANN MARIE KELLY** | Senior Advertising Consultant  
amkelly@charismamedia.com

**JOSHUA BUCHANAN** | Digital Media Sales Consultant  
joshua.buchanan@charismamedia.com

**ERICA HEITZ** | Media Ad Traffic Supervisor  
erica.heizt@charismamedia.com

**MARIO ALCANTARA** | Full Stack Web Developer  
mario.alcantara@charismamedia.com

**DEBRA MILLS** | Customer Service  
debra.mills@charismamedia.com

#### EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING OFFICES:

600 Rinehart Road, Lake Mary, FL 32746  
Phone: 407-333-0600 • Fax: 407-333-7100  
Email: [charisma@charismamedia.com](mailto:charisma@charismamedia.com)  
Website: [charismamag.com](http://charismamag.com)

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to  
P.O. Box 6104, Harlan, IA 51593-1604.

**SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:** 10 issues \$24.97; 20 issues \$39.97. Canadian subscribers add \$24 per year, other countries add \$36 per year, payable in advance in U.S. currency only. If you have moved, received damaged or duplicate copies/missed issues, experienced billing problems, want to renew or need additional subscription information, call 1-800-829-3346. To subscribe, go online to [charismamag.com](http://charismamag.com). Contact customer service by email at [cracustserv@cdsfulfillment.com](mailto:cracustserv@cdsfulfillment.com) or write to *Charisma*, P.O. Box 6104, Harlan, IA 51593-1604. European subscribers can call England at 0870 745 5793. All foreign subscribers can call 515-237-3640.

**ADVERTISING POLICY:** Charisma Media fully supports journalistic integrity with the editorial provided in our print and online products. *Charisma* strives to maintain the highest journalistic principles. Advertising in *Charisma* does not imply or suggest support of editorial endorsement.

**MAILING LIST:** We make a portion of our mailing list available to reputable firms. If you would prefer that we not include your name, call 1-800-829-3346, write to us at 600 Rinehart Road, Lake Mary, FL 32746, or email us at [magcustsvc@charismamedia.com](mailto:magcustsvc@charismamedia.com).



[charismamag.com](http://charismamag.com)



*"We need strong men of faith to step up and lead this great nation."*

—Rev. Ian Miller,  
Guthrie, OK

#### "SUPERNATURAL BOLDNESS" WITH PASTOR MARK BURNS

Thank you for the article on Pastor Mark Burns (*Charisma*, October 2021). He is a truly awesome man of God. I had the honor of ministering alongside him a few years ago at the Pickens County Jail in South Carolina. We need strong men of faith to step up and lead this great nation.

**Rev. Ian Miller, Guthrie, OK**

#### "LET AMERICA LIVE" AND DR. IMMANUEL

Dr. Stella Immanuel's article about COVID was an eye-opener (*Charisma*, October 2021)! I have followed the pandemic news since last year, but Immanuel's new book (*Let America Live*, Charisma House, 2021) goes much deeper than the news networks would ever allow. The level of the ongoing cover-ups is frightening. I'm glad someone is trying to share this news.

**Patrick Daniels, Asheville, NC**

#### "GOD'S DIVINE BRAIN DESIGN"

The article from Dr. Tim Clinton was amazing (*Charisma*, October 2021),

describing brain neurobiology and getting breakthrough from shame and trauma. I have struggled with challenges like these for years, but this new book seems like a fresh reason for hope and freedom. I have enjoyed *Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk* program, so Dr. Clinton comes highly recommended in my opinion.

**Dan Jameson, via facebook.com/charismamagazine**

#### OUR FAVORITE WORSHIP SONGS

Absolutely loved the article about worship songs and where they came from (*Charisma*, October 2021). You had me singing along with every worship song mentioned. I was hoping you'd mention "Give Thanks (With A Grateful Heart)" and sure enough, there it was. My grandmother used to sing that one. I remember her singing it in her kitchen while making dinner for us when we visited when I was just a little kid. What terrific memories this article brought back.

**Mike and Lisa Roberts, Tangerine, FL**

## » HOW TO CONNECT WITH US:

**Mail** Charisma  
600 Rinehart Road  
Lake Mary, FL 32746

**Phone** 407-333-0600

**Web** [charismamag.com](http://charismamag.com)

**Email** [charisma@charismamedia.com](mailto:charisma@charismamedia.com)

**Subscribe** 800-829-3346  
[cracustserv@cdsfulfillment.com](mailto:cracustserv@cdsfulfillment.com)

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Modern English Version. Copyright © 2014 by Military Bible Association. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

# How Do You Find Your Peace?



**Worry. Fear.  
Anxiety. Anger.  
Guilt. Depression.  
Addictions.**

Emotional stress drains. Do you feel like peace and strength elude you? *Hidden Treasure* points you to the biblical answers for receiving God's peace and strength in your life. You can defeat emotional stress, addictions, and unforgiveness in your life and be FREE!

This book is about my personal testimony of how God taught me to surrender to Him through the instruction from the Bible. It told me to be anxious for nothing by casting all of my care on Him. *Hidden Treasure* shares my insights on Biblical spirituality and how to walk in the Spirit.



*Peter Aiello*

Visit [HiddenTreasure.website](http://HiddenTreasure.website) for a FREE download of *Hidden Treasure*



**PODCAST** Listen to Spirit-led interviews, commentary and takeaways on how to come up higher and walk in God's abundance.

Download at [CPNSHOWS.COM](http://CPNSHOWS.COM)

## Legacy of Love

May each of us remember that our deeds will speak of us for eternity

Those who write about leadership seem dedicated to defining the crown of effective leadership as “leaving a legacy.” Some writers suggest five, seven or 10 levels of leadership progression, with the last being legacy leadership.

The dangling carrot for a leader is to do something, build something or say a lot of somethings that outlast a lifetime. Maybe this explains why I like to see my quotes on Twitter enveloped in a meme. I can convince myself that my words will forever mark the Twitterverse.

I searched the Bible for the *l* word and found nothing in most translations. A few versions, including the Modern English Version, include the word in this one verse, “The wise will inherit glory, but shame will be the legacy of fools” (Prov. 3:35).

I can best understand the word *legacy* through a synonym such as an inheritance or gift of money or property. But it seems leadership writers are referring to something more.

Some suggest that philosophers left a legacy in their manner of thinking out loud. (And those ancient philosophers had nary a tweet among them.) And Billy Graham once said this about legacy: “Our days are numbered. One of the primary goals in our lives should be to prepare for our last day. The legacy we leave is not just in our possessions, but in the quality of our lives. What preparations should we be making now? The greatest waste in all our earth, which cannot be recycled or reclaimed, is our waste of the time God has given us each day.”

A good friend of mine suggested I consider the Bible’s “hall of faith” to gain an understanding of legacy. Hebrews 11 is peppered with legacy imprints. The book of Hebrews is pastoral in nature and it seems to be written to encourage and edify.

In Chapter 11, the author forms a message arc around the importance of faith in our Christian walk. After making an opening statement on faith, he references the lives of men and women who modeled faith. Apparently this is how their legacy was established—in faith. And we know faith works through love (Gal. 5:6).

If you hope to leave a “good report”—a strong legacy—walking in faith, which works through love, is your aim. By faith, Abel demonstrated his love to God through his obedience and sacrifice, and his faith speaks volumes to this day (Heb. 11:1-6).

The Bible tells us that Enoch walked with God for 300 years (Gen. 5:22). Can you imagine? All told, he lived 365 years and never tasted death. His legacy is that he pleased God. I could live with that! Love-driven leaders seek to please God and are



**“We will be remembered by the love we have demonstrated.”**

quick to repent when they don’t.

It seems Enoch’s legacy of faithfulness to God influenced future generations. His grandson Noah also made the hall of faith: “By faith Noah, being divinely warned about things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark to save his family, by which he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith” (Heb. 11:7).

Noah feared the Lord and demonstrated a righteousness that comes by faith. Noah’s legacy is obedience in the faith of what looked ridiculous—and his obedience essentially saved the human race. Love-driven leaders take risks.

We also see in Abraham a legacy of faith that influenced generations (Gal. 3:13-14; Heb. 11:8-12, 20-22, 30-31). Love-driven leadership is moved by faith, which works through love. Even when you spy out the land and it looks as if the giants are too great for you, you can choose to see through the eyes of faith, as Joshua and Caleb did (Num. 13). Love-driven leadership seeks the Lord, finds confidence in Him and executes His vision in His timing in His way for His glory. And it takes great faith, which works through love.

Indeed, faith seems to be interwoven with legacy. Leaders with little faith probably do not leave a legacy. So consider this question: When you make decisions, do you consider how your choices will impact your legacy? Should you?

The teams we lead will remember us not by profits earned or buildings built. We will be remembered by the love we have demonstrated. When I am gone, I pray that love will remain.

Listen to **DR. STEVE GREENE’s** *Greenelines* podcast on the CPN network.



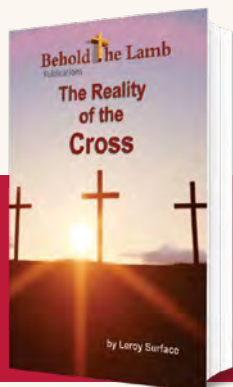
# SIMPLY CHRIST



Sharing the simplicity  
that is in Christ

## THEY PROMISE LIBERTY

A true minister is a “dispenser” of grace. That is why the Apostle Paul spoke of *“the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward.”* Ephesians 3:2. The minister receives “grace” from the Lord for the people and “dispenses” that grace as they minister the word of God. This eternal truth of ministry is found in the words of Peter when he said, *“...such as I have give I thee...”* Acts 3:6. Yet, Jesus’ words give us insight to the dangers of being “ministered to” by those who possess something which is not “grace.” He warned, *“If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!”* Matthew 6:23. If those who minister to us are possessed by darkness they will “dispense” that same darkness unto those who receive them. **The words which we speak as ministers are only secondary to the spirit which possesses us.**



**FREE BOOK**  
The Reality of  
the Cross

A few years ago, surveys were published which told us that over 50% of pastors surveyed in evangelical churches admitted to regularly viewing pornography. At first, I believed these numbers were exaggerated, but what I have seen in the last couple years makes me wonder if the situation was actually understated. If this is true, these pastors are “dispensing” spiritual pollution into the hearts of those they minister to.

Some attempt to portray pornography as just a weakness which godly men are susceptible to. It is not! It is a sin of the sort of which Paul told us *“they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”* Galatians 5:21. The words of Jesus perfectly describe the condition of those who partake of such things. He said, *“...whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.”* Matthew 5:28. **Pornography is the open manifestation of both adultery and fornication in the heart of those who consume it.**

The Apostle Peter warned of teachers who were themselves enslaved in darkness. He said they speak *“great swelling words of vanity,”* but are actually bringing the people of God back into the bondage of corruption. Peter said, *“While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption...”* II Peter 2:19. These teachers could preach about great “liberty” in Christ, but they did not possess that liberty because they themselves were prisoners of corruption.

Peter explains this, saying, *“for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”* This statement is actually a reiteration of what Jesus told the Jews when he said, *“He that commits sin is a servant (slave) of sin.”* John 8:34. Sin is never independent of its source. The source of a sinful act is a sinful heart. The person who commits the act of sin does so because of its dominion over them. The Apostle Paul also confirms this, saying, *“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”* Romans 6:16.

Peter was speaking of those who once knew the reality of Christ when he said, *“For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.”* II Peter 2:20. These had been delivered from “the pollutions of the world” through Jesus Christ, but were now back in sin’s bondage and worse off than before they ever came to Christ.

This epidemic of pornography is only symptomatic of a church which has lost its way and no longer knows *“the truth of Christ”* which Jesus said *“make you free indeed!”* John 8:32-36. Until the church returns to the simple message of the *“cross of Christ”* which “destroys the body of sin” Romans 6:6, and the *“blood of Christ”* which washes it from our heart Revelation 1:5, sin in the ministry will stand as proof that the church has lost its answer, even as *“salt”* which *“has lost its savour.”* Matthew 5:13.

**Simply Christ** is sent weekly via email to believers around the world. To request your freebook or subscription, visit [cochurch.org](http://cochurch.org) or write to: **Behold the Lamb Publications, P.O. Box 750 Porter, TX 77365**

## Instead of Fighting About COVID, Let's Mourn for Its Victims

Some people deny that this pandemic is real. I have friends who died from it

**B**ack in August I attended the funeral of a true Christian hero, Beatriz López. She was a brave evangelist who preached the gospel in her native Cuba in spite of opposition from the government. She became the first woman to serve as a bishop in her denomination, the International Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Beatriz was only 58. She died in a Florida hospital on Aug. 18 after battling COVID for more than two weeks. Her two sons, ages 25 and 36, are still in mourning—along with multiple congregations in Cuba who miss their beloved spiritual mother.

In September another pastor I know, Vaughn Clark from Dublin, Georgia, died after fighting the virus. And a few months before that, I lost two other friends to COVID—Moisés Gonzalez and Claudia Cupido, both pastors in Mexico.

As of October, more than 4.7 million people have died from COVID. An estimated 676,000 of those have been in the United States. Yet from the beginning of this pandemic, I've listened to Christians argue about the virus from every angle:

- » Some say health experts are exaggerating the numbers.
- » Some say the virus is a hoax and that it's really not deadly.
- » Some believe the COVID vaccine is a sinister plot to kill us all.

I usually keep my mouth shut when people share their conspiracy theories and political views. None of us really knows what is behind the curtain. I certainly don't trust all the "experts" because: 1) they don't agree, and 2) the "science" of this virus is not conclusive.

What bothers me most is when people deny the virus is real. Maybe they don't know anyone who got sick? I do. I've seen families and churches devastated by the loss the pandemic has caused.

Consider the Church of God in Christ, one of the largest African-American denominations in this country. The numbers of COGIC leaders who have died since March 2020 is beyond astounding. Those deaths include Bishop Phillip A. Brooks, who was second in command in the church. Observers wonder how COGIC will navigate its future with so many of its leaders gone.

In countries such as Malawi, India or the Philippines, huge numbers of ministry leaders died from COVID, even when their churches were in quarantine. In January of



**"My plea is that we would show some kindness, especially to the families of loved ones who died."**

this year, evangelist Stephen Lungu, the "Billy Graham of Africa," succumbed to the disease at age 79.

In Nepal, where Christianity is a minority faith, 130 pastors had died of COVID by July 2021. One Nepali leader told *Christianity Today* in June: "In the month of May, pastors were dying almost every day. I have never seen something like that."

My plea is that we would show some kindness, especially to the families of loved ones who died from the virus. If someone you know was a casualty of this disease, now is not the time to share your opinions about mask mandates, antibodies, vaccines, Dr. Fauci or the greedy motives of drug companies.

Nor is it the time to ask, "Were they vaccinated?" Instead, offer your heartfelt condolences. Say a kind word. Share the family's pain instead of causing more pain with your insensitivity.

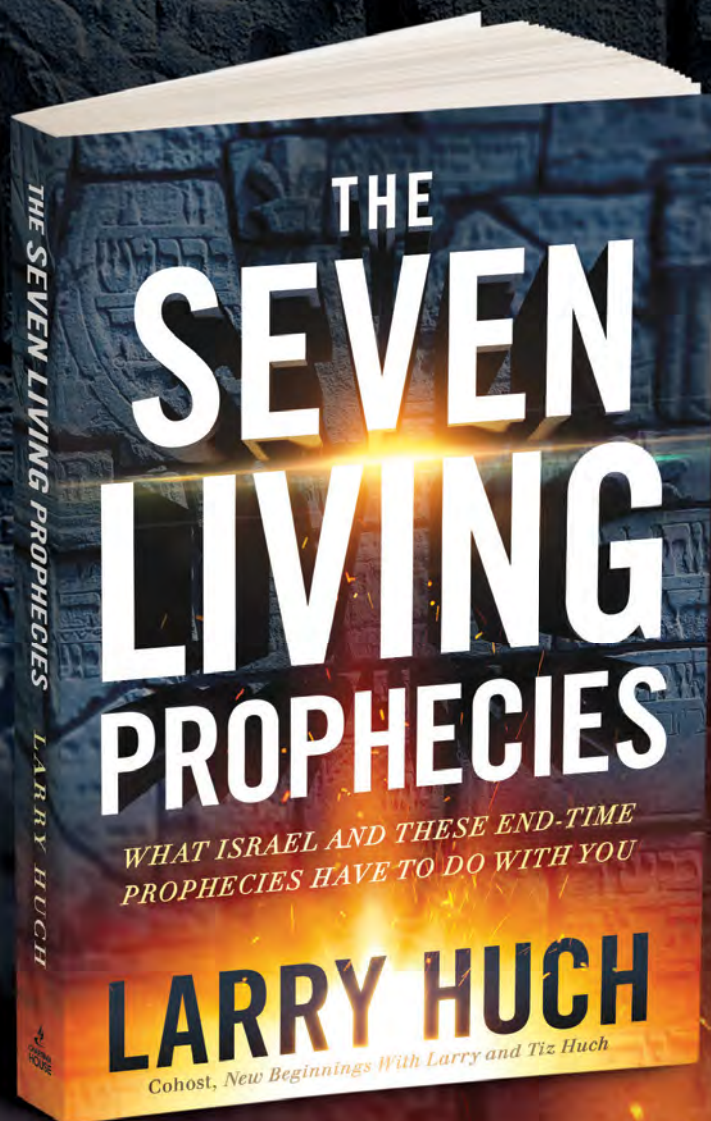
The world is experiencing a global tragedy. Millions of people in 2020 and 2021 have buried parents, children, spouses, brothers, sisters and friends. They have even buried their pastors.

