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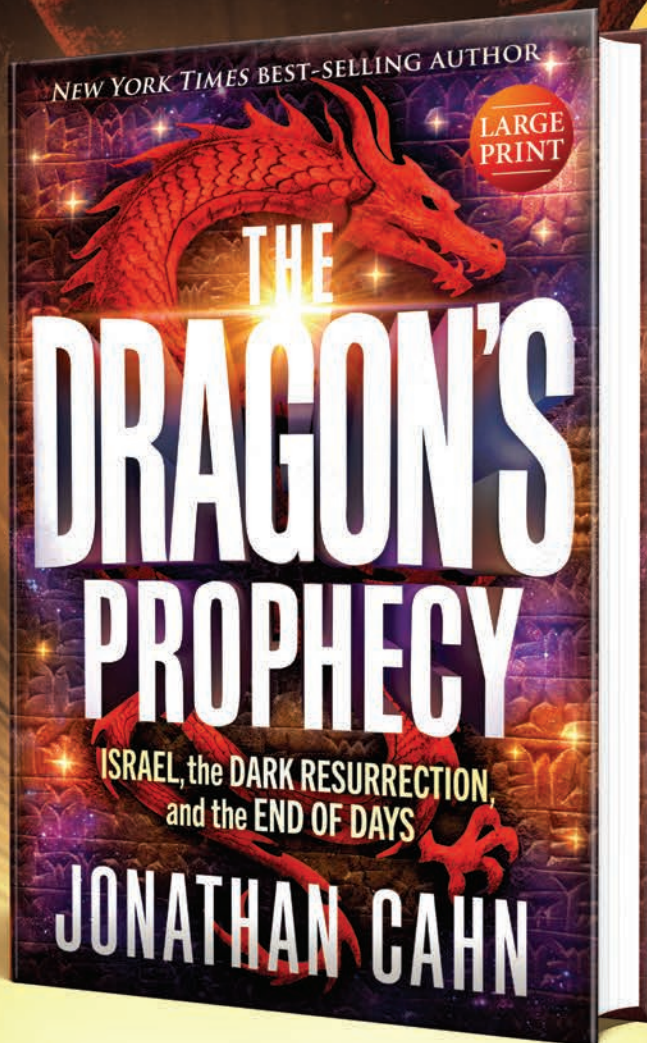
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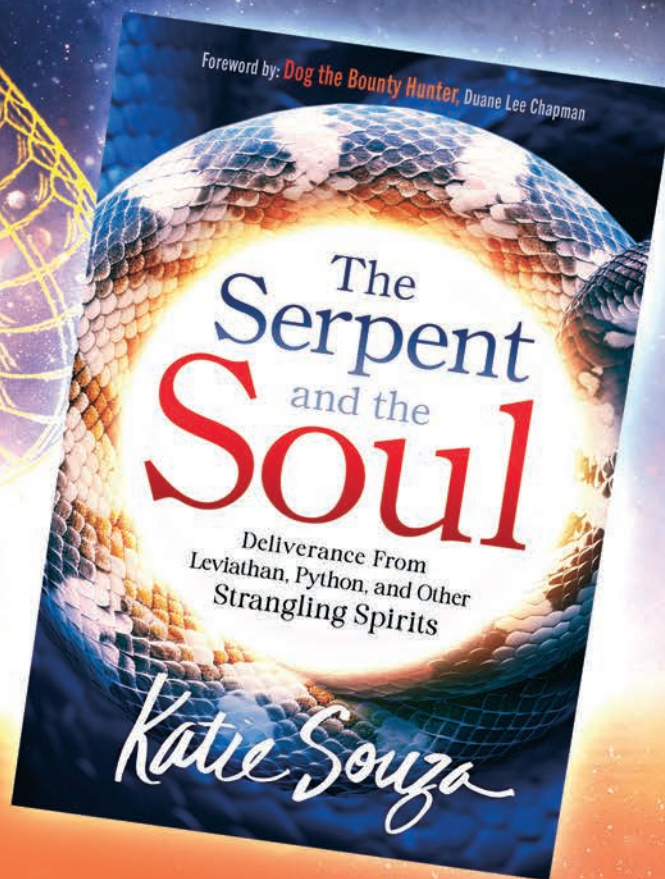
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 **CHARISMA HOUSE**

# WHY AMERICA'S First Freedom Is IN JEOPARDY

The government's hostility to religious freedom must change

BY TONY PERKINS

**I**n the 1980 presidential election Ronald Reagan upended Jimmy Carter's bid for a second term by simply asking the American people one question: "Are you better off than you were four years ago?"

With double-digit inflation and a flagging international reputation as 66 Americans were being held hostage by Iran, an overwhelming majority of voters answered with a resounding no!

As we enter the 2016 presidential election cycle, what is the one question voters should be asking candidates as we seek the right leader to restore America's strength and prosperity?

continued »



A few years ago, I was invited by a member of Congress to join him on a visit to the “vault” at the National Archives building just down the street

that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained ... .” There were other interesting documents that we were

nor shall the rights of Conscience be infringed.”

The Senate deleted portions of the 17, and combined others, ending up with 12. The states passed on the first two, ratifying the remaining 10 amendments which were added to our Constitution as the Bill of Rights.

I had not been aware that the House of Representatives, the People’s House, the body closest to the citizens, had crafted the First Amendment dealing with individual rights solely addressing religious freedom and the rights of conscience. The fact that Congress began the list of rights with religious freedom and conscience protections is significant.

What this reveals is that religious liberty is our first freedom, not just because it’s listed first in the Bill of Rights but because our country’s founders understood that religious freedom was a gift granted by God and was to be guarded by government, as it was the foundation for all other freedoms. If God isn’t the author of our rights, we really don’t have any—they are just political freedoms government can give and take back at will. If our primary allegiance isn’t to God, then to whom, or what, is it owed—the state? Clearly, without the freedom to believe and live according to those beliefs, there can be no true freedom.

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“What this reveals is that religious liberty is our first freedom, not just because it’s listed first in the Bill of Rights but because our country’s founders understood that religious freedom was a gift granted by God and was to be guarded by government, as it was the foundation for all other freedoms.”