We have been stressed out because of ventilators, fevers, inflamed lungs, quarantines, socially distanced funerals and endless political arguments. Yet we have also been reminded that there is an eternity on the other side of this broken, disease-filled world.

While we mourn the deaths of our brothers and sisters in Christ, let's hold on to faith, knowing that God can cause all things—even a pandemic—to work together for our good.

**J. LEE GRADY** was editor of *Charisma* for 11 years and now serves as contributing editor. He directs *The Mordecai Project* ([themordecainproject.org](http://themordecainproject.org)), an international ministry that protects women and girls from gender-based violence. His latest book is *Set My Heart on Fire* (Charisma House).

# DISCOVER WHAT ISRAEL AND GOD'S END-TIME PROPHECIES HAVE TO DO WITH YOU.



**THE MISSING PIECE TO GOD'S  
END-TIME PLAN IS YOU!**



Respected teacher on the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith, Pastor Larry Huch shows you how ancient prophecies that you have only read about are now unfolding. *The Seven Living Prophecies* equips you to understand God's end-time plan for both Jews and Gentiles, to connect the dots among Scripture, prophecy, and events in Israel, and discern what God is saying through wonders in the heavens and signs in the earth.

**Prepare for the great  
outpouring of God's  
supernatural blessings and  
miracles in your life.**



Find your **FREE** chapter here and get your copy at  
[www.TheSevenLivingProphecies.com](http://www.TheSevenLivingProphecies.com) | [LarryHuchMinistries.com](http://LarryHuchMinistries.com)

## Fickle Feelings

### Trusting God to live beyond our emotions and please Him

**T**here are some people in this world who are extremely reliable. You can count on them for just about anything, and somehow they'll always come through. However, I've found that many people are not very reliable.

Maybe you know someone who is a nice person, but if you ask them to do something, you're just not sure if they're going to follow through. In other words, they're unreliable.

I've discovered that feelings are a lot like unreliable people—we can't depend on them to be what we want or need them to be all the time. Not only that, but they aren't necessarily interested in what's best for us. And they always want to have their way.

Feelings get us excited about going shopping when we really don't have any money to spend. They entice us to eat cheesecake when we're trying to avoid extra calories and lead us to stay up late working or watching TV when we need to get up early the next day. Then after the damage is done, we have to deal with the consequences.

Our feelings are fickle—they change like the wind. Yet it's amazing how much we let them have their way in our lives. But as believers in Christ, we have something much better and more dependable to follow than our feelings and that's the Word of God.

When we feel strongly about something in our heart, it's not always easy for us to determine whether or not we're really in agreement with God (see Jer. 17:9). Thankfully, God's Word doesn't leave us lost in confusion.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV) says that the Word of God is "sharper than any double-edged sword ... it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

So if we really want to rise above our feelings, we must let the Word of God be the final deciding factor in our decisions. There will be times when we can't find a verse for the specific issue we're dealing with. But we can always pray and ask God for wisdom (see James 1:5).

In the meantime, we need to trust Him, be patient and keep on praying.

Remember that God is always available to help us live *beyond* our feelings and do what pleases Him. The first step toward managing our emotions is found in Colossians 3:2. It says, "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."



**"The more we discipline ourselves to say no to our feelings and yes to the wisdom of God, the easier it becomes to defeat them in a spiritual tug-of-war."**

There are many things in this world that could easily affect our minds and emotions and we need to learn how to rise above them all. When negative thoughts are building up and trying to take control of your emotions, take a few minutes to set your mind on God and His Word.

It also helps to speak positively about whatever is bothering you. For example, you may need to say something like this: "My family may not be everything I'd like them to be, but I am thankful I have a family. My house is not as nice as I would like it to be, but it's still a nice place to live. I don't see how I'm going to get through this painful situation, but Jesus is with me, and He will help me overcome it!"

Jeremiah 17:10 says, "I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

There are a few different "buttons" the devil knows he can push to get an emotional reaction out of me, so I make a point to prepare myself before that happens with the Word. I love Psalm 94:12-13a (AMP). It says, "Blessed [with wisdom and prosperity] is the man whom You discipline and instruct, O Lord, and whom You teach from Your law, that You may grant him [power to calm himself and find] peace in the days of adversity."

You see, the more we discipline ourselves to say no to our feelings and yes to the wisdom of God, the easier it becomes to defeat them in a spiritual tug-of-war.

I want to encourage you to consistently take time to focus on what the Bible says. It will empower you to control those unreliable emotions and do what is best for you!

**JOYCE MEYER** is a *New York Times*' bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries Inc. She has authored 130 books, including *Battlefield of the Mind* and her newest devotional, *Quiet Times With God (FaithWords)*. She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit [joycemeyer.org](http://joycemeyer.org).

# ARE YOU READY FOR AMERICA'S FINAL HOUR?



CAUTION

*The Hour that Changes Everything*: unveils eight providential empires in scripture that are foretold to rise and fall throughout history.

The eighth empire is described as a New World Order that is divided into ten global regions of the earth. The seventh empire will be deposed by the eighth empire by a one hour fiery judgement. The seventh empire is recognized as a woman with 53 biblical descriptions. The United States of America meets every description and waits for her final hour.



**Richard Pearson**  
TV Host of



*The Hour That Changes Everything*

Available directly at:  
[www.prophecyusa.org](http://www.prophecyusa.org), or  
[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



## Divine Convergence and Revelatory Alliance

A twofold unfolding of the purposes of God lies ahead

The “things to come” often inhabit a preoccupied space in our minds. Everything in our lives speaks toward what will happen—consequentially or inconsequentially. A good portion of Scripture consists of foretelling and prophetic utterance. Sometimes we get lost in the “what is to come” and miss the “what is in the present” that leads to it.

Often we are busy connecting the dots and forget the disconnected joy of simply collecting the dots. We experience this joy by becoming uniquely aware of the present realities and signals from God. We must take note of moments such as Jacob’s at Bethel, when he says, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it” (Gen. 26:18b).

I see God doing two things in the coming season.

First, Holy Spirit has given me keen awareness of a new convergence of influence, a new collaboration of entrepreneurs, pastors/ministry leaders and kingdom-minded legislators. Gone are the simple old tensions of politics between ideologically opposite parties. We have plunged head-on into a nationwide battle between good and evil.

I love the many city-wide public worship movements and cries for revival. What if, in addition to these movements, God is calling us to launch a new movement—one of relational integrity that makes space for these three demographics to come together and share thoughts, ideas and concerns? It would include space to pray and receive heaven’s strategy over our cities and states. Such a movement would once again restore the elders sitting at the gates, as we read in the Old Testament Scriptures.

If you have visited Israel, you have walked through at least one of these gates to enter the Old City in Jerusalem. In this open space, elders sat and judged the people openly, without corruption. What if God wants us to restore such a movement where we seek His counsel together and articulate new righteous legislation—city by city, state by state? As a faith community, we not only want to show up at the Capitol steps to protest when things go wrong. We want to be part of the creative solution. This is what I see!

Isaiah 9:6 states, “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,” which quickly makes way for “and the government shall be upon his shoulder.” I always think, *Wow, that escalated quickly!* I measure what I see God doing in the coming season between the events we see now and the fulfillment of the kingdoms of the world becoming His



**“Jesus will bring the final fulfillment, but His Spirit is preparing in us a bride worthy of this conquering King.”**

from Revelation 11. Kingdom activity must increase. Of course, Jesus will bring the final fulfillment, but His Spirit is preparing in us a bride worthy of this conquering King.

Likewise, in Acts 1, the scene described occurs at the moment of the Lord’s ascension. The disciples asked Jesus in verse 6b, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” Jesus’ answer directs us to the key in this strategic discussion. He doesn’t rebuke His followers for asking a wrong question, nor does He say something like, “You guys just don’t get it, do you?” It wasn’t a wrong question; it just wasn’t the right time.

Jesus responds to the question in verse 7: “It is not for you to know the times or the dates, which the Father has fixed by His own authority.” His meaning? “Great last question before I leave, but you got the timing wrong.” He will restore the kingdom to Israel, but not just yet.

When former President Donald Trump moved the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, I told my wife, Sarah, that all hell would break loose because this was a significant move by a world leader toward alignment with Israel. I see greater understanding in the church about the role of Israel and a new collaboration through friendship between the mainstream church and the Messianic Jewish movement.

A new convergence of these three streams of influence—entrepreneurs, ministry leaders and kingdom-minded legislators. I also see a greater unapologetic and revelatory alliance to Israel as a sign of our greater alliance to King Jesus.

**CHANDY THOMAS** is an associate pastor at Life Center Ministries Intl. and serves as the Director for Clear River Apostolic Network. He is also on the apostolic leadership team for Gateways Beyond Intl. Chandy and his wife Sarah together with their four children live in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

# Remembering Rabbi Moshe Laurie

By Martha Schulz Laurie AKA "The Bride"

Messianic Rabbi Moshe Gilboa Laurie passed into eternal life into the arms of his heavenly Father and Jewish Messiah on Monday, November 16, 2020. He had been a resident of Memphis, TN, for less than a week when he died suddenly, although he had suffered from vascular dementia for several years.

He was born Morris Gilbert Laurie on March 23, 1944, in Brooklyn, NY. He was called Gil, but he later legally changed his name to his Hebrew name when he was called into Messianic Judaism. Having learned at the age of nine of the persecution of his Jewish people, he resolved to become a warrior of David. A champion fencer in high school, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was an excellent marksman. He served Israeli intelligence and then moved to Israel, serving in the National Police and in the IDF as Assistant Commander of the Sniper School. He was the first breeder of Saint Bernard dogs in Israel. If he had been a dog, he would have been a Saint Bernard: massive, strong, friendly and loving. The ashes of his beloved Saint Bernard, Max (Diamond's Ariel Maximus) are interred with him at Memphis Memorial Park.

In 1982, in Las Cruces, NM, God spoke to him audibly "You can serve the Father through me, you will serve the Father through me, for I have come in his stead," and he knew that Jesus was the Messiah. However, he knew nothing about Christianity or what it meant to be born again. He was spirit-filled three days later in an Assembly of God church. Sid Roth presented his testimony on Christian television on "It's Supernatural." "The Coral Ridge Hour" also featured him. Both programs may be viewed on the Internet. In 1998 he was called to Groton, CT, and established Congregation Shofar Be Tzion, (Trumpet in Zion), a Messianic Jewish Congregation. He was ordained by Kingsway Fellowship International in 2002. His TV program, "Spiritual Warfare," was sponsored and produced by TCT Christian Television; it gained a large following both nationally and internationally.

We married in 2002. I was his "Bride," his constant companion and later his caregiver. The Holy Spirit prompted us to move to Marion, IL, in 2007. Inspired by our time ministering in Britain, we named our new home Beth Ariel. (House of the Lion of God) Shortly after we moved, we found a Messianic Jewish Congregation, Congregation Adat Ariel, where Larry Mullinix had been praying for Rabbi Laurie to move to Marion.

Rabbi Laurie's teachings on Spiritual Warfare have been published in a book, "Joining God's Army: Instructions from a Warrior of David." After his show on TCT ended in 2009, he had a local radio program, "Truth in Life," with Chuck and Debra Nelson. This transitioned to a weekly Livestream broadcast.

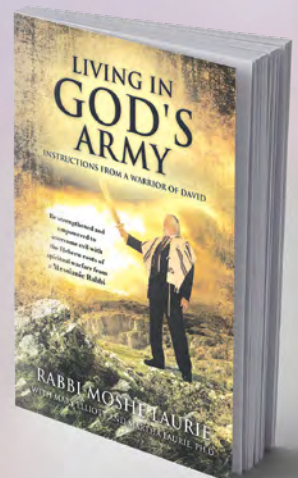
For several years, even before the diagnosis of dementia, Moshe often refused to accept calls from friends and acquaintances. He stopped using his computer. If you wondered why he was not speaking to you, please know that it was nothing you did. My prayer to the Lord was: "Lord, please heal him completely. If it is not Your will to restore him physically, then please don't let him suffer. Take him home." My prayer was answered. He always knew who everyone was and that he was loved. He was always able to talk and was never bedridden, although he needed assistance walking. He did not die from dementia. He suffered a massive, but completely painless, intestinal bleed. His heart stopped after the ambulance arrived. The Holy Spirit has been my Comforter.

Even before Moshe passed, the Holy Spirit told me to write a book about people who have heard the audible voice of God. It is an experience I have also had. It is time for me to carry out my next assignment. If you have a testimony you would like to share, please contact me at [rebbitzen3@aol.com](mailto:rebbitzen3@aol.com).



## LIVING IN GOD'S ARMY

Instructions from  
a Warrior of David



Available from [XulonPress.com](http://XulonPress.com), [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)  
and wherever Christian books are sold



## This Study Is Stunning the American Church

Majority of Christians in America don't believe in the Holy Spirit

In a shocking revelation, a study published by the Cultural Research Center of Arizona Christian University showed that 58% of people who identify as Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is not a real living being but merely a symbol of God's power, presence or purity.

In another surprising statistic, while 176 million American adults identify as Christian, only 15 million, or 6%, actually hold a biblical worldview.

Among the errant perspectives most widely embraced are:

- Seventy-two percent argue that people are basically good.
- Seventy-one percent consider feelings, experiences or the input of friends and family as their most trusted sources of moral guidance.
- Sixty-six percent say that having faith matters more than which faith you pursue.
- Sixty-four percent say that all religious faiths are of equal value.
- Fifty-eight percent believe that if a person is good enough, or does enough good things, they can earn their way into heaven.
- Fifty-seven percent believe in karma.
- Fifty-two percent claim that determining moral truth is up to each individual; there are no moral absolutes that apply to everyone, all the time.



## Churches and Ministries Rush to Respond to Hurricane Ida

Planes, trucks and automobiles have all been used by Somebody Cares America to rush aid to areas impacted by Hurricane Ida, the Category 4 storm that devastated large parts of Louisiana.

Through its relational network, SCA was able to direct multiple 18-wheelers, private planes and other vehicles to the community with water, cleaning supplies, tents, solar lights, comfort bears for the children and more. Ministry partners Ally Force from Minneapolis; Burnt Offerings from League City, Texas; and Crisis Response International arrived with manpower, additional food and kitchen facilities. In the first week alone, nearly 14,000 hot meals had been served and a dozen truckloads of supplies were distributed.

"Nobody knows their community better than the local church," SCA President Doug Stringer says. "That's why we always seek to empower those churches that have a heart to serve their communities, because they will be serving them for the long haul."



Churches and ministries during Ida's storm

## Founder of World's Largest Megachurch Dead at 85

He redefined how big a church could be

The body of Christ is mourning the passing of Dr. David Yonggi Cho, pastor of the world's largest megachurch, who died recently at age 85.

The founder and pastor of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea, Cho was born a Buddhist in 1936 and



Dr. David Yonggi Cho

spent decades spreading the gospel of Christ. He became one of the most influential Christian leaders in a country with among the world's most vibrant Christian communities. The author of several books, Cho also founded a Christian daily newspaper.

Many faith leaders mourned his death including Oral Roberts University president Billy Wilson, who tweeted: "I am sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. David Yonggi Cho, one of the great leaders of the Spirit-Empowered movement. Dr. Cho's legacy and impact will continue for generations."

## Mayor Takes Public Stand Against a Spirit of Immorality

Hudson, Ohio, Mayor Craig Schubert demanded all five local school board members resign or face possible criminal charges over course material a judge labeled as "child pornography," several media outlets have reported.

Schubert addressed the school board after several parents "complained about the content of some writing prompts contained in a book called *642 Things to Write About* that was provided to high school students who are taking a

college-credit course called *Writing in the Liberal Arts II.*"

Schubert set down an immediate ultimatum to the school board.

"It has come to my attention that your educators are distributing essentially what is child pornography in the classroom," Schubert said, as reported by *Cleveland.com*. "I've spoken to a judge this evening, and she's already confirmed that. So, I'm going to give you a simple choice: Either choose to resign from this board of education or you will be charged."



Dr. Stella Immanuel

## Vaccination Awakening?

Dr. Stella Immanuel says people are beginning to wake up to the truth

**A** *Washington Post/ABC News* poll revealed 72% of Americans would rather quit their jobs than be forced to take the COVID-19 vaccine. Many employers mandate the shots for employees. The Biden administration announced executive orders requiring shots for private employees and federal employees and contractors, with no exceptions. The Biden vaccine mandate would impact as many as 100 million Americans.

Dr. Stella Immanuel, author of *Let America Live* (Charisma House 2021), told Newsmax she applauds people who would rather take a stand against mandates than be forced to take the shot.

“I think it is excellent,” says Immanuel, who was mocked by secular media for her stance on the Centers for Disease Control and Dr. Anthony Fauci. “We cannot continue to accept what they push on us.”

## Trump Speaks at Historic ‘Let Us Worship’ Event

**S**ean Feucht’s “Let Us Worship” returned to Washington, D.C., on Saturday, Sept. 11, for a special 9/11 candlelight remembrance, highlighted by a video appearance by former President Donald J. Trump. Trump spoke of the tragic events of 20 years ago and commended Feucht and his team for hosting the event and “bringing prayer and worship to 132 cities across the country.”

“By uniting citizens of all

denominations and backgrounds to promote faith and freedom in America, you are strengthening our entire nation, and we thank you for it,” Trump said. He spoke not only of those who died in the attacks of 9/11 but also of the “bravery and daring” of first responders, adding, “As a lifelong New Yorker, it was extraordinary to witness the strength and resilience of people of that incredible city ... They raced into danger toward the smoke without a thought of their own safety.”



## BIBLE READING GUIDE

Follow our daily reading plan in each issue of *Charisma* to read through the Modern English Version Bible in one year. The plan is also available online at [brg.charismamag.com](http://brg.charismamag.com).

“Mary said, ‘I AM THE SERVANT OF THE LORD. May it be unto me according to your word.’” —Luke 1:34

Dec. 1	Rom. 5-8
Dec. 2	Rom. 9-12
Dec. 3	Rom. 13-16
Dec. 4	Eph. 1-4
Dec. 5	Eph. 5-6; Ps. 119:1-80
Dec. 6	Phil. 1-4
Dec. 7	Col. 1-4
Dec. 8	1 Tim. 1-4
Dec. 9	1 Tim. 5-6; Titus 1-3
Dec. 10	2 Tim. 1-4
Dec. 11	Philemon; Heb. 1-4
Dec. 12	Heb. 5-8
Dec. 13	Heb. 9-11
Dec. 14	Heb. 12-13; Jude
Dec. 15	James 1-5
Dec. 16	1 Pet. 1-5
Dec. 17	2 Pet. 1-3; John 1
Dec. 18	John 2-4
Dec. 19	John 5-6
Dec. 20	John 7-8
Dec. 21	John 9-11
Dec. 22	John 12-14
Dec. 23	John 15-18
Dec. 24	John 19-21
Dec. 25	1 John 1-5
Dec. 26	Ps. 117, 119:81-176; 2-3 John
Dec. 27	Rev. 1-4
Dec. 28	Rev. 5-9
Dec. 29	Rev. 10-14
Dec. 30	Rev. 15-18
Dec. 31	Rev. 19-22

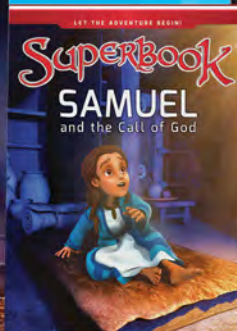
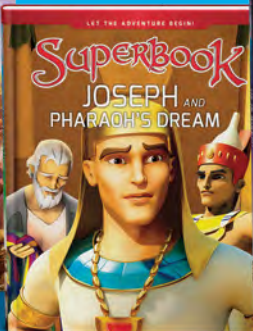


# Superbook<sup>®</sup>

## NEW Superbook Storybooks!

Give Your Children The Gift That Will Impact Them for a Lifetime.

Join Chris, his friend Joy, and his robot, Gizmo as they embark on exciting Bible-based adventures.



# GOD'S OLIVE TREE

*"The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken" Jeremiah 11:16.*

God chose the children of Israel in Abraham several generations before they would exist as a nation. When He said to Abraham, *"in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed"* Genesis 22:18, He set forth His purpose for the Jewish nation which was to come, that they would be his instrument in bringing the world to know the true and living God. It was for this purpose He brought them to Mount Sinai only 50 days after He delivered them from bondage in Egypt. This was the first *"Day of Pentecost,"* where God had promised to make them His *"peculiar treasure above all people,"* His *"Kingdom of Priests,"* and His *"Holy nation,"* if they would *"obey His voice and keep His covenant"* Exodus 19:5-6. God's purpose was to write His law upon their hearts and clothe them with His Spirit, exactly as He did the hundred and twenty believers on the Day of Pentecost some fifteen hundred years later. When they refused to hear the voice of God and promised to obey Moses instead Exodus 20:19, the Law of Moses was added to them. Since they refused to receive the Ten Commandments of God in their hearts, they would be forced to obey the six hundred and thirteen commandments of Moses on the penalty of death. The Apostle Paul said, *"He that despised Moses Law died without mercy before two or three witnesses."* Israel was *"...kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed"* Galatians 3:23. Notice the language; *"...kept under the law, shut up unto the faith..."* is prison language. The Law of Moses was their punishment for refusing to believe God. Less than a year later, when they refused to enter the land of promise because of unbelief, every one over twenty years of age was "cut off" by God to perish in the wilderness where they would wander for forty years.

When God "planted Israel," He called her *"A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit."* The nation of Israel was God's beautiful olive tree, with many branches and abundance of good fruit. This was in the days of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the forming of the twelve tribes of Israel. After refusing to hear God at Sinai, and refusing to enter the Promised Land at Kadesh Barnea Numbers chapters 13&14, many of the branches were broken off through unbelief. The olive tree thrived under the leadership of Joshua, as well as under the godly judges that followed, but when the people desired a King, they began turning away from God. Under godly Kings, the olive tree would thrive, but under ungodly kings, branches were broken off as the land was filled with idols. The kingdom was divided into two kingdoms, the northern kingdom of Israel, and the southern kingdom of Judah, under the reign of King Rehoboam, the son of Solomon. During the ministry of Isaiah, the northern kingdom of Israel was taken captive by the Assyrians and scattered into the nations of the world because of their idolatry. Certainly, the olive tree bore the scars of this division and destruction. It was during the prophetic ministry of Jeremiah that God's judgment came against the southern

kingdom of Judah, and especially the city of Jerusalem. God called for the destroying angels from Babylon to come. He sent an angel into the city to place a mark on the righteous Ezekiel 9:4, and commanded the destroying angels, *"Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house"* Ezekiel 9:5-6.

This brings us to our text, in which Jeremiah described the fate of God's olive tree, which was national Israel in the Old Testament and under the Law of Moses: *"...with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken"* Jeremiah 11:16. The city of Jerusalem and Solomon's Temple were completely destroyed and burnt with fire. Those who were not slain were carried away into seventy years captivity in Babylon, while the land lay desolate.

## The Mystery of Christ

*"...which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel."* Ephesians 3:4-6:

God had purposed from the beginning that the entire world would know Him and serve Him. Israel was chosen by God to bring that blessing to the Gentiles, hence God's words to Abraham, *"In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."* As it happened, the Jews under the Law of Moses refused to reach out to the Gentiles for fifteen hundred years before Christ came. When Christ did come, they rejected him. The Apostle John said, *"He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name"* John 1:11-12. When the Jews rejected the gospel of Christ, the apostles turned to preach to the Gentiles. With the thousands of Jews in Jerusalem that believed, and the thousands of Gentiles who were saved, God's olive tree became very beautiful and fruitful, with both Jews and Gentiles. As the first-generation believers began to die off, the church became in large part a Gentile church. Just as Israel had boasted in their heart against the gentiles, Christians actually began to boast themselves against the Jews. The Apostle Paul had warned the Gentile churches against such as this:

*"Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God*

**spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.** Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." Romans 11:18-22

The nation of Israel suffered under the dominion of foreign nations for six centuries, beginning with Jeremiah's revelation of the burnt and broken olive tree. This was the "severity of God," which began because of their idolatry and continued because of their unbelief. When Christ came into the world, the scripture says, "He came unto His own (the Jews), and His own received Him not" John 1:11. Only days before dying on the cross, Jesus wept over Jerusalem, saying, "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, **Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord**" Luke 13:35

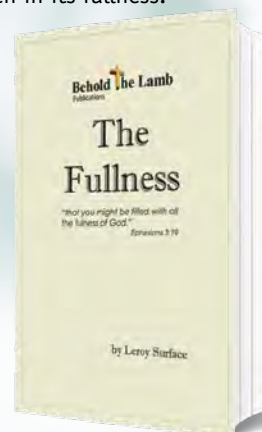
The church of Jesus Christ (the Israel of God Galatians 6:16) is made up of both Jews and Gentiles.

**"But now in Christ Jesus ye (the Gentiles) who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both (Jews and Gentiles) one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity (the Law of Moses), even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain (Jews and Gentiles) one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both (Jews and Gentiles) unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby."** Ephesians 2:13-16

During the first generation after Pentecost, many thousands of both Jews and Gentiles were grafted into God's olive tree, which is "the Israel of God" Galatians 6:16. The tree was beautiful once again in that day, and it was what God had purposed when He said to Abraham, "in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." As the initial outpouring of the Holy Ghost began to wane in Jerusalem, however, many of the Jews began to return to Moses and the Law. Paul wrote the epistle to the Hebrews, seeking to stop the erosion. Within a generation the olive tree, which continues to be "the Israel of God," was made up mostly of Gentile believers. With the second generation of the church, false teachers and false prophets arose and perverted the gospel of Christ into that which is not the gospel Galatians 1:6-7. Those "believers" who believed the "perverted Gospel" were broken off by God. The Apostle Paul said to them, "Christ is made of no effect unto you..." Galatians 5:4. Jude said ungodly men had "crept in unawares...turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness..." Jude 1:4. All those "branches" who accepted the lascivious gospel were also "broken off" from the olive tree. Very few were being grafted in by the end of the first century church, and within three hundred years, the church had apostatized to the extent that the spirit of antichrist gained supremacy and placed an antichrist figure as the earthly head of the church. Consider how barren God's "green olive tree" must be during those twelve centuries of dark ages before the reformation of the sixteenth century.

**"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved..."** Romans 11:25-26

God gave His fullness to the hundred and twenty Jewish believers on the Day of Pentecost, and they went out and "turned the world upside down" in their generation Acts 17:6. The Gentile church must receive that same fullness in these last days before the veil of darkness can be lifted from national Israel. God said through Moses, speaking of Israel in the last days, that He would "...move them to jealousy with those which are not a people" Deuteronomy 32:21. This speaks of the Gentile believers, to whom Peter said, "...ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: **Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God**" II Peter 2:9-10. Paul said of Israel, "Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall **salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy**" Romans 11:11. When Jesus Christ returns, He will present to Himself a "glorious church," made up of both Jew and Gentile. Before that time, however, the Gentile church must be "filled with all the fullness of God" Ephesians 3:19, with such an outpouring of the Holy Ghost that even our enemies will confess with Peter, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel" Acts 2:16. The prophet Zechariah prophesied of a day in which the Gentile church (the house of David Acts 15:13-18) will be "as God, as the angel of the LORD before them (the inhabitants of Jerusalem)" Zechariah 12:8. God said, "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: **and they shall look upon** (toward) **me whom they have pierced...**" Zechariah 12:10. Both the Jewish nation and the Gentile church will be restored and made one in the "glorious church," which Christ shall present to Himself Ephesians 5:25-27. Only then will God's olive tree be seen in its fullness.



**FREE BOOK!**  
**THE FULLNESS**  
by Leroy Surface

To order, visit [cochurch.org](http://cochurch.org) or write to:  
**Behold the Lamb • PO Box 750 • Porter, TX 77365**

**Behold the Lamb**  
[cochurch.org](http://cochurch.org)

# HOW ONE WOMAN TOUCHED A NATION

BY MAUREEN EHA

**Danita Estrella Watts** has worked for over 20 years to save Haiti's children from poverty. Today she provides 16,000 meals a month, runs a school and an orphanage. Here's how you can help her at Christmas



Danita and husband, John, with some of their students in Haiti

**Successful students led by Danita exemplify  
the power of the Holy Spirit**



*Merry Christmas*



## School building in Haiti

**W**hen Danita Estrella—now Danita Estrella Watts—first arrived in Haiti in 1999, she was 34 years old, single and had very little money. The people there were suspicious of her and not initially receptive to her attempts to befriend them. Although they were warm and kind, they also were cautious with their trust, hopeful that Danita would keep the promises she made unlike other missionaries who preceded her.

Slowly, despite the overwhelming odds, people began to help her. When *Charisma* heard her story in July 2001, the magazine covered it as a human-interest story. Readers responded overwhelmingly with an offering so large it allowed Danita to begin her ministry, she says. Now two decades later, the story is even more incredible, and Danita gives glory to God.

In the early days, it took a while for the Haitians to get to know her heart through the work she was doing. But today she is a beloved leader in her community of Ouanaminthe, where she heads a ministry—Hope

for Haiti Children's Center/Danita's Children—that is making a difference not only in the immediate area but also in other parts of the impoverished nation.

In spite of the turmoil Haiti has experienced recently, Danita's focus is on the children who are suffering and bringing them joy this Christmas. Most years, she has been able to bless the children in her care with special celebrations and gifts. Thanks to donations from compassionate people who are motivated to give generously during this season, the ministry provides gifts each year to hundreds of children, including all the children in the school, the hospital and the children's homes, as well as the children in another local orphanage and those in needy families in the community.

These celebrations are very different from the way Danita spent her first Christmas Eve in Haiti in 1999. She ate her dinner alone in the home she had just rented to use as an orphanage. "All I had was 20 empty beds, my Bible, a suitcase and my lantern," she says. But "my heart was full of excitement." After she finished her meal, she laid her

hands on each bed and prayed for the child who would one day sleep there. "Almost all the children who filled those beds the following year are now married or in college," she says, "but [with them] we started a beautiful tradition of bringing joy and laughter every Christmas season." Today that tradition continues in both of the current children's homes and the community—and Danita no longer spends the holidays alone.

In addition, the school hosts a party that includes a holiday program with songs, games and a message about the real reason for the season, and the children's homes serve special meals on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Each child in the ministry's homes also receives a stocking and a card next to their bed on Christmas morning and enjoys a special time of opening gifts—which through the years have included shoeboxes full of surprises and a Bible—with others in their home.

## Answering God's Call

At first, Danita didn't know why God had sent her to Haiti. Though she had developed an



interest in missions and was seeking God's direction for her life, her only previous experience as a "missionary" was participating in a medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic and Haiti near the end of 1998 that was sponsored by her home church in Florida. Because she spoke fluent Spanish, the church had asked her to go as an interpreter.

Danita was eager to take advantage of the opportunity and while the team was ministering in Ouanaminthe, she sensed that this poverty-stricken town was where God was leading her. "At the end of this trip that I did with the doctors, interpreting for them, we crossed over [from the Dominican Republic] into Haiti," Danita says. "The moment I crossed over the border and I saw the orphans, I saw the children in the streets, I saw the people sleeping outside, my heart just started pounding out of my chest and I just felt, *This is where I want to be.*"

Two months later, with the

blessing of her pastors, \$7,000 from a special offering they had taken up on her behalf and one person's commitment to send her \$200 a month, she packed her bags and moved to Haiti by herself. But she had no plan for what to do when she got there.

"When I came here over 22 years ago, I didn't have a clear direction of where I was going to go, but I had a promise from God: 'Go, and I will be with you,'" Danita says. That promise

was enough for her to leave home and settle in a new country with the hope of being used by Him to help the people there.