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from the Family Research Council’s office in Washington, D.C. The “vault” is a room located within the Archives where valuable uncirculated documents are housed.

It may not have had the drama of National Treasure, but as a student of history, I found it fascinating. One of the documents we were able to view was President George Washington’s handwritten inaugural address given on April 30, 1789, in New York City.

In that first speech, as our first president, he acknowledged dependence upon and gratitude toward God: “It would be peculiarly improper to omit in this first official Act, my fervent supplications to that Almighty Being who rules over the Universe, who presides in the Councils of Nations, ... No People can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the Affairs of men more than the People of the United States.”

President Washington continued with a warning to our young nation: “The propitious smiles of Heaven, can never be expected on a nation

able to view, but the most insightful for me was the United States Senate markup of what we now know as our Bill of Rights.

### What Our Rights Really Are

The first order of business for the new Congress in the summer of 1789, after George Washington assumed the office of president, was amending the Constitution to address the issues that were raised during the ratification process. The House of Representatives sent 17 original amendments to the Senate. The first dealt with the election of members of Congress, connecting the number of members in the Congress directly to the population. This was rejected when it was later sent to the states. The second amendment dealt with congressional pay; this was not ratified either, initially. In fact, it wasn’t ratified until 1992.

The third amendment was the first one addressing individual rights. It was a separate, stand-alone amendment. It said: “Congress shall make no law establishing religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,

### Governmental Hostility Toward Christians

This understanding of religious freedom has guided both America’s domestic and foreign policy for most of our nation’s 239-year history. Our government has respected and assertively guarded the right of citizens to live according to their beliefs by acts such as the Religious Freedom Restoration Act adopted in 1993. In our foreign policy, Congress has also clearly articulated the priority that is to be given to religious freedom. In 1998, Congress passed the International Religious Freedom Act, making clear that a top priority in America’s foreign policy was to both protect and promote religious freedom. However, in the last seven years we’ve witnessed



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our federal government's view of religious freedom go from indifference to outright hostility.

This indifference is seen not only in the policies advanced by the Obama administration but even in the president's word choice. The president has largely avoided using the term religious freedom, choosing to instead use the phrase "freedom of worship," which falls woefully short of the recognized liberty in the First Amendment. The term "freedom of worship" represents a narrow view of religious liberty that suggests that orthodox faith can be quarantined within the walls of a church or synagogue. The president's recent remarks at the National Prayer Breakfast, equating the medieval Crusades with current day Islamic terrorists, ISIS, reveals either a blind subservience to moral

the detachment of those charged with running our country. The president has failed to raise the plight of Pastor Saeed Abedini as a precondition to negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program. Pastor Abedini, an American citizen, is sitting in prison in Iran for simply living according to his faith. The least the Obama administration could be doing is demand he be released as a precondition to any talks with Iran.

### **Will the Government Try to Change Our Beliefs?**

While American Christians languish in foreign prisons, the world becomes increasingly dangerous for Christians. As Open Doors USA reported earlier this year, the president's foreign policy is focused on pressuring foreign governments to

contractors extend special employment benefits based upon sexual orientation and gender identity. According to the president, it doesn't matter that religious organizations may want to hold onto their beliefs when doing business with the government; they must be forced to change. In fact, Democratic presidential candidate, Hillary Clinton, recently spoke of how religion is an impediment to abortion rights at the Women in the World Summit. "Laws have to be backed up with resources and political will," she asserted. "And deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed."

Note that amazing phrase: "Religious beliefs ... have to be changed." By whom, Mrs. Clinton? The federal government? It is this open hostility toward religious freedom from our own government that must change.

### **Our President Must Secure Religious Liberty**

America's security and prosperity, certain to be campaign issues, will elude us as a nation unless the religious liberty of America's citizens are fully restored and protected. Religious liberty and with that liberty the future of America will be determined by this upcoming election. Bible-believing Christians cannot stand on the sidelines. We must be informed and engaged so that we might select a presidential candidate who will not just halt these attacks on religious freedom, but undo and reverse the anti-religious freedom policies implemented by the Obama administration.

The question we must ask the presidential candidates, and expect them to answer, is: "Will you restore religious freedom, the freedom to believe, and live according to those beliefs in America?" We must understand that our nation's future depends us restoring this fundamental freedom and the candidates must understand that their bid for the White House depends upon a resolute commitment to restoring our first freedom. ♦

**TONY PERKINS** is president of the Washington, D.C.-based Family Research Council.

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“Religious liberty, and with that liberty the future of America, will be determined by this upcoming election.”

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equivalence, or a genuine lack of awareness of what religious thinkers from within Christianity and Islam are actually saying and doing. Either way, such remarks are troubling. They would be disturbing comments from the average student of history—but are especially so from a leader charged with upholding religious rights around the world. Aside from his misguided remarks, the president has failed to take sufficient action to stop ISIS from engaging in wholesale slaughter of Christians and other groups in the Middle East. A State Department spokesperson's recent comments that jobs are crucial in addressing the "root causes" of the ISIS problem, and the highlighting of demonic cultist Joseph Kony, the former leaders of a guerrilla group in Uganda as an example of a "Christian," only reveal

adopt LGBT policies, which often run counter to the religious and cultural views of the nation with which we're trying to work. At home, the administration has completely disregarded claims that its laws and policies are infringing on religious believers' consciences. The president has refused to exempt a ministry run by elderly Catholic sisters from its onerous Affordable Care Act employer mandate, steadfastly insisting that these believers be conscripted in providing abortion-related drugs and services despite their sincere conscientious objections that they don't want to play a part in a process which ends human life.