At first she spent time assisting a local church and school. But after a year, she became restless. "I felt like there was a purpose, an assignment that I had not yet discovered," she says. "And so I remember very clearly that I cried myself to sleep one night. I was praying, and I said, 'God, thank You for sending me to Haiti, but why am I here?'"

His answer came in the form of a Bible passage she happened to be reading (Proverbs 31:8-9, NKJV) she recalls. "It said, 'Open your mouth for the speechless, in the cause of all who are appointed to die. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.'"

Suddenly she felt as if she had a mission. She decided, "I can open my mouth, and I can plead their cause," she says. "That's what I began to do."

Her first opportunity came when she was eating a meal at an outdoor cafe and noticed a little boy eyeing her food hungrily. He began to inch closer to her, preparing to grab for himself whatever part of her meal she didn't consume. Before she could offer to purchase something for him, a man snatched the child away and started beating him with a whip. Danita responded instinctively, grabbing the man by the collar and insisting he let the boy

## Make Christmas Special for Danita's Children

Most years *Charisma* encourages readers to respond generously at Christmas. Two decades ago, *Charisma* readers responded so generously it launched Hope for Haiti. This year we want to help Danita once again. Read Stephen Strang's column on page 58 to learn how you can help by sending your tax-deductible donation through Christian Life Missions to reach our goal of \$20,000, which will provide gifts worth \$10 apiece to 2,000 Haitian children. Every dollar donated will go to Danita's ministry and be used for these gifts.



Chapel in Haiti

Students at Children's Center School Christmas party





Students enjoying the joy of the Lord

go. When he did, she got the child to safety and tended to him.

That day she knew what God was calling her to do. He wanted her to care for homeless children like the one she had just rescued.

### Growing Her Ministry

Danita responded by leasing a rental home in Ouanaminthe in December 1999 with the idea of using it as an orphanage. She had no idea how many needy children she would be called on to take in. “There were local people, local pastors in town, and when they heard that I was opening a home for these children, they started bringing them one by one,” she says. “And little would I know that even a month later, we’d start with 14 children.”

But that was just the beginning. Danita wasn’t content only to put a roof over their heads. She knew the children must be fed, clothed, educated and taught about God’s love for them. So she committed to meeting all their needs—physical, emotional, educational and spiritual.

Not surprisingly, her ministry quickly outgrew the rental home. In 2001, thanks to a generous donation, she was able to purchase a piece of property for the exact amount of the donation that was large enough to

house several future buildings.

Initially, Danita thought she should build a school on the property first because by the time she was ready to start construction, she was holding class for 200 local children—not just the ones living in her orphanage—in a thatched hut, and she felt they needed a more permanent structure. But God had a different idea.

“I remember one day I went out to this property,” she says. “I remember whispering and saying, ‘Lord, what do You see?’... And I just really felt in my heart that I was going in the wrong direction, that the school was not the first building, that I should first build the church.” She sensed that the church “could be a multipurpose building” used for school during the week and church services on the weekends.

### Providing a Refuge

The nondenominational church, Hope for Haiti Worship Center, was completed in 2003 but would soon serve as a multipurpose building to shelter victims of natural disasters.

“In 2004 there were floods that devastated the island and thousands of people died in a city called Gonaives,” Danita says. “We went

to Gonaives and we brought a lot of these children on a bus and to live with us, and for a season, they lived in this church.” The children slept on bunk beds in the church until they were able to be moved into homes.

“And then again in January of 2010, when the earthquake devastated Port-au-Prince and hit Léogâne ... we helped so many people,” Danita recalls. “We had over 75 children, adults living with us ... And you would walk into this church, and it was rows and rows and rows of bunk beds with mosquito nets draped over them.”

Danita had no idea how long her church would be used as a refuge for those impacted by the earthquake. “I thought this was going to be for a year or a year and a half,” she says. “Little did I know that for 3 1/2 years, that sanctuary that we had built, that church, would be a home for children.” For years the pastors held services in the cafeteria or outside and Danita became eager to have the church back. But she knew God had orchestrated the situation.

“I stood in the front door [of the church] one day, and I looked at it,” she says. “I thought, *This is the work of the Lord. This is a beautiful thing.* And after 3 1/2 years, we were able to



**Danita Estrella Watts with a thankful student**

build beautiful children's homes for our kids. And the families that just needed a temporary place to stay were able to go back to Port-au-Prince."

## Expanding the Vision

The church was only the first of many buildings eventually constructed on the property Danita purchased in 2001. As God has provided the funds through donations to her ministry, she has added the Hope for Haiti Children's Center School, which provides a quality primary and secondary education for more than 350 children from the children's homes and the local community; four children's homes; a special needs home; a cafeteria; and a three-story, 17,000-square-foot medical center that provides access to health care for families and children who live locally as well as those who travel from across the country.

The medical center, which treats more than 8,000 patients annually, has on-site radiology and lab equipment as well as a pharmacy. In 2018, the addition of a surgical operating room expanded the capability of the medical staff to treat serious and emergency cases, and the ministry is hoping to add a neonatal intensive care unit by the end of 2021

to address the needs of premature and critically ill babies.

"Thousands of children in Haiti die from simple things like typhoid fever or diarrhea or HIV," Danita says. "And I made a promise that one day we would build a children's hospital where these children wouldn't have to die, where they would be able to get good medical care."

From the beginning, the medical center was intended to help people beyond Ouanaminthe and the neighboring locales. But no one could have predicted how invaluable it would be in the wake of a natural disaster.

When the magnitude 7.2 earthquake hit the southwest peninsula of the country on Aug. 14, Danita's Children Medical Center sent a medical team of five physicians and two nurses to serve the people most affected. Because of the badly damaged roads, they chartered a plane to take medical supplies and provide the needed care.

All the buildings on the Hope for Haiti Children's Center campus serve a purpose in helping the ministry support its stated mission: to "rescue, love, and care for orphans and impoverished children in Haiti, meeting their needs ... so that they are empowered to become leaders

in their communities and nation." The buildings are the focal point for several programs the ministry sponsors including the feeding program, which serves approximately 16,000 meals a month to children living on the campus and those who attend the school.

## Fulfilling a Dream

Despite all God has accomplished through her ministry, Danita still dreams of more. In 2019, the ministry received a donation of 106 acres of land about 20 minutes away from the existing campus and she hopes to use it for two primary purposes: a working farm to raise produce—including peanuts—and livestock; and the Life Skills and Leadership Sports Complex. The farm will help sustain the ministry's feeding and malnutrition programs as well as provide a place for Danita's children and the people in the community to learn valuable skills through caring for the crops and animals.

The sports complex will allow the ministry to reach more children through their love for sports. It will be a place "where we can bring children to a soccer field or basketball or volleyball, but also mentor them and disciple them," Danita says.

Not surprisingly, fulfilling these dreams—as well as funding the ministry's urgent needs for additional solar panels; fuel and batteries for their generators, which supply essential power to the medical center; and provision for the children—will require a great deal of money. But Danita is confident God will provide supernaturally as He has in the past. "I can't even begin to explain how or where it comes from, [but] He continues to provide for us," she says.

Danita's ministry today is a testimony to both her obedience and God's faithfulness. Because she made the choice to step outside her comfort zone and answer God's call, she has seen more growth and a greater impact than she could ever have imagined.

But Danita knows it is the lives she has poured into—not the buildings she has built or the land she has



Aerial view of Danita's Children Campus today

purchased—that are the real fruit of her investment. And in this next season of her life, she is compelled to pour into them at an even greater level. She will be following a new mandate: to pass on some of her administrative duties to younger leaders so she can focus on discipleship.

“It’s so easy as founder and CEO of the organization to be focused on processes, procedures, administration, staffing, growth,” she confesses. “But the Lord has convicted me that all that means nothing if we’re not reaching their souls.”

She has always incorporated Bible education into the church and school; but now she wants to ensure that all those the ministry touches know how to apply spiritual truths to their daily lives. Danita’s dream is that fulfilling this mandate will do more for the people of Haiti than improving their earthly situations; it will change them—and the nation—for eternity. ◀

**TO HELP:** To donate to Danita’s vital mission and support the children of Haiti, please visit [danita.charismamag.com](http://danita.charismamag.com).

**MAUREEN EHA** is a freelance writer living in Lake Mary, Florida, and former editor at *Charisma Media*.



Children's hospital



# 50 Years Since the **JESUS** movement

In 1971, *Time* magazine announced in a legendary cover story that a “Jesus revolution” had hit the nation. Could it happen again?

**BY NIK WALKER**

**A**s I reflect, along with many others, upon the 50th anniversary of the Jesus Movement, I find myself asking when another awakening of this magnitude will take place in America. When will this generation turn from sin and rebellion in as radical a pursuit of Jesus as the hippies of the 1960s and '70s? Without discussing the details that depict our nation's turmoil, it does not take strong discernment to recognize that our country is in trouble. America is in a mess that does not begin in Washington, D.C., our colleges and universities or the public school system. The mess in America begins in the church of America. What will it take for the bride of Christ to position itself for another revolutionary move of God in a generation that mirrors the strongholds of the 1970s? Truly, we are in a season of ripened harvest and few workers (Matt. 9:37).

However, there is a question more pressing than “Will America see another groundbreaking revival?” Before revival can come, we must know if the American church is *prepared* for a revival that will shake this generation. Based on the prophecies of Joel, an outpouring of God's Spirit will come upon the earth before the return of Jesus (see Joel 2:28-31). I sometimes wonder, though, if the church in America is making room for what is being prayed for. I have no doubt that the church prays for revival. The verbal feedback I receive in churches where I minister seems to match the level of urgency I feel in my heart. Unfortunately, this verbal feedback often translates to empty words, as there is no expression of urgency beyond hand clapping and shouting.

In the church of America, there is a crisis taking place. The crisis has nothing to do with the size of the church, the financial status, the rural or urban culture or the age demographic of the congregation. The crisis in our churches has its roots not in external circumstances but in the hearts and motives of our congregations. Why, in a nation where nearly 65% of the adult population identifies as Christian, is there such chaos, turmoil and division? continued »



**“Churches will answer to God at the end of days for neglecting baby Christians who cannot yet care for themselves spiritually.”**

Sadly, the same adjectives used to describe the condition of the United States could also be used to describe the condition of its church: chaotic. Divisive. Envious. Bitter. Overall, despite the culture or demographic of the church, there is an alarming lack of discipleship. It is a sad fact that many churches know how to grow congregations without growing the people who sit in them.

Additionally, many churches are void of an intercession ministry. Prayer and intercession are the backbone of what our ministry does, and without it, I believe we would have no ministry. In the American church, we have exchanged a strong anointing for “good vibes” as we seek to make guests as comfortable as possible. Yet I have never read a passage of Scripture where a vibe destroyed a yoke. We have sacrificed a standard of holiness on the altar of memberships and offering plates. Consequently, we allow people into leadership positions without evidence of righteous living before Jesus simply because they possess a gift and a pleasant personality.

### Radical Shift

In youth ministries across America, we have replaced His presence and glory with pizza and games in an effort to have the largest youth group in town. Gossiping tongues have destroyed the biblical mandate to have family relationships within the body of Christ, with trust shattered by every backbiting conversation.

Some churches do not worship Jesus at all. Instead, they idolize the deeply coveted traditions of men over the Holy Spirit’s tangible presence in a service. The fear of the Lord has evaporated from the American church because of the profound shortage of bold gospel preaching.

Unfortunately, many churches have a reputation of spiritual life because of their lively messages and charismatic music, but the spirits of many Bible-believing men and women are dead (Rev. 3:1). In this way, a rising generation exists that knows how to “have church” void of the presence of Jesus. We are in no way prepared for a flood of newly saved converts to fill our churches. What would they be fed by your church if they

stumbled inside this Sunday morning?

For this generation to experience Jesus, there must first be a radical shift in the way the American church pursues Jesus. Before awakening can come to the streets, revival must come to the pews.

Though the terms “awakening” and “revival” are often used interchangeably in the church, they differ greatly by definition. “Revival” happens when something once living is brought back to life. I picture taking shock pads to a lifeless body, causing the heart to begin beating in rhythm again. In this case, we take the shock pads to the heart of a lifeless church body.

Awakening, however, is the act of someone coming alive to something they had not previously known, such as being awakened to the knowledge of Jesus. Awakening must come to America. To awaken a generation, God can only use those who have been revived in spirit. The time has come for the rebirth of biblical revival strategies in America.

The time has also come to resurrect the preaching of the *entire* gospel. The lack of urgency within the church has led to roadblocks in reaching this generation for Christ. The church is more concerned with filling the offering plate than filling the kingdom. Urgency comes when the fear of the Lord is preached boldly. Boldness does not undermine the love of God but instead serves as its aid.

In the summer of 2020, the apostolic leadership that covers my ministry sent us throughout West Virginia to preach in the streets. From the northern panhandle to the southernmost tip, we traveled as the circuit riders of old, proclaiming the saving gospel of Jesus. We held services outdoors in parking lots, picnic shelters and anywhere people would allow us to set up. Carrying a galvanized horse trough, we spontaneously baptized as we went. In a six-week span, we saw nearly 500 water baptisms. The messages stayed simple: “Heaven is sweet, hell is hot, and Jesus is coming back!”

The crucifixion of the flesh resonated as a common theme, with



cities flooded with the sound of true repentance, even from pastors and deacons. At the time of this article, we have seen over 1,700 water baptisms across the two Virginias. The renewing power of the Holy Spirit flooded our state as the church and the unchurched buried their sins in the water with Jesus. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord (Prov. 9:10). Likewise, the beginning of urgency is preaching the reality that we could meet Jesus at any moment.

We boldly proclaimed the necessity of repentance and the response continues to be overwhelming. As repentance floods the altar, urgency will flood the soul. Thus, awakening begins with bold gospel preaching.

## Real Discipleship

The time has come for churches to embrace discipleship and family. Discipleship does not mean to have a Bible study on a weeknight. Discipleship is where true growth takes place. Too often, I find that young people who are saved in our revival services return to their carnal ways within months. After several years of noticing the trend of the same teenagers “rededicating” to Jesus at each revival, I inquired of the Lord on the reason for this. I find it rooted in a lack of discipleship.

The church is quick to celebrate large numbers of people being saved in a service, which is a wonderful thing. However, the real celebration begins when they are still serving the Lord years down the road and are making

themselves. Parents face prosecution for neglect of their precious children every day. Likewise, churches will answer to God at the end of days for neglecting baby Christians who cannot yet care for themselves spiritually. Paul wrote that we have thousands of teachers but few fathers (1 Cor. 4:15).

Discipleship involves far more than reading the Bible to people on a Monday night. It means getting into the dirty places of their lives and assisting them in spiritual growth. Members of this generation, many of whom are dealing with rejection and neglect from biological family, desperately crave the spiritual family that comes in discipleship.

Without the discipleship of my mentor, Pastor Jay Morgan, I would have surely quit the ministry and stopped following Jesus altogether. Morgan spent hours of one-on-one time with me, helping me work through the challenges of following Jesus at a young age. It was more than a Bible study. It was personal. It was intimate.

That is what young people today desire. Without true discipleship and family, they will run back to the carnality of this world. The church lacks the kind of family that we read of in the early church (see Acts 2:42-47). Seasoned Christians must commit to being spiritual mothers and fathers in this hour.

The time has come for the church to eliminate what I refer to as the “Leaders Mentality.” The Leaders

grumbling goats on a weekly basis, and call that “having church.” This has also led to great leaders crumbling under the weight of the congregation’s cross.

Jesus made Himself abundantly clear in the Gospels, specifically in the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20). In this moment, Jesus entrusted His followers with power and authority to make disciples. True Jesus-followers find no contentment in sitting in a seat and having church leadership entertain them every Sunday. The urgency of winning the lost compels Jesus-followers and they will do whatever it takes to see a generation come home. Get your cross off of your pastor’s back, walk in your God-given authority and go make disciples!

## Relentless Intercession

The time has come to cultivate prayer movements in our churches. In our culture, prayer has become nothing more than a “God, give me this” list. According to Scripture, the Lord does nothing on earth before revealing it to His servants, the prophets (Amos 3:7). This ensures that there will be intercession made to clear the way for revival.

Intercession is a lost art in the church. Intercession moves the heart of God (Ps. 141:2). Angels respond to intercession (Dan. 10:10-14). Bondages that shackle generations break at the cry of an intercessor. I am certain God spared me from life-ending situations before my salvation because of the intercessory prayer of my grandfather, Keith Walker.

Intercession releases clear strategy to the church for how to infiltrate the community and take it back for Jesus. When we intercede, we communicate with our general, Jesus Christ, in the midst of ongoing spiritual warfare.