The administration also refused to offer religious believers any exemption from new requirements under Executive Order 13672 that certain federal

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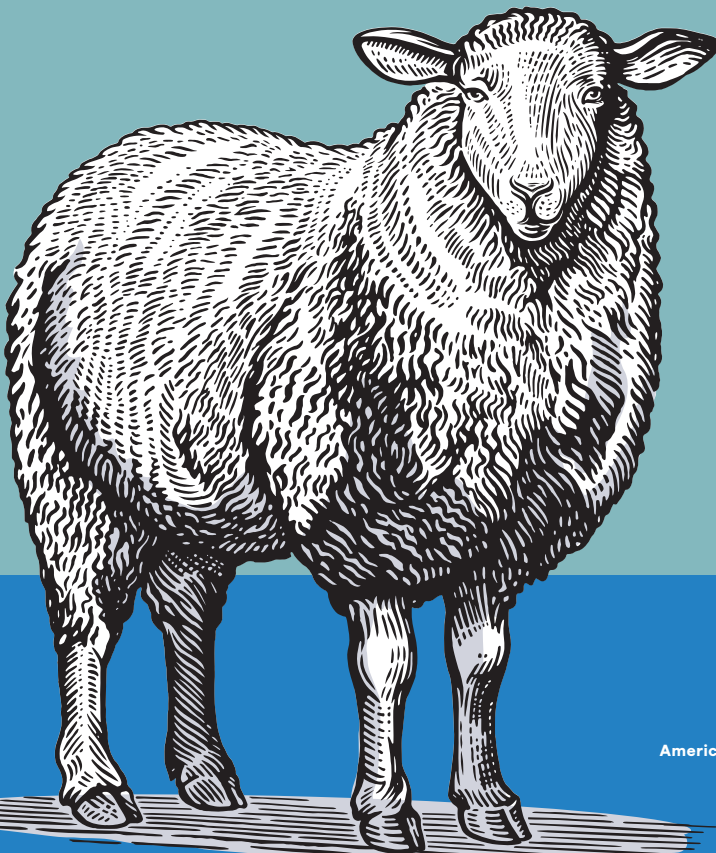
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Foreword by **DON DICKERMAN**

# HOW TO CAST OUT DEMONS

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# SWING VOTE



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# It's about our families and the most important vote of our lifetimes

BY DARREL AND CINDY DEVILLE

**M**

any believe this upcoming presidential election will be “the most important of our lifetime,” one that could greatly affect our children, grandchildren, and the very future of America.

The alarming reality is America, like ancient Rome, is witnessing all the historical warning signs of an empire on the verge of implosion. As a nation it seems we are in the midst of the greatest moral and spiritual crisis we have ever witnessed, both inside and outside the church.

Through our sin, complacency and compromise we have selfishly sold out our nation and our children's future—now we are seeing the fruit of it at every level.

Not only have we lost the cultural war in a moral landslide, we have a nation on the brink of collapse under the weight of great sin, runaway debt, greed and corruption. In addition to this, we are seeing ever-increasing unrest and contention in our government and in our streets that threatens to rip our nation apart at the seams.

The progressive war against God and our nation's foundations has taken its toll and continues to thrust America further down a path of self-destruction. Our Founding Fathers warned us that if America were to abandon God and His biblical truths and principles that our nation was founded upon then everything would fall apart.

Many have looked to a president for hope and change, but the truth is the real hope and change America desperately needs begins with God, and His church, the body of Jesus Christ.

The fact is, the American church carries the ultimate swing vote for the future of our nation, one that goes beyond a mere political solution to a divine solution. For what we as the church do or don't do at this pivotal time in history will determine the course of this nation—either the collapse and destruction of America or the greatest awakening ever seen.

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“What we (the church) do or don't do at this pivotal time in history will determine the course of this nation—either the collapse and destruction of America or the greatest awakening ever seen.”

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## The Root of the Problem

At this time, it is critical that the church in America wake up, rise up and lead the way. We must engage on every level and every front before it's too late. However, our focus cannot just be Washington, D.C., and the issues of the day, for in order to see substantial and lasting change in our nation we must first deal with the root of the problem, which is the hearts and souls in the nation.

Although electing the right president and leaders (who honor God) is very important, that is only part of the equation for positive change. For right now, putting a new political party or person in place or just changing laws will be like putting a Band-Aid on a deeply rooted cancer. Overall, the disturbing fruit we are seeing throughout America is merely a reflection of the inward spiritual and

“Through our sin, complacency and compromise we have selfishly sold out our nation and our children’s future—now we are seeing the fruit of it at every level.”



moral condition of the people. And the sad reality is America’s dark condition is actually a brazen statement against the American church, the one called to be the light to the nation (Matt. 5:14).

### The Most Influential Position in the Nation?

While the president and our nation’s other leaders play a critical role, we believe there is an even more essential role in influencing the course of our nation—the pulpits of America.

Confirming this is Charles Finney. It is said his life and writings influenced more people toward revival and reformation than any other preacher of the 1800s. He recognized the critical role the church—especially the pulpits (the five-fold ministry)—plays in the shaping of our culture and nation. A portion of his sermon “Decay of Conscience” says it well:

*Our preaching will bear its legitimate fruits.*

*If immorality prevails in the land, the fault is ours [the pulpits] in a great degree.*

*If there is a decay of conscience, the pulpit is responsible for it ...*

*If the church is degenerate and worldly, the pulpit is responsible for it.*

*If the world loses its interest in [God], the pulpit is responsible for it.  
If Satan rules in our halls of legislation, the pulpit is responsible for it.  
If our politics become so corrupt that the very foundations of our government are ready to fall away, the pulpit is responsible for it*

We believe the case could be made that, biblically speaking, the highest place of ultimate authority and influence for our nation lies not in Washington, D.C., but rather in the pulpits of America; for the spiritual greatly affects the natural (Eph. 6:12). God’s leaders and people hold the greatest spiritual authority as ambassadors representing the supreme kingdom of God, and Christ, the King of kings (Matt. 28:18-20; Rev. 19:16). And what the church allows or disallows both inside and outside the church can affect the entire nation (Matt. 18:18).

In relation to all this, Martin Luther King Jr. prophetically wrote in 1963: “The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state, and never its tool. If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority.”

### Something Has Gone Wrong

As the church, we are the body of Christ in the earth, anointed and equipped by God to lead and be “agents of change,” a shining light releasing heaven and God’s will into the earth (Matt. 6:10). But something has gone terribly wrong.