I recall Pastor John Kilpatrick speaking of the direction the Lord gave him three years before the famed Brownsville Revival sprang forth. As Kilpatrick recalls it, the Lord asked him to start a prayer ministry. He reluctantly turned one of his services into a prayer service, with several prayer focuses posted on the walls of the sanctuary. A small group of people and one hour of prayer, with

**“If young people are arrows, the saints are the bows .... Therefore the coming revival will be a multigenerational revival.”**

---

disciples of Jesus themselves. This can only happen when the church body makes a commitment to nurturing these “baby Christians” (1 Cor. 3:1) as a parent would a newborn baby.

We never expect infants to care for

charismamag.com

Mentality is the mindset of the everyday churchgoer that says, “I am not called to make disciples. I will leave that to the leaders of the church.” This mentality has led to pastors and their leadership teams entertaining flocks of



## “Intercession releases clear strategy to the church for how to infiltrate the community and take it back for Jesus.”

consistency and cultivation, turned into large groups of people praying for hours on end. As the relentless intercession moved the Lord, the Brownsville Revival was birthed. This revival lasted several years and reached multitudes from many nations.

Prayer certainly changes things, but it also prepares the hearts of people to receive what God is preparing to pour out. Those who fail to intercede will be overlooked in the last-day revival that will sweep the earth.

### Relaxing Traditions

Finally, the time has come for the church of America to be flexible with this generation. No, this does not mean to compromise biblical truths to keep them in your buildings. What it does mean, however, is that the saints are only as effective as their ability to be flexible.

This generation dresses differently, and today's young people likely won't

be wearing dresses and suits. They worship differently and it may not sound like hymns. They are bold and unashamed about their sin, and the boldness does not change after salvation. They will become more radical about Jesus than they were about sin.

Flexibility with tradition is different than compromising the truths of Scripture. The church must not allow its perceptions and traditions to cause it to look loftily upon this generation because the young people don't "look" the same. The coming revival will be a revival of epic proportions, but it will not look the way it looked in 1971, nor will it sound the same.

Members of this generation fall prey to frequent shunning by churches because they don't look like "church material." I am thankful that God looks upon the heart rather than outward appearance when calling people out (1 Sam. 16:7). Scripture teaches that the man with a quiver full of

arrows has been blessed by the Lord.

According to the passage, these arrows represent young people. If young people are arrows, the saints are the bows. These arrows do no good if they remain in the quiver. A church will only defeat the enemy and see revival if the bows are flexible enough to shoot the arrows lying in their quivers (see Ps. 127). Therefore, the coming revival will be a multigenerational revival.

The Jesus Movement was far from perfect, as is the case with every move of God. However, we can take much from that season as these strategies were well implemented and provided lasting fruit. The coming revival will not make its appearance as a sequel to the Jesus Movement, but these scriptural strategies, among others, lay a solid foundation for what is to come.

Raise the standard. Preach the gospel. Pursue Jesus together. Make Disciples. Awaken America! ◀

**READ MORE:** Learn what God is doing with younger generations at [youth.charismamag.com](http://youth.charismamag.com).

**NIK WALKER** is an evangelist and author based in West Virginia. He is known for his passionate preaching and zeal to reach the younger generation. Find him at [NWMinistries.com](http://NWMinistries.com).



**Eli Glasser**

## **Eli Glasser, 16 Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

I received Jesus when I was a young boy, and a few years later, I was baptized in the Holy Spirit. That's when I began to feel a burning passion to see others saved. Since that time, I've been sharing the gospel through small groups with a ministry called Collision. We are learning to be bold, share the gospel and make disciples.

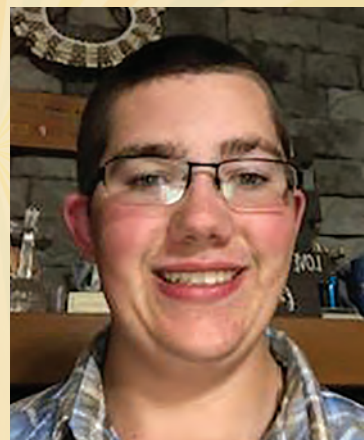
I tell everyone that God loves us and He is always with us—not just in the bad times but 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. He wants to show us His amazing, glorious power! This is what I tell my generation. Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father, and His compassion and loving care reach out and touch everyone. God is there. Just press into Him!

## **Cody Potter, 16 Crossville, Tennessee**

I have seen God's power working in a miraculous way. In 2018 I started experiencing vision loss, which was followed by headaches. After a lot of tests and visits to hospitals, doctors told me I had a tumor on my pituitary gland. I was scared out of my mind! Eventually they told us I had brain cancer, and I started to cry. I figured I would not be allowed to enlist in the Marines.

As my mom was comforting me, I looked up and said, "God's got this ... it is going to be all right." I had peace because I knew God was going to take care of me no matter the circumstance. A week later my mom received a phone call from the doctor, who was as shocked as she was. He said the tumor was not cancer!

They removed the tumor, but it grew back, and I had to go through surgery twice. But finally I was allowed to go back to school. Now I have a testimony to share with the world! I tell everyone now that God still performs miracles. He has supernatural power—we just have to look for it and expect it.



**Cody Potter**



**Hildana Tibebu**

## **Hildana Tibebu, 16 Columbus, Mississippi**

On a random Sunday in 2020, I joined a Zoom call with a youth group from an Ethiopian church in Atlanta. I learned that Jesus is not just the main character of a book I had to read every day, nor is He simply a name I must end my prayers with. Most importantly, I learned the importance of His sacrifice and how everything in our lives is tied to the freedom He has granted us through His blood on the cross.

As I grew in faith, the Holy Spirit instilled a hunger in me to spread this good news to others. As a member of my school's Fellowship of Christian Students, I'm in an environment where we support each other as we navigate the faith-testing waters of high school.

My generation needs to see that this world can't satisfy their desires. Only God can satisfy. I tell everyone: God is here for you, and He sent His perfect Son to die on a cross for you—not because you deserve it, but because He loves you enough to do whatever it takes to give you a chance at a relationship with Him.

continued »

# Generation Z Voices



**Daria Dvoynikova**

## **Daria Dvoynikova, 21 Jacksonville, Florida**

When people find out I'm from Russia, everyone always asks, "How did you end up in America?" I always answer that God brought me here. I start to tell my testimony, and people often cry.

I was born into a family of unbelievers. Before I accepted Jesus into my heart in 2017, I hated God and Christianity. I wondered, *Why should I accept God when believers often act like unbelievers?* But I realized one simple truth: If you only look at other people, you will stumble all the time.

One friend at my university told me, "Your testimony has given me new hope that God is real." I began to realize that my generation talks a lot about Jesus, but we don't see Him in our lives. We go to church, sing songs and say we are Christians, but we don't believe God is alive.

When I tell my story, I ask, "Do you believe that God could do something similar in your life?" Many say no. And that answer breaks my heart because I want my generation to see a God who is alive. I want them to experience Him for themselves. In order to do that, my generation needs to learn to trust Him and stop looking at people. People may fail, but Jesus is perfect—and we can trust Him!

## **Tanner Creed, 21 Albion, Illinois**

I encountered God in a powerful way at a youth conference at age 13. As I felt the love of my heavenly Father, I was brought to my knees in tears. I knew from that point forward, my life had to take a different direction. I could not just keep doing "churchy" things. I needed more. I was wrecked for normal life, and I had to go after Jesus with all I had.

Since that initial encounter, I have experienced other powerful manifestations of the Holy Spirit, and I have had the privilege of being a vessel through which the Holy Spirit can use. My life-changing encounter stirred a deep passion in me to see my generation experience the same living Jesus I know.

As I look around, I see a generation that is more lost, more broken and more unchurched than any previous generation. However, I know if they were only to meet the living, powerful Jesus who has saved me from my terrible mess, they would no longer be lost, broken and empty. As a result, one of my missions in life is to help create opportunities for my generation to meet Jesus.

One way in which I've done this is by helping to start a prayer group on my college campus. We set aside about an hour each week and invite students to come and encounter Jesus as well as pray for revival on our campus. Through this ministry, I've seen students' lives completely changed and many encounter Jesus in powerful ways.



**Tanner Creed**



**Morgan Williams**

## **Morgan Williams, 17 Deland, Florida**

I asked Jesus into my heart when I was a child, and I always knew God was present in my life. But last year I got into an emotionally abusive relationship that I shouldn't have been in.

I remember hearing a sermon from my pastor about 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, where Paul instructed believers not to be unequally yoked to unbelievers. The more I compromised my walk with God, the more convicted I felt. Yet I just pushed God away completely. How could God want me after all I had done?

Even when the relationship was over, I felt so much condemnation. I went to a camp over the summer, and I encountered the love of Christ. There is no criteria or rubric for His love. He loves us regardless of our sins and mistakes! I feel so free knowing that I don't have to earn his love. Now I am free from the condemnation that I felt.



**Grace Gregoire**

**Grace Gregoire, 16  
Murray, New York**

I first accepted Christ into my life as a young child. Then, about nine years later, I was on my knees with my hands raised in a church meeting. I asked God if He could ever forgive me, and God answered, "I already have, and I always will." That was the moment that I knew I was a child of God!

About a year ago someone told me that God had given me the gift of prophecy. Since then, God has used me in many ways to speak to people and tell them what He has in His heart for them. God has also blessed me with the opportunity to speak at my youth group. I have been helping other teens grow in their relationship with Christ.

It is so important for the young people of my generation to see the power of God through the gifts He has given them. I want to see them use their spiritual gifts and go into the world to make disciples. Just as Jesus called Peter, He has called us to be fishers of men.

**Natan Mesfin, 21  
Edison, New Jersey**

Growing up with no Christian youth to support me, I often spent time with people who didn't hold the same values as I did. Therefore, I was influenced by many things of the world. After facing many personal questions that only God could answer, He opened new doors for me and blessed me with a greater connection with my family and mentors who challenged me to walk in purity and in wisdom.

The greatest thing my generation can do is to stay in close relationships with people who are walking with God. That's why I urge my brothers and sisters in Christ to watch out for those who put obstacles in your way. Romans 16:17 says we should avoid those people. I just want to stay close to Jesus.



**Natan Mesfin**

**Amanda Camille Rolon, 22  
Rahway, New Jersey**

I was about 13 years old when I experienced a very personal encounter with Jesus. I remember standing at an altar call and crying in the presence of God. At the time, I couldn't quite understand why I was so emotionally overcome, but looking back now I see that, deep in my heart, I was sensing the overwhelming love and manifested presence of God.

In His presence I felt validated and loved. I sensed a "fullness of joy" that minimized my teenage insecurities and apathetic view on life. I was so set on fire that I decided to found my city's first school Bible club, where I was able to share Jesus with my peers! I knew for sure that what I'd heard all of my life about God's transforming presence was true.

God eventually revealed to me that my passion for music was not a coincidence, but a tool He would use to reach people for His glory. Today, I am a worship leader, songwriter and graduate student at Berklee College of Music.

Without the power and provision of the Holy Spirit, I would never have been able to pursue my dreams as fervently as I have. One encounter with the presence of Jesus radically transformed the course of my life for His glory.

My generation must see the power of God—because it is only through this power that we can access our full potential. Many of our parents and elders have served God, but they are now passing the baton to the younger generation. Now, we must experience the God of the Bible in a real and personal way.



**Amanda Camille Rolon**





# End-time Prophetic Signs Revealed in the Christmas Story

The living Word of God reveals the truth about the supernatural signs that pointed to Jesus' birth-and now, to His return

**BY CALEB COOPER**

**T**his Christmas season will involve such traditions as decorating homes with lights, filling stockings, decorating trees, exchanging gifts and enjoying great food with family at the dinner table as people celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As our Christmas traditions unfold, we must remember in the midst of all the festivities that the Word of God is alive. The Christmas story is not just a launchpad for family fun and traditions but is the living Word, revealing end-time prophetic signs for the last days. Allow me to use the living Word of God to bring the Christmas story to life this Christmas season as we rapidly approach the end of days.

Jesus Christ was and is the Word made flesh who came to earth wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Though many know that Dec. 25 is more than likely not the exact day of His birth, we have set it aside as a day of celebration. But more important than knowing our Lord's exact birthday is remembering the truth that there was never a time when Jesus did not or will not exist. He was the Word made flesh in the earth.

Allow the following verses to stir your heart as we look at end-time prophetic signs in the Christmas story:

» "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it" (John 1:1-5, NKJV).

» "Then the Jews said to Him, 'You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?' Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM'" (John 8:57-58).

» "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him" (Col. 1:15-16).

» "For the word of God is *alive* and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart" (Heb. 4:12, NIV, author's emphasis).

Understanding that the Christmas story is alive and that it is not the beginning of Jesus Christ because He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, gives us a better view of the end-time prophetic signs revealed in the Christmas story. The Bible does not waste words; every portion of Scripture is alive to every generation. This will only be a small snapshot of how the Christmas story is prophetically alive in our generation.

Every person who played a role in the Christmas story brought end-time prophetic insight of the heart of God into our generation. Let's look at only a few of these God-ordained signs. continued »

## Mary: Purity Unlocks Prophetic Destiny

“Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, ‘Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!’ But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus’” (Luke 1:26-31, NKJV).

We often find it easy to read this passage and others and conclude that Mary gave birth to Jesus, losing sight of the end-time prophetic signs revealed through her life. But imagine the power that lies within the Christmas story. Imagine the God of the universe sending an angel out of heaven to the city of Nazareth to have a conversation with Mary. This one conversation with God would shift her life into her prophetic destiny, unlocked through a life of purity.

The Bible says Mary was a virgin, meaning she had never experienced sexual intercourse with a man. Those of us who long step into our prophetic destiny in the last days and prepare the way for the return of Jesus Christ must never lose sight of the power of purity. Second Timothy 2:19-21 says, “Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: ‘The Lord knows those who are His,’ and, ‘Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.’ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.”

If we desire to step into our prophetic destiny and be used for the Master, we must make purity a



nonnegotiable. Purity positions our lives to prepare the way for the return of Jesus Christ. First John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Purity also set the stage for the prophetic promise that our Savior Jesus Christ would be conceived in the womb of Mary by the power of the Holy Ghost. Mary did not know such a powerful thing would come to pass, but she positioned her life in a place of purity, and the Holy Spirit came upon her. The Word of God spoken over her life through the angel immediately came to pass when she declared, “Let it be to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38b).

Positioning our lives for the prophetic through purity carries a power we must not underestimate. Mary’s position of purity would become instrumental in the fulfillment of prophecies of the coming Messiah in the Word of God:

» “And the angel answered and said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God’” (Luke 1:35).

» “Then Mary said, ‘Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her” (Luke 1:38).

Just as He proclaimed a call for purity during the birth of Christ, God will put forth a call for purity during the return of Christ. When I consider the readiness of a generation who will be eyewitnesses to the return of Jesus Christ, my heart turns to the

following verses, which parallel the call to purity Mary walked in at Jesus’ first coming:

» “Blessed *are* the pure in heart, For they shall see God” (Matt. 5:8).

» “That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish” (Eph. 5:27).

» “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of *persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?” (2 Pet. 3:10-12).

## Joseph: The Dream Realm Holds Prophetic Power

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.’ So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ‘Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,’ which is translated, ‘God with us.’ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth



her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus” (Matt. 1:18-25).

Let’s now consider Joseph in the Christmas story and how we can gain prophetic insight from his story for our lives in the last days. The Word of God reveals that during the time of Christ’s arrival in the earth, the prophetic dream realm played a powerful role in empowering Joseph not to abort what he did not understand. Joseph had made up his mind to put Mary away secretly but God’s power moved through a dream, which kept him from giving up on his relationship with Mary just because he didn’t understand what had miraculously occurred.

In the last days, we must realize God will use the prophetic dream realm to help prepare us before the return of Jesus Christ. His body must be careful in the last days not to do away with things we do not understand. God will call us to do things our natural minds cannot wrap themselves around, but we must remember that God’s supernatural power will empower us! We must press in to God and allow Him to speak to our hearts through dreams and visions.

One of the prophetic signs during the time of Joseph was the dream realm. The Word of God also reveals that the dream realm will also be one of the end-time signs. Just as there were prophetic dreams during the birth of Christ, there will be prophetic dreams during the return of Christ. Here are four biblical insights about the dream realm to remember as we prepare for the return of Jesus Christ in the last days.

**1) God promised to speak to us through dreams in the Old Testament.** “Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream” (Num. 12:6).

**2) God told us He would speak to us through dreams in the New Testament.** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream

dreams” (Acts 2:17).