For decades much of the American church has been like a sleeping giant who has fallen into a lukewarm and disrepute state. Instead of taking our place as salt and light, we have instead given way allowing the kingdom of darkness to invade, to sow, and take root all across our nation. “While men slept, the enemy came and sowed tares” (Matt. 13:25). And in spite of numerous efforts to influence society and the culture, much of the American church instead has been influenced and conformed to the culture and its ways. As a result we have allowed the progressive stripping away of our godly foundations as our nation continues to spiral downward.

It’s undeniable; we are in an epic battle for the soul of our nation. And now the American church and our nation are like a war zone with casualties everywhere. We are seeing burnt-out, broken and backslidden pastors, as well as lives, marriages and families with broken hearts, broken homes and broken dreams. So many are confused, are deceived, have gone astray and become prey to the enemy (the kingdom of darkness).

### What Has Held Us Back?

Many with great concern have been speaking of and praying for a great awakening and reformation to bring change, but why have we not yet seen it? And why have most of our efforts seemed to be—one step forward, two steps back?

The reality is the American church has been greatly hindered and largely ineffective because she has been compromised at most every level. Not only have we compromised and watered down God’s Word of truth, but in both the pulpits and pews, we are seeing unbelievable statistics of adultery, divorce, drunkenness, homosexuality and abortions. More than 68



# Simply Christ

## Gospel Insight

with Keith Surface

### Spiritual Gravity

There is a law which every human becomes an expert in at some point in their existence. From the infant to the elderly, from the drifter to the aerospace engineer, all of us are students of this law and continually gain new understanding on how to function under its domain. This law I speak of is called the law of gravity. Everything upon planet earth is affected and bound by its power. Nothing breaks this law, but we all learn to compensate and deal with it. An airplane may seem to break the law of gravity, but that is only an illusion. A 707-jet airliner will burn through roughly 13000lbs of jet fuel an hour as it struggles to stay airborne against the unrelenting pull of gravity. An infant must learn how to exert energy to compensate for gravity before he or she can even roll over or begin to crawl. Absolute "laws" such as the law of gravity are defined as "something to which there is no exception."

The word of God speaks of another such law which it calls "*the law of sin and death.*" Romans 8:2. This "*law of sin and death*" is not a commandment, but rather it is a description of the dominion under which humanity has lived since the transgression of Adam. The Apostle Paul tells what this "law" is and when it gained its dominion when he says that "*by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*" Romans 5:12. The entrance of sin and death into the world changed everything. Its power became absolute. This is verified by the fact Paul reminds us of, saying; "*for that all have sinned.*" If only "almost everyone" had sinned, this would not be an absolute "law." But because everyone other than Jesus Christ has fallen to sin's dominance, it is evident that this is an absolute "law." No one breaks this "*law of sin and death.*" People just learn to compensate and deal with it.

All carnal religion in some form is seeking to equip people to survive and excel under its unrelenting oppression.

The apostle Paul tells us about the workings of this "law" in the 7th chapter of Romans. Before coming to Christ, as Saul of Tarsus, he was an expert at compensating and excelling under its dominion. But just as a jet cannot stay airborne forever, Saul of Tarsus found that this "law" never stopped pulling him down into captivity. He wrote; "*I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*" Romans 7:21-23. Indeed, every human experience teaches us that the "*law of sin and death*" has an unbreakable dominion over the human existence. But then again, is this really true?

The Apostle Paul wrote, "*For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*" Romans 8:2. When every experience of humanity has proven to us that this "*law of sin and death*" is absolute in its dominion, how can Paul say he was made free from "*the law of sin and death*"? The answer is simple. He had discovered that in Christ there was another "absolute law" which superseded the "*law of sin and death.*" This greater "law" he called "*the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus!*"

Those whose life is in Christ Jesus are made free from "*the law of sin and death*" and its dominion over mankind. As they live in Christ Jesus they do not struggle with either sin or condemnation, because Christ has delivered them from the bondage of sin and the condemnation that always accompanies it. Sin is washed from their heart and nature by the shed blood of Christ Revelation 1:5 and their old man of sin is crucified and destroyed upon his cross. Romans 6:6. Paul says we are "*made free from sin, and become servants to God.*" Romans 6:22. The gospel of Christ does not teach us how to compensate for "*the law of sin and death.*" It makes us free from it! As Jesus said, "*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!*" John 8:36.

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percent of men in church and in excess of 50 percent of pastors are regularly viewing pornography! Sin and compromise abounds in the pulpits and pews of America.

Because of all this, like Samson with Delilah, we have been stripped of our strength, our vision, and our voice. Is this perhaps why the world scoffs at our calls for righteous change?

The fact is, we (the American church) are actually part of the problem! And before we can bring true reformation to our nation we need to reform our own house first. Before we can get the White House in order we need to get our house in order.

## What is it Going to Take?

First, we should understand, we can fight day and night to change laws and legislation, but only God can change the heart and soul of a nation.

True change will come when souls are so shaken under the convicting power of the Holy Spirit that their eyes are opened to see how great their sin is, how great is God's love and how great their need is for Christ and His ways.

It's going to take this happening on a scale that has never been seen before—the greatest awakening ever!

Second, the body of Christ is the vessel that will usher in this great awakening.

Therefore, the depth of change we need in our churches and the nation must begin at the top—in the pulpits of America.

## What The Church Must Do

Right now, God is calling all of us to our knees, beginning with those in the pulpits (the real swing vote), for they hold the keys to change everything. God is calling the five-fold ministry (especially pastors) all across America to unite, humble themselves and lead the way—in genuine repentance and massive daily prayer. If they will truly respond in obedience to God's cry and instructions—we will see the heavens opened and a holy visitation—a cleansing and purifying fire that will hit our pulpits and send ripple effects throughout the pews and out into the city streets and across our nation from

shore to shore!

Note: Our new book *God's Answer for America* is a very timely and prophetic message that reveals exactly what God is instructing pastors and churches to do to bring the greatest awakening ever seen, the three keys to bring dramatic and lasting change, and more.

With all this in mind, we point to Peter who declared that judgment must first begin in the house of God (1 Pet. 4:17). This is not a condemning judgment, but rather a purifying and purging that will bring the change within we must have in order to rise up in the earth as the glorious church Christ is returning for (Eph. 5:27; Is. 60:1-2). It's time for a holy a visitation!