**3) God counsels us at night through dreams.** “I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; My heart also instructs me in the night seasons” (Ps. 16:7).

**4) God protects us and warns us through dreams.** “For God may speak in one way, or in another, Yet *man* does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, When deep sleep falls upon men, While slumbering on their beds, Then He opens the ears of men, And seals their instruction. In order to turn man *from* his deed, And conceal pride from man, He keeps back his soul from the Pit, And his life from perishing by the sword” (Job 33:14-18).

Joseph and Mary were prophetic forerunners who prepared the way for

**“As the year 2020 came to a close with a global event that forever changed what we know as normal, we must not forget the presence of a sign in the stars.”**

Jesus Christ to come and save our souls from the fiery flames of hell. In the last days, God will raise up additional prophetic forerunners who will prepare the way for the return of Jesus Christ.

### **Sun, Moon and Stars: Revealing Signs of the Times**

Finally, we examine the cosmic signs in the earth during the time of the birth of Jesus Christ, recognizing that there will also be cosmic signs at His return. Scripture affirms these signs:

» “Then God said, ‘Let there be

lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for *signs* and *seasons*, and for *days* and *years*; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth’; and it was so” (Gen. 1:14-15, author’s emphasis).

» “When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the *star*, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy” (Matt. 2:9-10, author’s emphasis).

The wise men followed a star, a cosmic sign that led them to the birth of Jesus Christ. The star of Bethlehem, which would have been considered a sign of the time for the wise men, propelled them into their prophetic destiny of bringing gifts to King Jesus.

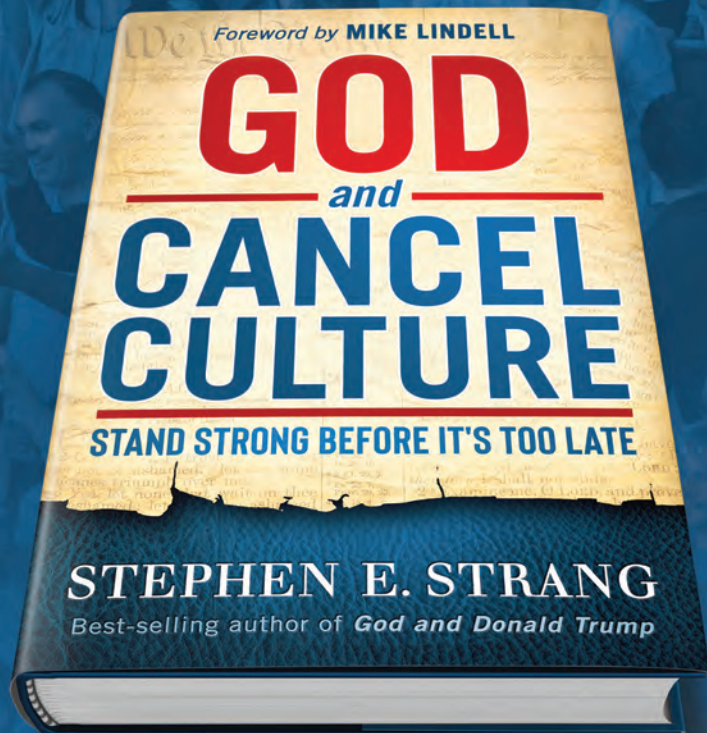
This same prophetic strategy became a pattern in which the believer will follow the signs of the times in the last days that will reveal the return of Jesus Christ. “And there will be *signs* in the *sun*, in the *moon*, and in the *stars*; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near” (Luke 21:25-29, author’s emphasis).

Time will not allow the unfolding of many more of the end-time prophetic signs that have been revealed in our generation to mark the return of Christ, but please consider this prophetic parallel.

During the birth of Christ, the star of Bethlehem guided the way for the wise men. The year 2020 came to a close with a global event that forever changed what we know as normal. We must not forget the presence of a sign in the stars.

On Dec. 21, 2020, this generation witnessed a repeated sign that happened during the birth of Christ. The star called the Christmas star had not

# Where is GOD in all this CANCEL CULTURE?



**Things are chaotic in America.** Liberal policies are advancing. A rash of executive orders appears to be moving the nation close to socialism and a one-world government. And conservatives, including many Christians, are being censored as never before. In *God and Cancel Culture*, find out what best-selling author Stephen E. Strang says Christians must do for our future **before it's too late.**



17356

been seen in 800 years. But Jupiter and Saturn aligned as we prepare for the return of Jesus Christ.

History reveals that this had not occurred since 1623 and we would have to go back even further, to near March 4, 1226, to find a date when everyone could see the Christmas star. This alignment is not expected again until March 15, 2080.

Most agree that everything changed globally in 2020. The spirit of the Anti-christ agenda is being revealed as the government tramples upon our freedoms and restricts the ability to buy and sell based upon mask and vaccinations mandates. Revelation 13:16-17 says, "He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

What has happened since 2020 is a precursor to the arrival of the Antichrist. If the signs of the coming of the Antichrist are here, then the return of Jesus Christ is even closer. The visible sign of the Christmas star, along with the global shift of normalcy of 2020 and into 2021 and beyond, work together to make things prophetically clear that Jesus Christ is coming soon.

As you celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ this Christmas season, be certain to live your life washed in the blood of Jesus Christ and ready for His return. Now is the time to walk in purity, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading through prophetic dreams and visions and discern the end-time signs God has revealed in the sun, moon and stars. ◀

**READ MORE:** For a more thorough understanding of this topic, check out the author's book, *Jesus Focused: Awakening Endtime Prophetic Strategy*, at [cooper.charismamag.com](http://cooper.charismamag.com).

**CALEB COOPER** is pastor of New Hope Revival Church in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico; founder of Caleb Cooper Ministries and author of several books available at [calebcooperbooks.com](http://calebcooperbooks.com) and [calebcooperministries.com](http://calebcooperministries.com).

Available online and wherever Christian books are sold.  
**STEVESTRANGBOOKS.COM | CHARISMAHOUSE.COM**



THIS CHRISTMAS,  
DISCOVER WHO GOD MADE YOU TO BE.

ONCE YOU DO, YOU'LL NEVER WANT  
TO BE ANYONE ELSE.



You were designed by God to advance His kingdom on earth and leave a legacy to your family and future generations. Take the first step toward fulfilling that call today!

Available now online and wherever books are sold  
[BillJohnsonBooks.com](http://BillJohnsonBooks.com) | [CharismaHouse.com](http://CharismaHouse.com)

  
CHARISMA  
HOUSE

# How to Break the Power of Addiction

Many Christians today live with secret habits.  
If you are tired of the chains, take these steps to freedom

BY PETER HORROBIN

I was walking briskly from one terminal to another at Chicago's O'Hare Airport. Suddenly, I felt a tugging at my sleeve from a man who recognized me. I had no idea who he was, but his words got my attention: "Thank you for saving Jenny's life."

I've received many such compliments through the years, but I give all praise to God. I share the stories of people like Jenny—who have overcome the chains of addiction through the supernatural power of faith—because they hold deep spiritual truth and practical principles far more significant than any praise.

The man who approached me that day was a pastor, and Jenny was a member of his church. At the time I met her at a conference, she weighed over 350 pounds, and her addiction to food was killing her. Food dominated and controlled her life. She was incapable of resisting it.

I asked her if she had always been so overweight.

"No."

"So when did you start putting on weight?"

"About 10 years ago."

She described how she came home one day to discover a cryptic note attached to her refrigerator door by a magnet. On it, her husband had written, "You won't be seeing me again. Goodbye."

The shock traumatized her and broke her heart. She opened the refrigerator door and, in an effort to comfort herself, reached for whatever food she could find. Ten years later, still with a broken heart and all her emotions locked in that moment of time, she was still trying to comfort herself with what had now become a food addiction. Jenny was dying, one snack at a time.

She had tried endless diets and healthy eating programs, but diets will never cure a food addiction. Each and every failed diet compounds the inner pain and drives a person back to the only thing they know that will give them relief: food. But more food will never cure a broken heart. The unhealed pain always fuels the need for false comfort.

I shared with Jenny that Jesus commands us to forgive

others, and I asked Him to help her to do so. She understood and spoke out words of forgiveness to her former husband. I prayed that, as Isaiah had prophesied in Isaiah 61:1, Jesus would heal her broken heart and set her free from the work of the enemy, who had been holding her in bondage.

In just a few minutes of sharing and prayer, the Holy Spirit moved to break addiction's power. Jenny now has the freedom to rebuild her life without the enemy constantly dragging her back into a pit of addictive despair.

## Find the Root

Twelve months later, in the middle of O'Hare Airport, I heard the full story of her life-transforming healing experience. God supernaturally freed her of her food addiction and saved her life.

Of course, Jenny is not the only Christian to have struggled with personal addictions. There are many believers who came to Jesus, as the old hymn expresses it, "Just as I am." But without an understanding of how the Christian message is both a saving and a healing message, they have a different life experience: "Just as I was when I came, I still am!"

They sing with enthusiasm the eternal truths, such as those expressed by Charles Wesley in his most well-known hymn, "And Can It Be": "My chains fell off, my heart was free/I rose, went forth and followed Thee."

In reality, however, they remain in chains, often of their own making. They try to follow Jesus while at the same time living lives controlled by addictive behavior rooted in their carnal nature, which thrives on an unhealed past.

In Ephesians 4:22 (NIV), Paul warns of the dangers of the old self being "corrupted by its deceitful desires" and in verse 27, he adds to this by saying, "do not give the devil a foothold." Sadly, many of those who wrestle with addictions have opened themselves up to deceitful desires. As a result, they struggle. The enemy has used his foothold to gain access, and they now need deliverance as well.

But don't fall into the trap of thinking the answer to all addictions is deliverance. People suffering from addiction



may need deliverance, but first they need to face themselves, understand the reason the enemy has gained access and deal with the real issues. Only then will deliverance prove effective.

Deliverance without healing will not deal with the inner unhealed reality. And failure to deal with the real problem, will lead people into a downward spiral of despair when they realize that nothing has changed and there seems no hope of escaping their addictive trap. Ultimately, this will give the enemy even greater control over their lives.

Jenny's problem presented as a food addiction—but food addiction wasn't the real problem. Prayer to control the addiction hadn't helped at all. I didn't pray that God would heal her desire for food. I prayed that God would heal the reason behind her constant need to use food to comfort herself. That's why she experienced healing.

This central principle underlies the healing of most addictions. When facing the challenge of walking out of such strongholds, people must begin by asking:

- » When did the addiction begin?
- » What happened to start it all?

People will only receive healing if they face the truth about themselves with brutal honesty. Even if these questions don't have an immediate answer, they make a great place to start praying for the Holy Spirit's help in understanding the roots of addiction. Knowing how things began—and why—provides vital keys for overcoming the addiction's power and control.

Addictions thrive on ignorance of the truth. Jesus knew what He was talking about when He said, "the truth shall set you free" (John 8:32b).

When you discover what lies at the root of an addiction, you have taken the first huge step toward overcoming it.

Jenny needed to both forgive her husband and confess her own sin of trying to deal with the pain caused by her broken heart in an ungodly way. Scripture refers to our bodies as "the temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Cor. 6:19a). To abuse them in this



**“Just as Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves and hide from God, people try to cover up their addictions and hide them from others.”**

or any other way is, therefore, an act of rebellion against our Creator.

### **Face the Truth**

One of the biggest problems with helping people face their addiction problem is the cycle of guilt and shame, often followed by deception—both self-deception and deceiving others about the existence and the extent of the problem.

Guilt, shame and deception have a particular potency in alcohol, drug and sexually related addictions. The fear of exposure dominates behavior. Pride drives the need to cover up the truth, for the sake of one's reputation or standing—especially within the personal family and the family of God in the church. Just as Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves and hide from God, people try to cover up their addictions and hide them from others.

Pride can then become the ultimate controlling power in a person's life. But the time will eventually come when the truth can no longer remain hidden, and everything

comes out into the open—often with catastrophic consequences.

In recent years, a growing number of senior leaders in the church have had their sexual addictions devastatingly exposed, causing untold harm to spouses, children and the wider body of Christ, all left feeling betrayed. No wonder we read in Proverbs 16:18a that "Pride goes before destruction" and in James 4:6b (NIV) that "God opposes the proud." But James also points to the way out of the trap when he says, "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up" (James 4:10).

Whoever you are and whatever position you may hold, if you live under the power of out-of-control addictions, waste no time in facing the truth about yourself. If you need help, swallow your pride and waste no time in getting it.

Food-related addictions have many possible causes. While some of these addictions arise from following an out-of-control parental role model, the majority have false comfort as

their driving force, often driven by the unhealed inner pain of rejection and emotional damage.

Some food addictions have their origin in sexual abuse. Victims often view an attractive body as the cause of the abuse, so they also perceive over-eating and consequential weight gain as a defense against further trauma.

Scripture does not forbid drinking alcohol, but it does give plenty of warnings about the dangers wine and beer can cause, which should be sufficient for the Christian to understand the spiritual red flag attached to the need for “another drink” (Prov. 23:35c). Do we really need that next drink, or does it act as an alcohol-driven cover-up for unhealed inner pain?

The problem that lies behind the consumption of excess alcohol and drugs is that the body must adapt its chemistry to process them, a change that requires feeding to maintain. At that point, the body dictates the terms of engagement and demands another

drink” or “another dose.” Alcohol or drug dependency quickly takes root, its controls are not easily overcome and broken. Regular accountability to someone else who has knowledge of your problem is essential given both spiritual and physical effects. Medical research documents addiction’s serious and potentially life-threatening consequences to long-term health and well-being.

### Break the Yoke

The addictions men most commonly experience have their focus on sex—usually pornography, consequential masturbation and, sometimes, the need for regular sexual gratification with a partner outside of a godly marital relationship. Paul describes all of these in his letters to the Ephesians and the Galatians as “sexual immorality,” “impurity” and “greed,” stating that “these things are improper for God’s holy people” (Eph. 5:3b).

Clearly, God blesses sexual relations

within the context of marriage, but sexual desire is a powerful force, and addicts often seek different forms of sexual gratification outside of normal marital relationships.

Michael was hooked on pornography. Even before the proliferation of sexually specific images on the internet and social media, he would seek every possible secret opportunity to look at pornographic pictures and films, with the inevitable consequence of lust-inspired masturbation, guilt and shame. No matter how hard he tried, he felt powerless to resist the addictive temptation. He had no understanding of the hidden driving force in his life.

He knew this wasn’t the way of life for any Christian, never mind a Christian leader. Treading a dangerous path, he lived in constant fear of exposure. He desperately wanted to preserve the sanctity of his marriage covenant and his ministry, but he knew his whole world was in danger

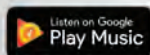


## BE PART OF THE Most Spirit-Filled Network

Listen, be inspired and become a Spirit-filled voice for others.



Download these apps to play or scan QR Code below:



God has given you a message and we want to give you a platform to get your message out there. Starting a podcast on your own can be difficult and time-consuming. At *Charisma*, for a small monthly investment, we do the hard work and let you focus on creating the content.

Join the **Charisma Podcast Network** as it surpasses the **75 million download** mark. Speak with us today to find out if you qualify to have your own podcast show!

For more information about joining the Charisma Podcast Network, visit: [www.charismamediaconsulting.com/yourpod/](http://www.charismamediaconsulting.com/yourpod/)



of collapsing at any moment. He eventually broke the torment of his personal silence about the issue and asked for help.

Buried within his childhood memories lay a day when, alone in the house, out of curiosity, he explored some of his dad's books in a cupboard. Hidden behind the books sat a pile of pornographic magazines—a traumatizing moment for an innocent boy who had never seen anything like that. He tried to bury the memory of the experience, but deep inside, he wanted to see more. Now, 40 years later, he still had the compulsion to see more but didn't understand why he couldn't control the driving force within.

Michael came to realize that his father's sins had left him spiritually uncovered. God gave him the power to forgive his father and receive healing for his childhood broken heart, breaking the driving addictive force behind his temptations. Only then could he bring to the Lord the hundreds of times he

fell into the same sin as his father, and receive forgiveness and healing. He knew he would still have to face and resist similar sexual temptations in the future, but now, the Spirit had broken their addictive power.

Many other behavioral addictions can control people's lives—everything from compulsive exercise to perfectionism, from anorexic fears to watching TV. But whatever your addiction may be, know this: Addiction is a thief!

Addictions can rob you of time, of money, of well-being, of physical health, relationships and even your job. They can destroy your life's calling and destiny. Above all, they can rob you of the precious relationship with the Lord, which should be every Christian's inheritance from a loving Father.