## The Coming Great Visitation

Malachi 3 prophesies of a sudden great visitation, which results in a cleansing of God's house, His leaders, and restoring righteousness. In Matthew 21, we also see Jesus cleansed the temple, followed by great miracles. We believe once again God is coming to cleanse and purify His house for the great work ahead. The following is the first part of a prophetic word that came during prayer in January 2008, after Cindy had seen a vision of the dire condition of the American church.

*“There is coming a great visitation to the earth.*

*A great visitation by My Spirit.*

*A visitation such as the earth has not seen or heard.*

*I will move in unprecedented ways*

*I will visit the White House*

*I will visit your house, O man of God!*

*So prepare, O man of God, prepare!*

*Prepare everywhere, prepare!*

*For I will come with great power,*

*And I will cleanse and I will purify this hour.*

*I will separate the precious from the vile,*

*I will remove all things from My house that defile ...*

*I will have a glorious church,*

*And she will rise up and do great wonders in the earth!*

*It's time to cast aside every weight and sin*

*That would hold you back and pen you in.*

*Remove every impure and unclean thing before your eyes,*

*The enemy has sent them for your destruction and demise.*

*Arise, O man of God, it is your day of visitation ... !”*

Although it seems darkness has been advancing everywhere, Satan and the powers of darkness had better beware, for the church of Jesus Christ is about to arise in all the earth—a glorious, victorious church (Is. 60:1-3; Eph. 5:27).

A new day is dawning and the old things will pass away.

God is getting ready to take His church to a whole new level, and now is the time to prepare because church as usual is coming to an end.

## The Time is Now!

There are times in history when God moves through His leaders and people in such a way that everything changes.

That time is now! God has a divine solution, the prescribed way and plan to radically change both our churches and nation.

He is counting on us to seize this moment, rise up and run with His answer, before it's too late.

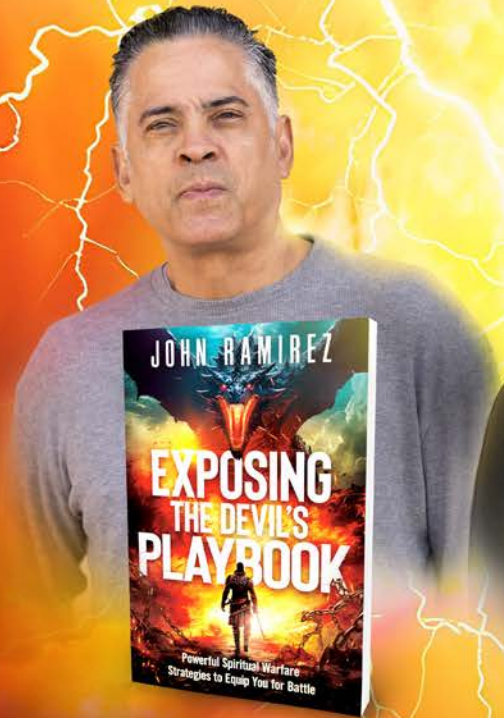
Together, with God, we can dramatically change the course and future of our nation.

To learn how you and your church can help transform your community, city and nation, and help birth the greatest awakening ever, we encourage you to read our new book, *God's Answer For America: How to Save and Change a Nation*.

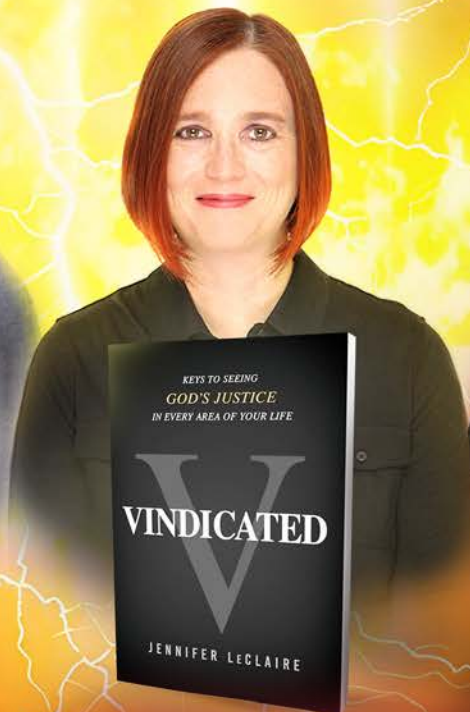
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**DARRELL AND CINDY DEVILLE** are founders of *Shekinah Today Ministries* and authors of the book, *God's Answer for America: How to Save and Change a Nation. They have a call to raise up the church and turn America back to God. They are founders and senior pastors of Victory Today Church in Frisco, Texas. For more information, visit their website at [victorytoday.church](http://victorytoday.church).*

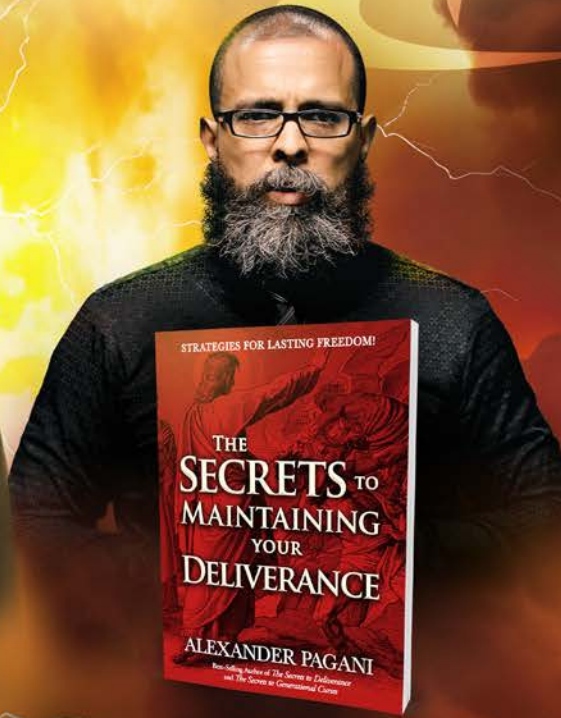
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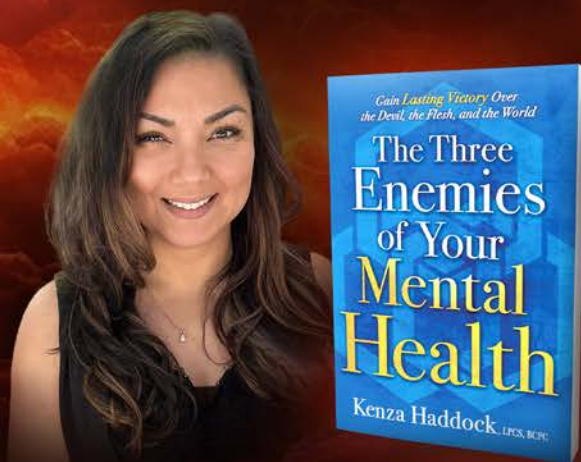
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**MASS APPEAL:** Since 1980, a combined 2 million-plus people have interceded at America for Jesus and Washington for Jesus gatherings