As Jesus made clear to the Pharisees (John 8:42-44), the devil is a liar, a thief and a murderer. He is a false father, and he uses addictions as one of his favorite means of controlling our lives. Never

forget that, as Paul declared to the Galatians, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be burdened again by a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 5:1). Addictions are indeed that: a yoke of slavery.

We have explored many different root causes for addictions, but none of them stands beyond the healing power of Jesus. And no matter how guilty you may feel, what Jesus did for you at the cross is sufficient for every need.

Jesus came to heal the broken-hearted and set the captives free—and that includes you! ◀

**READ MORE:** Find God's power to break addictive strongholds revealed at [addiction.charismamag.com](http://addiction.charismamag.com).

**PETER HORROBIN** is the author of *Discover Healing and Freedom and Forgiveness—God's Master Key*, available at the *Elle! USA Bookstore* ([elle.org/usa](http://elle.org/usa)) or wherever fine books are sold. For other books by Peter Horrobin, visit [elle.org/usa](http://elle.org/usa).



## Breakthrough Joint Pain Discovery

### Doctor's Formula Eases Joint Issues

If you're over 40 or 50, odds are you suffer pain or stiffness in at least one of your body's 230 joints.

In fact, over 21 million Americans suffer from "wear and tear" concerns such as:

- Joint pain or stiffness
- Restricted motion in joints
- Grinding, crackling
- Mild joint swelling or warmth
- Enlargement of joints

These issues can make it difficult to climb stairs, clean house, do yardwork, enjoy hobbies, or keep up with the grandkids.

Many doctors tell you pain is just part of growing older. They say you should learn to "live with it."

#### Joint Pain Sufferers Love LIMBEX

"The pain in my hip is all but gone. I can get up from a chair and walk without limping."

— Carol T. from Texas

"Wonderful! When I don't take it, my knees kill me. I absolutely love LIMBEX!"

— Caridad W. from Maryland

#### Don't Ignore Joint Pain

Renowned holistic doctor David Brownstein, M.D., decided to search for new natural strategies to help soothe and comfort aching joints.

After seeing so many patients take handfuls of expensive but low-quality joint supplements, Dr. Brownstein formulated LIMBEX®.

His advanced joint support formula contains 11 premium ingredients to improve and maintain healthy joints, cartilage, and connective tissue.

#### ApresFlex® Helps Joints in 5 Days or Less!

LIMBEX contains ApresFlex, a new next-generation boswellia extract that quickly

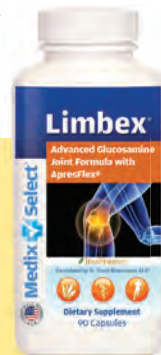
helps balance the body's inflammatory response. There are 10 more hard-working ingredients in LIMBEX that support healthy joints.

These ingredients work to reduce inflammation, block damaging enzymes, and lubricate joints. They improve blood flow to damaged joints while reducing swelling, pain, and stiffness.

#### The Simple Solution

LIMBEX now makes it easy to help support and soothe your joints.

Get back to living your life again with less pain and stiffness. Try LIMBEX today, at no cost!



### RISK-FREE Trial of LIMBEX

We're offering a risk-free trial supply at NO COST. That's a \$39.95 value!

Toll-Free: 877-214-0352

Online: [TryLimbex.com/Relief](http://TryLimbex.com/Relief)



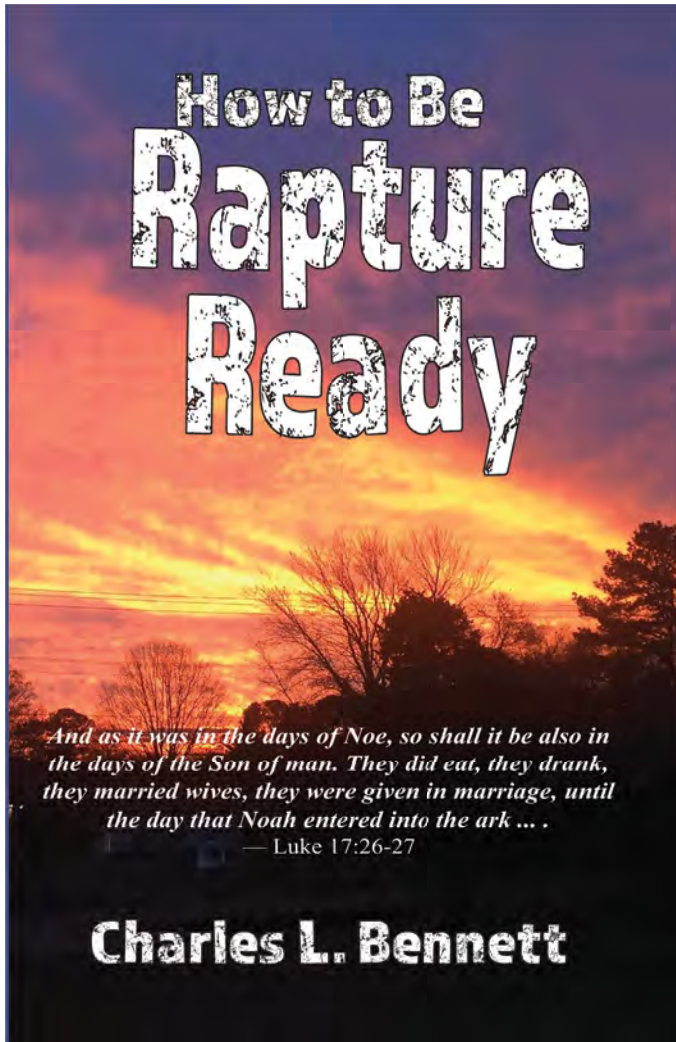
DR. BROWNSTEIN

\*Trial offer requires enrollment in SmartShip program. See Website for details. These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. Testimonials are from actual customers who have used our products. Testimonials reflect their experience but may not be representative of all those who will use our product.



# HOW TO BE RAPTURE READY

The most radical book you will ever read concerning the Rapture of the Church!



- If God is not the author of confusion and chaos, are Christians going to simply “POOF” out of here? Is YOUR car going to jump across the median strip and crash into a school bus, killing 55 students? Are planes piloted by Christians going to fall out of the sky, killing millions?
- If we are going to “POOF” out of here, why did Jesus say in Luke 17, “If you are in the field or in the top of your house, **do not go back in your house**”?
- Why did Jesus say, in Luke 17, “One shall be taken and the other left”? Why is it that, in Luke 17, when the disciples questioned Jesus, “Taken where, Lord?” that His response was, “**Where the dead bodies are there will the eagles be gathered?**”
- Could it be that when a person takes the “Mark of the Beast” they are assigned to Hell because the Mark of the Beast will be something that goes into the **bones of your hand or forehead and changes your “DNA,” so that you are no longer totally human**?
- Did the angel of the Lord show Zechariah, in Chapter 5 of his book, a **modern satellite system** that he referred to as “**the curse that goes forth over the face of the whole earth**”?
- Why did Jesus say, regarding the man in the Bible who came to the wedding feast without his proper wedding garment on, not that he simply be removed from the feast, but, instead: “**The king said to his servants, bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth**” (Matthew 22:11-13)?

Charles Bennett is the Founder and Pastor Emeritus of Joy Fellowship Worship Center in Hopewell, Virginia. He has traveled extensively, ministering in more than fifty countries during the past fifty years. He has seen the dead raised, the lame walk and many other profound miracles. He has ministered to crowds of over 20,000 people in Nicaragua, as well as in Zimbabwe, Africa. His ministry is known for its simple and yet profound insights into the Word. He and his wife have nine children and more than 26 grandchildren, all of whom are serving the Lord.

[www.JoyFellowshipWC.com](http://www.JoyFellowshipWC.com)

For speaking engagements, email:  
[Joy-Fellowship@juno.com](mailto:Joy-Fellowship@juno.com)

Available in English and Spanish  
on Amazon and Barnes & Noble



**THE BOOK EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT!**

4 KEYS TO  
WALK IN THE  
EXPLOSIVE  
POWER  
OF FAITH

# Don't let skepticism and disappointment take hold in your soul. Rediscover God's supernatural power and see supernatural results

BY ABNER SUAREZ

**I** consider my fellowship with God to be perhaps the most valuable gift God has given me as a son of God. Over the last 25 years, I have endeavored with all my heart to walk by faith and not by sight, and Scripture teaches us “without faith it is impossible to please God” (Heb.11:6a).

In the context of our mutual fellowship, God will often speak to me via simple but profound statements. A few months ago, He told me, “Abner, when I speak to you, it is not theory.” I want to share four biblical keys that will allow you to walk in the God-designed lifestyle of faith. While not exhaustive, they provide a biblical blueprint to understand the call of every believer to walk by faith.

God's recent words to me served as a beautiful encouragement that the lifestyle of faith into which He invites every believer does not occur by happenstance. In fact, our faith in God gives us the privilege of defining our world according to His divine design. Regardless of culture or nation, humanity longs to live in the security only found in daily surrender to God and a lifestyle of faith. In the life of faith that God designed humanity to live, He supplies every area of our lives and we release everything He freely gives us by faith in Him. It is as though God has provided a credit card with unlimited spending power for eternity. A lifestyle of faith allows for the possibility that every word and promise God has ever given to humanity can find fulfillment through faith in God.

Believers bear the responsibility of living lifestyles of faith, particularly in these unprecedented times. God wants us to present an invitation to the world of everything He provides to humanity when they choose complete surrender. This is the greatest time to be alive and God is now releasing an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that cannot be stopped except by the body of Christ's inability to agree with His purposes.

At the heart of this unprecedented release of God's Spirit across the globe are believers who know how to “walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7). As we entered 2021, God spoke to me and said, “In this season, I will teach my people how to walk by faith and not by sight as never before.”

## Modeling Kingdom Faith

Jesus came to earth as the second Adam. By placing Himself under limitations, He modeled God's original intent for Adam. Jesus, the Son of Man, would have complete faith in the Father and the Holy Spirit. The power of Jesus' life and ministry rested upon His faith in the Father and the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus did not come to earth with His own agenda; He came to fulfill the will of the Father.

God would display everything He desired for humanity through the life and ministry of Jesus. The Bible leaves us a clear record. Jesus, as the second Adam, lived and fulfilled all God had planned for the first Adam. Jesus lived a completely sinless life. Completely governed by the voice of God, he overcame every temptation of the evil one. He was a living and breathing expression of the Father-heart of God to humanity. He came preaching and demonstrating the Good News.

continued »

Jesus healed all manner of sickness and disease because it was never God's intention for those evils to be part of man's existence in the first place. God's passion to redeem humanity and the earth consumed Jesus; this was His divine mission. As the second Adam, He succeeded in reestablishing God's original plan so we could be free in Him. Preaching and demonstrating the kingdom of God were essential to Jesus' mission, but God's plan could not find fulfillment without His death and resurrection. Only through this divine purpose could God's full desire for humanity be realized. The first Adam was not created to take care of himself, and neither was this new race of people created to take care of themselves.

For humanity to become born again, God Himself would give them the key that would unlock the door into a new identity and a new way of living. He used this new way of living as a reintroduction of what He desired at the beginning of time: a people who lived as citizens of His kingdom, representing His interests in the earth. Jesus taught, modeled and fully demonstrated this kingdom (God's rule and reign) in His life on earth.

Humanity would no longer have to live under the disastrous effects of the demonic "Babylonian system," in which believers are exiled from God's blessings. The key to unlocking this new identity and way of life is the gift of faith. Through the life and ministry of Jesus, the Son of Man, God reintroduced humanity to His original intention: a life built on a foundation of faith.

## Defining Biblical Faith

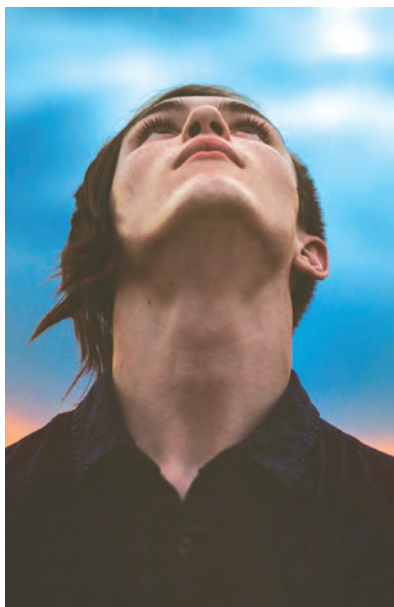
Faith is an ability God possesses within Himself to achieve His divine purpose. Faith is God's enduring confidence in His own attributes to fulfill that which His mind and heart have deemed desirable and good. The community of the Trinity known as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, though distinct persons, is one God in complete unity. Therefore, when the Godhead operates in faith, He always achieves the desired result. Amazingly, God makes this same confidence

# "The power of Jesus' life and ministry rested upon His faith in the Father and the power of the Holy Spirit."

available to all of us as well!

God has this faith within Himself and in His own attributes. The faith God offers us has the power to take us out of ourselves and into complete dependence upon Him. Faith is not simply an agreement or an intellectual acceptance that certain things are true. I can believe something exists but never place my "faith" in that truth. People might agree that Jesus Christ walked this earth, taught like no other prophet, performed miracles like no other man and even died and rose from the dead on the third day, but still never place their faith in that reality.

God's revelation of Himself underlies our faith in Him. A believer and citizen of the kingdom of God is one who responds by faith to God through trusting God's revelation of Himself found in Scripture as the basis of his or her existence. Jesus revealed Himself to all humanity as the way, the truth and the life. God's love, His standards and all His attributes are found in His Word and in the person of Jesus Christ.



When the Good News of the gospel is presented, individuals receive a choice between life and death. Adam and Eve, though created perfect and made to trust God in every way, also received a choice, and God continues to honor people's choices today. He entrusts us all with a measure of faith in the gospel message, and He gives each of us the ability to respond to Him, but we must decide to say yes.

God gave humanity the gift of faith to release His ability to work on our behalf. We can only receive faith through complete surrender and trust; we cannot earn it through good works or performance. Faith in God precedes good works, and good works are the fruit of genuine faith; however, true faith comes by simple trust. The apostle Paul writes:

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:8-10, NKJV).

## Walking in Supernatural Faith

» **Daily surrender:** Even before conception, God's grace is already working to orchestrate our lives according to His divine design. However, God's purpose for our lives cannot take full effect until we make the choice to intentionally surrender our lives to Him. That choice opens the door to walking in the power of God's faith. We do not base our surrender to God on blind trust, but on God's integrity—who He has declared Himself to be and the love and kindness He extends to us. The enemy—through lies, propaganda and inaccurate representation by the body of Christ—has sought to keep mankind from discovering God's true nature and beauty. His primary intention for humanity is that the goodness He extends to us would lead us to repentance.

» **Fellowship with God:** Faith begins with the call to build our lives on the Great Commandment.

When asked which was the greatest commandment, Jesus answered: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment” (Matt. 22:37-38).

Jesus designated the call to know God as “the first and great commandment” because it would define our existence for eternity. The invitation to love God with our whole heart was not a casual one. In it, He invited us to walk with Him, talk with Him and hear the deep things the Father wanted to reveal through Him to them.

» **Hearing the Word of God:** One of the primary methods Jesus used to communicate the message of the kingdom was teaching the Word of God. He taught the multitudes from the mountaintop, in the synagogue and in people’s homes. The disciples He first chose had the great privilege of receiving deeper explanations and insights into what He was proclaiming publicly. Jesus declared that “the words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life” (John 6:63b). Hearing the Word of God is essential to growing as a Christian and living a life of faith. Paul wrote: “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

Hearing the Word of God comes as a byproduct of a life of fellowship and communion with God. Jesus taught us that every citizen of the kingdom has the ability to hear and know the voice of God. We also hear the Word of God in the teaching, preaching and proclamations of the Word through the gifts Jesus has given to the church.

Jesus gave gifts to men as one of the fruits of His victory over hell, death and the grave. He gave people the offices of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher. During His earthly ministry, Jesus functioned in all five of these ministry offices, but He now gave them to the church as gifts, operating through divinely chosen men and women to equip the saints for the work of the ministry.

If we are being properly taught and equipped for the work of the ministry, then we have the opportunity

**“The same reality exists today. God fulfills His purpose through weak people who make the continual choice to simply obey and trust Him.”**



to become strong in our faith. God desires that our teaching and training take place within the context of a community. He invites us to a diverse community known as the church to hear the Word of God continually. As we do this, faith will rise within us and grow us into maturity.