**AS IN PREVIOUS ELECTION YEARS, A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY COULD BE A TURNING POINT FOR A NATION IN CRITICAL CONDITION**

# WHEN AMERICA STANDS FOR JESUS

**BY BISHOP ANNE GIMENEZ**

**O**n April 29, 1980, John and I woke up in our darkened hotel room at approximately 5 a.m. The day for which we had been waiting nearly two years finally had arrived. As we hastily began to dress for the day on the Mall in Washington D.C., John quietly said, “Anne, I don’t know if anyone will be there but us.” I encouragingly responded, “Well let’s go, we will be there!”

Still dark when we arrived, thousands were pouring onto the mall from the subway system. By that afternoon, nearly 700,000 believers had gathered to pray for America.

On April 29, 1980, Washington for Jesus became an unprecedented historic gathering of the church in response to a national crisis that many historians point to as a turning point for the nation. Many credit the massive gathering of prayer for influencing the presidential election that sent Ronald Reagan to the White House and birthed a national movement. It all began as a simple prophetic word given to my late husband, Bishop John Gimenez.

John had been in Oakland, Calif., in October 1978. While he was preaching one night, he had a

vision of a man he couldn’t recognize—but knew to be the president of the United States—prophesying the Word of the Lord to the nation! The words of 1 Samuel 17:29 kept ringing in his heart, “Is there not a cause?”

Just like David brought down Goliath, God showed John that the church also had a cause and a giant to bring down. Other enemies had arisen in the land—double-digit interest rates, American hostages in Iran and rioting on college campuses—all seeking to destroy a nation that had been based on the Word of God. America was in deep trouble!

The first thing John did when we came home to Virginia Beach, Va., was to visit Pat Robertson and lay out the vision. Robertson answered, “We’d need to get 100 churches to each bring 100 people. And by the way John, how would you feed that big of a crowd?” John had the answer ready: “Let ‘em fast!”

Next he went to see Demos Shakarian, president of Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship International—who quickly confirmed the vision—and the rally was on! People were stirred about the condition of America, and it gave them hope that something could be done.

Robertson and Bill Bright of Campus Crusade

for Christ were chosen as program co-chairmen, with John serving as the national chairman. In a time with no Internet or cellphones, John traveled continuously from one side of America to the other gathering support for Washington for Jesus. We began to believe that perhaps 1 million Christians would come to the nation's capital on April 29 to pray in the spirit of 2 Chronicles 7:14 ("If My people ...").

That day was specifically chosen for its historical significance. It was the anniversary of the 1607 planting of the cross by Rev. Robert Hunt, chaplain of Jamestown, Va., in dedication of the country's first settlement.

Washington for Jesus amazed us all and exceeded everyone's expectations. We had a state-by-state parade around the Capitol Mall—thousands marching with American flags and colorful banners.

Leaders from every background and denomination were on hand to speak throughout the afternoon. Some came from denominations that, under normal circumstances, didn't speak to other groups. But on that day, differences fell to the ground and they locked arms and prayed as one church.

Interestingly, then-President Jimmy Carter was unavailable to speak at the gathering, either in person or by phone. Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan telephoned, declaring, "I am with you."

A number of men and women of God have often looked back at that day and concluded that the prayers from Washington for Jesus were a turning point in the election. In fact, when Reagan was inaugurated on Jan. 20, 1981, Bright told the new president: "Some of us believe you were actually elected on April 29, when over 700,000 Christians came to Washington and prayed for America."

In time, we came to see the phenomenal results of answered prayer on that historic day: the release of the American hostages in Iran, the economic recovery of our nation, and the renewed unity among Christians from different denominations and movements. Washington for



## On that day, differences fell to the ground and they locked arms and prayed as one church.

Jesus resulted in one of the largest recorded gatherings in the history of the nation, outside of the 1976 Bicentennial celebrations.

Many have credited the birth of the modern conservative political movement to the network created there. Most importantly, we all witnessed the power of unified prayer can turn a nation.

When we returned home, John said to me, "We won't do this again." We came home with leftover bills, which our Rock Church had to pay.

But in 1988, God's church was in trouble. Scandals rocked the evangelical world and another Washington for Jesus rally was called. Political pundits said the church never would gather again as it did in 1980, but they were wrong. This time, the count on the mall was more than 1 million believers praying and repenting.

After that, we received a new prophetic call to a national prayer event every eight years. We returned to Washington again in 1996 and 2004, and saw God move mightily each time.

In February 2008, John was called home to be with the Lord. Only two weeks previous, he said to me, "Anne, someone is going to call the nation to prayer again, but it won't be me this time. I know in my heart this country

will either have transformation or abomination."

I never dreamed God would speak to me to call a national solemn assembly for 2012. But God confirmed the word again and again. This call, however, is different. The word of confirmation we received came from 2 Kings 2:19-22, where God performed a miracle of healing in the city of Jericho. The men of the city explained to Elijah that the land had

been barren because of contaminated water. The prophet had them bring a new cruse of salt to the headwaters, where God healed the land by healing the water supply.

The symbol of salt is vitally important in the context of this call to prayer. Salt speaks of personal holiness and purity. Jesus said: "If the salt loses its saltiness ... it is no longer good for anything" (NIV). America has lost its saltiness, as has the church of the living God. We are coming to Philadelphia to make a new salt covenant with God, and we are coming with "clean hands and a pure heart" (Ps. 24:4).

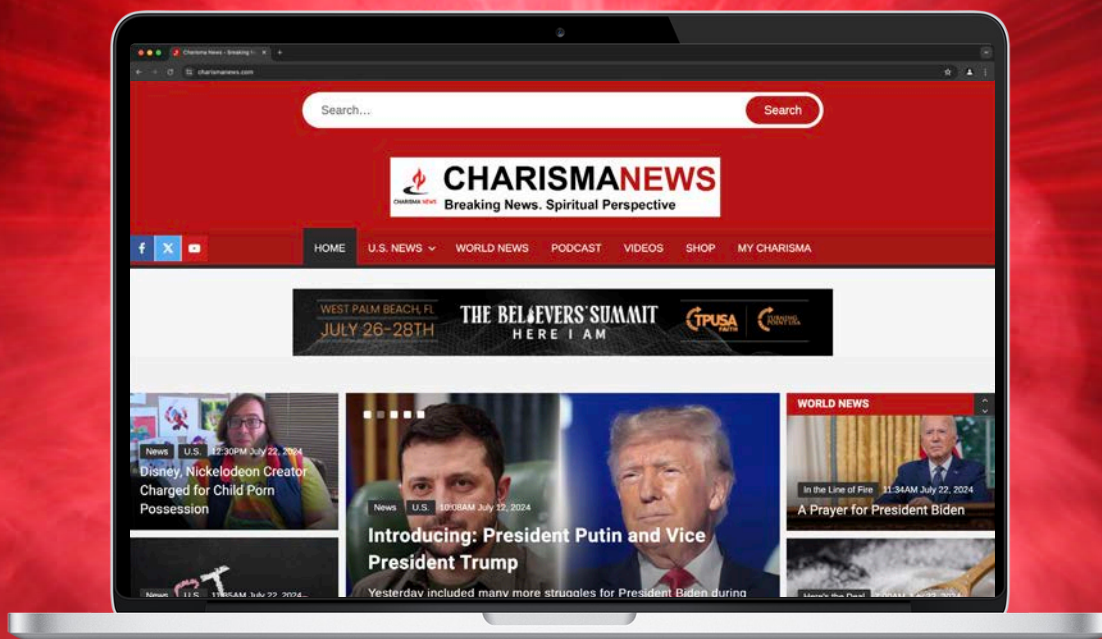
It is a solemn assembly (Joel 2:15-17) that God is calling for, and we believe as we come for such an occasion that God will answer (Joel 2:19).

We have seen it happen before. The rallies of 1980, 1988, 1996 and 2004 bear witness to the intervention of God in the lives of His people.

Surely, if the Lord can use a reformed drug addict from the Bronx like John Gimenez to call a nation to prayer and turn a nation to God, nothing is impossible. ◀

**BISHOP ANNE GIMENEZ** is co-founder of Rock Church International in Virginia Beach, Va., and founder of Anne Gimenez Ministries.

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# How to America's Greatest

BY TOMMI FEMRITE

**F**or more than 30 years I've traveled the world equipping believers to combat the forces of darkness through prayer and intercession. I've led prayer missions behind the former Iron Curtain and watched strategic prayer play a role in dismantling Communist regimes. I've been part of tearing down demonic forces in Tibet, Uzbekistan and countless other places that would qualify as the spiritually darkest areas in the world.

Yet when I was approached about writing this article and identifying America's greatest spiritual strongholds, I realized how easy it can be for prayer leaders who minister globally to talk about the often overt spiritual forces ruling other nations—and yet forget to name the enemy's strongholds established in our own nation.

I'm a natural optimist who sees most situations from a glass-half-full perspective. So I prefer to celebrate how the Holy Spirit is currently moving among His people here in the United States. But even the most positive thinkers like me must come to grips with our country's current woes.

Despite the increased emphasis American society has placed on raising children, only 63 percent of them grow up with both their biological parents—the lowest figure in the Western world. The latest statistics show that 1.2 million abortions are performed each year in our nation (and that's only those that are legal and reported), while approximately half of all marriages here end in divorce.

In a country birthed in gratitude for God's mercy and founded upon His Word, teachers are now arrested and students suspended for praying in schools. Politicians are mocked and rebuked for uttering Jesus' name in public, and our current president has already declared that America is no longer a Christian nation. Our biggest newspapers, magazines, television networks and online media outlets simply further this by spewing vitriolic "editorials" announcing the death of Christianity, evangelicalism, the church and God Himself. Meanwhile, pornography has become a cultural norm for entertainment; the sex industry makes more than \$13 billion a year—more than

all of the major sports leagues combined. And in the business world, we are no longer surprised when a Fortune 500 company goes belly-up from yet another Wall Street Ponzi scheme or leadership scandal.

Clearly, we need societal transformation. In every facet of America that I just mentioned—family, religion, government, business, education, media, and arts and entertainment—we've drifted farther and farther away from following God's standards. What has become increasingly obvious, however, is the extent to which ungodly spiritual forces are in command. As a result, we remain gripped by demonic strongholds that can only be dismantled through the greatest spiritual weapon God gave the church: prayer.

Identifying those strongholds—or at least getting believers to agree upon what they are—isn't the easiest thing. Prayer leaders across the nation can name territorial spirits specific to their city, county, state or even region. But when it comes to targeting national strongholds, it seems everyone has his own list. In addition, there's often confusion over what qualifies as an actual stronghold. Because we're tackling such a broad topic in the confines of a magazine article, I've honed in on what I believe are the two overarching strongholds in America: the religious spirit and the antichrist spirit.