» **Obedience:** A posture of surrender unlocks our heart to hear the Word of God. When we hear it, we must be intentional to receive it. When we receive it, God wants us to respond in quick obedience. Often, our obedience to the Word requires us to move in ways we would never have considered or thought possible. Yet God longs for us to realize that our faith in Him brings supernatural provision for accomplishing the impossible. He wants to routinely display the impossible through our lives.

A critical juncture in the disciples’ training occurred when Jesus released them to replicate His ministry. The physician Luke recorded this: “Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. And He said to them, ‘Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor

bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece” (Luke 9:1-3).

The only qualifications and experience the disciples had for this mission was the calling they had from the Father and Jesus’ word, which authorized them to go! Their mission became a beautiful walk of faith, since Jesus specifically commanded them not to bring a supply of food or money.

As these weak, flawed men obeyed God, they reproduced and multiplied the ministry of Jesus in their generation. The same reality exists today. God fulfills His purpose through weak people who make the continual choice to simply obey and trust Him. Our trust in God allows us to reproduce the ministry of Jesus on the earth through our individual assignments—His cornerstone goal for our lives. ◀

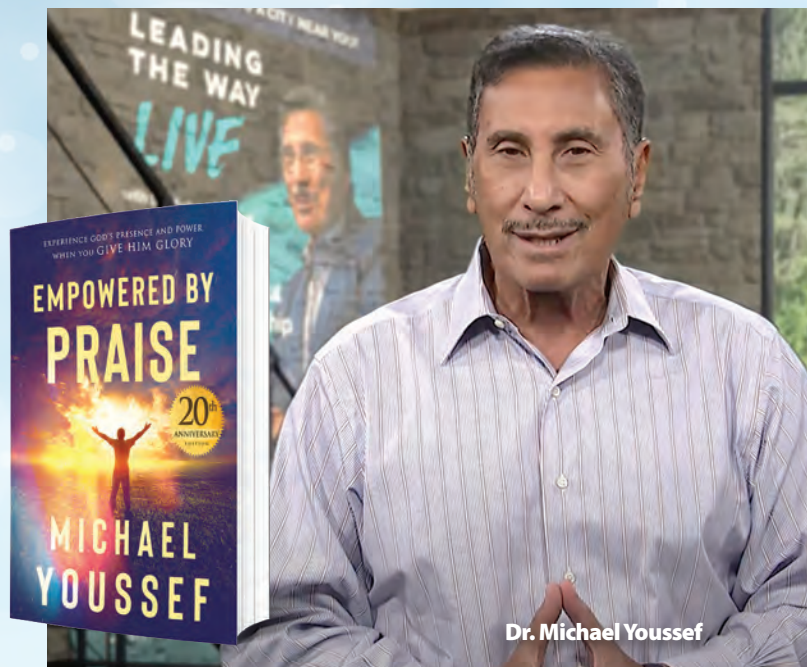
**READ MORE:** Explore the supernatural impact of faith at [faith.charismamag.com](http://faith.charismamag.com).

**ABNER SUAREZ** is the founder and president of *For Such A Time As This Inc.* His ministry is marked with the ability to call forth the destiny of individuals, churches, cities and nations of the world. Learn more about his ministry and how to attend a Faith Summit in person at [abnersuarez.com](http://abnersuarez.com).

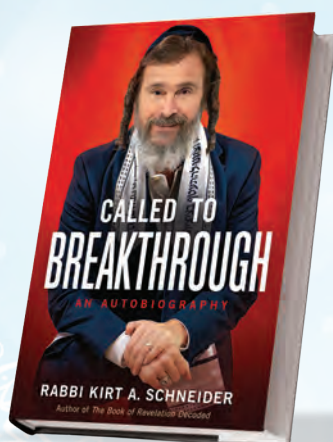
### Empowered by Praise

Michael Youssef  
Charisma House

The 20th anniversary edition of this seminal volume on praise, updated and expanded for today, brings fresh wisdom for experiencing God's powerful presence in your life. Bestselling author Youssef leads readers in growing their understanding about how praise energizes their relationship with God and positions them to enjoy His touch and nearness each day.

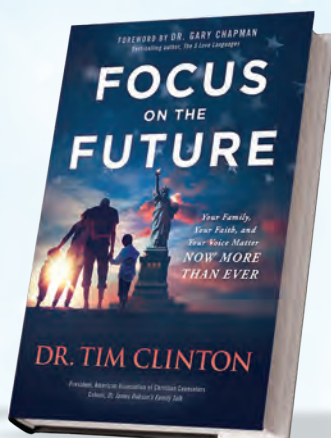


Dr. Michael Youssef



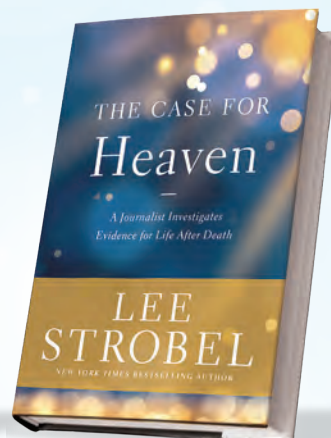
**Called to Breakthrough**  
Rabbi Kirt A. Schneider  
Charisma House

A riveting autobiography by one of today's leading Messianic pastors, Rabbi Kurt Schneider shares his Christian testimony with jaw-dropping candor, warmth and humility. Without fear, he recounts his fateful yet charming cycle of *meshugge* moments from his traditional Jewish upbringing to salvation in Christ and worldwide ministry.



**Focus on the Future**  
Dr. Tim Clinton  
FrontLine

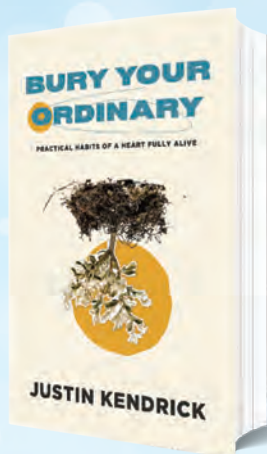
Dr. Tim Clinton follows up the success of *Take It Back* with a rousing call to believers: Our country has reached a crossroads, the battle for our faith, families and future is not optional. The co-host of *Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk* presents strong counsel to strengthen marriages, families, business and relationships for grandparents to Generation Z.



**The Case for Heaven**  
Lee Strobel  
Zondervan

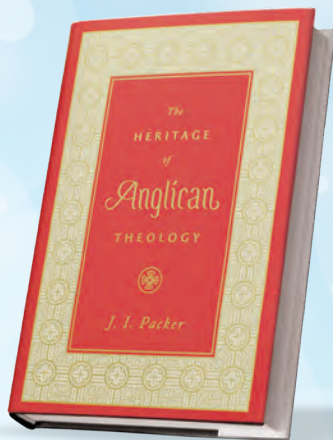
With 14 million copies of *The Case for ...* series in print, Lee Strobel returns with *The Case for Heaven*. As in earlier books, the former journalist confronts deep, fundamental yearnings of human existence: What happens when we die, is heaven real, what happens after we arrive? He surveyed experts in neuroscience, physics and theology in composing his conclusions about the afterlife.

Christmas is the season of faith, joy, of gift-giving, and families united.



**Bury Your Ordinary**  
Justin Kendrick  
David C. Cook

If you seek to live like Christ, yet your life remains plain, safe or even boring, what can you do about it? Vox Church founding Pastor Justin Kendrick invites readers to blow up their faith-life and reorient it around the greatness God calls us to as disciples of Christ. Including a detailed seven-habit plan for building forward, *Bury Your Ordinary* and its companion *Group Workbook* offer a path out of dreary routines and into the fully alive existence God intends for each of us.



**The Heritage of Anglican Theology**  
J. I. Packer  
Crossway

Are you passionate about revival history? If so, then J.I. Packer's *The Heritage of Anglican Theology* belongs on your bookshelf! Dive deep into the context and history of the First Great Awakening and gain a deeper appreciation for legendary preachers such as John Wesley and George Whitefield.



**Getting Good With Money**  
Jessi Fearon  
Thomas Nelson

Jessi Fearon has created a road map forward to financial freedom with her “enough is enough” moment as the catalyst. *Getting Good With Money* presents hard-earned wisdom from the first-person experience of a new mom-to-be planning the household budget as she awaits the birth of her child. Believers will find exercises, checklists and other useful tools matching their busy lifestyles to reduce household debt and increase financial freedom.

## Raising Powerful Children

Amy Gagnon  
Destiny Image

Bethel Church children's ministry leader Amy Gagnon presents a superb tutorial to help readers apply Proverbs 22:6, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it,” in their families. Gagnon, who received the concept of the book during the 2020 pandemic, deploys her 25 years of experience in children's ministry to give parents insights that will help them lead their children in God's call on their lives and the giftings of the Holy Spirit.



**Charisma Courses**  
**Emotional Healing & Deliverance**  
**Ruth Hendrickson**

Emotional healing is one of the many layers of restoration. It takes time and happens in stages, but God takes us on a lifelong journey of wholeness. *Emotional Healing & Deliverance* makes the perfect tool for equipping believers for this journey. Understanding self-care, setting boundaries, healing wounds and breaking generational patterns are all part of the healing and deliverance process.

How do we overcome shock and trauma, abuse and unhealthy attachments? Ruth Hendrickson teaches practical, spiritual truths with the power of prayer to train learners to walk in healing and to be used powerfully by God to witness healing and deliverance in others. Find it at [charismacourses.com/courses/mashah](http://charismacourses.com/courses/mashah).



Ruth Hendrickson

**“Relate”**  
**for KING & COUNTRY**  
**Word Entertainment**

As the world continues to recover from the pandemic, the problems present pre-COVID still lurk around us. With shutdowns, lockdowns and constant uncertainty, strife, division and discord have only worsened. We live in a world overdue to rediscover the common bonds people share and to realize we are more alike than different.

“By the grace of God, we’ll see each other’s heart,” Australian Christian pop duo for KING & COUNTRY sing in their new single, “Relate.” Calling people everywhere to take time to see things from someone else’s perspective in Christlike selflessness, “Relate” creates an opportunity to sow unity among the body of Christ and the wider world.



Joel and Luke Smallbone



GIVE A GIFT THAT WILL  
CHANGE THE LIVES OF YOUR  
FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES.

THEY WILL NEVER SEE THE WORLD  
THE SAME WAY AGAIN



PREPARE TO BE BLOWN AWAY!

[www.TheHarbingerReturns.com](http://www.TheHarbingerReturns.com)

Also available in ebook, audio, and large print format.



**ORDER TODAY!**  
Available Now Online and  
Where Books Are Sold.



## Christmas Is for Giving

Please join me in blessing the children of the most impoverished country in the Western Hemisphere

If Christmas is the happiest time of the year, it's because in this season, people are more generous in giving to others. After all, the gift-giving tradition follows the example of the Magi who gave gifts to the Christ child.

As Christians, we should lead the world as an example of giving and being more generous than our secular neighbors because we understand sowing and reaping as well as the blessings that come from giving. But too often our busyness, engagement with commercialism and taking care of ourselves and our small circle leave us no better than the world. So let's make a difference in the lives of those who need it.

Over the years, *Charisma* has encouraged our readers to be generous at Christmas, inspired to some extent by a childhood experience of mine. When I was 5 years old, my father pastored in Springfield, Missouri, and a family in the church was going through a tough time because the father had lost his job. My parents encouraged my siblings and I (all five and under) to take a gift we received at Christmas and give it to the children in that family. As young as I was, I learned it is more blessed to give than to receive.

For many years *Charisma* raised money for gifts for Bill Wilson and his Metro Ministry in New York. In fact, what we did inspired Bill to raise money every year to give each child in the ministry one gift. For many children, it's the only Christmas present they get.

One year we worked with Danita Estrella Watts (featured in the cover story in this issue) to give \$10 gifts to children in Haiti. That doesn't seem like much in our prosperous country, where parents spend an average of more than \$200 on gifts per child.

"We gave gifts to over 1,000 children," Danita told me in a recent *Strang Report* podcast. "And 400 of those were in our school. For the boys, soccer is their passion. ... So for lots of the boys, we gave them nice soccer balls, sports equipment. For the girls, we gave all kinds of dolls. To the older girls, we gave jewelry or perfume."

Those \$10 gifts made a huge impact. Danita says one child received a small doll in a cardboard box. She later learned from one of her staff that the gift was so valued the child hung it on the wall, box and all, like an expensive painting in the hovel the child called home. She never played with it, presumably because of its value.

Danita says some of the children who received those \$10 gifts are now in college and they are still grateful not only for the gifts but for the memories created through



**"We have so much, and they have so little."**

our readers' generosity. "To this day, they talk about how special it was when they were little and they woke up to a stocking on their bed with their name on it, full of little treats and goodies," she says. "And then they would get to open up their gifts, and all day we'd be in the kitchen, cooking breakfast, cooking lunch, making dinner—trying the best we could to create the feeling of family, of closeness, of what it really is to celebrate Christmas."

In Haiti, the average per capita household income is only \$1,250—lowest in the Western Hemisphere. We have so much, and they have so little.

*Charisma* has been working with Danita's Children for more than two decades and it's exciting to give an update. It was my idea to invite our readers (as we have so many times) to give at Christmas so Danita's ministry can buy 1,000 children a \$10 gift. Please give through our nonprofit partner, Christian Life Missions, by either mailing a check to 600 Rinehart Rd., Lake Mary, FL 32746 or giving online at [danita.charismamag.com](http://danita.charismamag.com). CLM will send every dollar to Danita and mail you a tax-exempt receipt. We never know how much will come in, but any extra will go to families who are desperate for food. Danita tells me food is one of the greatest needs in Haiti due to violence and unrest.

Someone suggested that Christians ought to think of tithing—giving at least 10%—on what they give their own families for Christmas. I've tried to do this for many years and I plan to give generously to Danita's children. Won't you join me?

A COHESION FILMS PRODUCTION

# ENEMIES WITHIN THE CHURCH

Discover how the gospel and the Holy Spirit  
empower each of us to destroy the works of darkness!

DIRECTED BY  
**JUDD SAUL**

WRITTEN BY  
**CARY GORDON**

COHESION FILMS PRESENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CORNERSTONE WORLD OUTREACH "ENEMIES WITHIN: THE CHURCH"

PRODUCED BY CARY GORDON, TREVOR LOUDON, JUDD SAUL  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JOY WREI  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER MARK NAUROTH

CASTING BY CARY GORDON, DR. DON & MARY ANNE NELSON, STEVE TETRAULT, JOE & MAC KLINGEN, THE WALKER FAMILY, STANLEY & SALLY SEIGLER, TODD & DEBORAH VANDYK, JUDD SAUL



[WWW.ENEMIESWITHINTHECHURCH.COM](http://WWW.ENEMIESWITHINTHECHURCH.COM)



**This film exposes the cultural Marxist shift of our churches and denominations.**

Just as Jesus, Paul, John, Peter and James predicted, the Christian church is in the midst of nothing short of a hostile takeover! "Savage wolves" have come in among the precious Church of Jesus Christ in our time! (SEE ACTS 20:29)

You are going to be shocked by what you see and hear chronicled in this ground-breaking, unique and passionate documentary film. As movie-goers depart the theater, many will call loved ones to share its powerful message before they even reach their cars.

Here's why this movie is needed right now in American

history: long-time, tenured, trusted institutions and the persons who influence and control those organizations have been compromised and are no longer safe. Whole denominations of the Church – once filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and known for boldly declaring and honorably defending Christian orthodoxy – have been corrupted from within.

To watch trailer or for more information:  
[www.charismaplusapp.com/enemieswithinthechurch](http://www.charismaplusapp.com/enemieswithinthechurch)  
or scan QR code



# BE TAUGHT IN YOUR CHURCH'S BIBLE SCHOOL BY THE MOST INFLUENTIAL VOICES IN MINISTRY



JOYCE MEYER



JOHN BEVERE



JACK HAYFORD



BILL WINSTON



MARILYN HICKEY



A.R. BERNARD

EARN AN ASSOCIATE, BACHELOR'S,  
OR MASTER'S DEGREE

VISIT [ISOM.ORG](http://ISOM.ORG) TO REQUEST  
AN INFORMATION PACKET



- Equip your leaders with the Word's Largest Video Bible School
- ISOM has trained over 500,000 students in 150 nations to be more effective in ministry
- Very affordable
- Best online site for individual students at [ISOMonline.org](http://ISOMonline.org)
- Taught by 100 renowned instructors
- Call TODAY for a **FREE** info packet



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

866-FOR-ISOM (367-4766) or 515-528-9800