## The Religious Spirit

The religious spirit, which is a counterfeit of the Holy Spirit, is one of the main demonic strongholds operating in our nation. Rooted in pride, this ancient spirit is the church's greatest enemy opposing our calling to establish God's kingdom throughout what have been called the "seven mountains of society": family, religion, government, business, education, media, and arts and entertainment. The religious spirit is also the No. 1 opponent to lasting revival (both personally and corporately). It manifests through such forces as corruption, homosexuality, idolatry, abortion (child sacrifice), Mammon (lust for money), witchcraft and atheism.

In 2 Timothy 3:2-5, Paul spells out what the religious spirit looks like in the flesh: "People will be lovers of themselves, lovers





# *Dismantle* **Strongholds**

*A veteran  
prayer warrior  
explains what  
it will take to  
bring down  
the demonic  
forces gripping  
our nation*

of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them” (NIV).

The religious spirit has a form of truth yet lacks the fullness of truth. It operates under the guise of Holy Spirit power yet has no intimacy with the Father to produce such power. It is a spiritual vacuum that, due to the subtle ways it manifests, can distract believers from their true destiny and calling for months, years, even lifetimes. As I heard Chuck Pierce say at a recent conference, “Religious spirits are sent to seduce you and cause you to wander in the wilderness.” Tragically, that is where countless believers have remained under the influence of this spiritually poisonous power.

(To learn more about the religious spirit, including how to identify if it’s operating in your life, I urge you to read my book, *Conquering the Religious Spirit*.)

## The Antichrist Spirit

While the religious spirit may be Satan’s deadliest tactic in his arsenal, it’s also one of his subtlest—which explains why it has had such a hold on the church throughout history. Yet far more overt is the other major stronghold in America: the antichrist spirit. Its very name reveals what it is—a force that stands against or in direct opposition to Christ, who He is and all He stands for. Sadly, it has become the ruling spirit in our nation as our leaders have continued to blatantly oppose God through their public speeches, rulings or political alignments.

What’s shocking to most believers, however, is that much of the American church has succumbed to this same spirit. First John 4:1-3 says: “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard

that it is coming, and now it is already in the world” (NASB).

Sadly, we have so-called leaders in the American church at large that fail to confess Jesus but instead point to other means of salvation (e.g., “Send a check to our ministry and you can save yourself!”). By the same token, many church leaders fail to teach believers or help them know who we are in Christ.

Both of these errors play into the antichrist spirit’s two major orders of attack. First, this spirit will always try to diminish who Jesus is, just as the Scripture above indicates. The antichrist spirit denies Jesus’ deity; therefore, it will even use counterfeit healings, signs and wonders (as Scripture attests) to mimic God’s power, yet it will always fail to exalt the deity of Jesus.

The second mandate the antichrist spirit follows is to attack who we are. The enemy wants to keep us blinded to the reality of who we are in Christ. He uses the antichrist spirit to try to diminish our role as priestly overcomers. But the truth is that Christ—the hope of glory—lives in us. Scripture says we will reign with Christ (2 Tim. 2:12)! God’s mandate has always been for us to rule on earth with Christ. The antichrist spirit will fight against this because, as Jesus said in John 14:14, we were destined to do even “greater works” than He performed while on earth.

## Enemy Tactics

God doesn’t want America—or any nation, for that matter—to be held captive by the enemy’s strongholds. His desire is to see the earth become a reflection of His heavenly kingdom. So that we might overcome the forces of darkness that currently rule this world, He has equipped His children with a heavenly weapon strong enough to demolish any stronghold—including the religious and antichrist spirits (see 2 Cor. 10:4). But if prayer is truly the most potent weapon, why have we not launched an all-out assault on the demonic realm over America?

Simply put, it’s because we have succumbed to Satan’s tactics. He has many, yet one of his most successful is distorting lines of communication within the church.

Intercession is pure communication—with God *and* with the forces of darkness. It’s all about declaring to the enemy what God has already communicated to us, reminding him of his defeat and standing in the gap announcing victory. Satan is fully aware of how vital communication is to our victory and his imminent defeat. Because of this, he’ll do all he can to stir up confusion through miscommunication, which then leads to division. How often has a group of believers—a church, a network of churches or entire denominations—split because they’ve majored on the minors when it comes to scriptural interpretation, theology and eschatology? The more our enemy can wreak havoc among us with such “miscommunication,” the less unified we are.

Satan also uses the tools of apathy and resignation to keep us from dismantling strongholds held by the religious and antichrist spirits. Once the enemy has us in a place where don’t care about anything or anyone, we lose all sense of ownership. And from Satan’s standpoint, what better tactic is there to keep Christians apathetic regarding whether abortion laws are enacted, whether schools incorporate Muslim history into curriculum or whether the entertainment world continues to sink further into vulgarity?

Much of the church has been content to watch evil dominate certain cultural mountains while we hunker down on our own religious mountain. Yet when we no longer care about taking back our own communities or cities, we’ve missed the kingdom perspective of the gospel.

Walking hand-in-hand with such apathy is the notion that it’s not our responsibility as believers to save the world. This mentality resigns to believing that the earth is ultimately on a downward spiral none of us can stop, so there’s no point in trying to do so. I’ve heard countless people—Spirit-filled *Christians*, mind you—admit that with today’s world “going to hell in a handbasket,” there is nothing they can personally do to change things.

The truth is, we *can* make a difference. In fact, we not only must, we *will* make a difference. And that will come when the American church learns how

to invade, dismantle and establish dominion over these strongholds in our nation.

## Invade to Conquer

I always thought I understood the meaning of the word *invade*. After all, my father flew an anti-submarine warfare aircraft in the U.S. Navy. My husband served 28 years in the Air Force, including flying fighter aircrafts in the Vietnam War. I had heard the term used often since I was a little child. Yet it wasn't until a few years ago when I discovered the full scope of this powerful six-letter word. *Invade* has at least eight different meanings:

- » To enter forcefully as an enemy.
- » To go into with hostile intent.
- » To enter as if to take possession.
- » To enter and cause injury or destruction.
- » To intrude upon.
- » To encroach or infringe.
- » To advance beyond established limits of property, domain or rights of another in order to possess.
- » To make an invasion to take possession or overrun.

Each of those definitions is loaded with meaning, yet none suggests timidity or passivity. If we want to tear down a stronghold, we don't need to send the enemy an announcement, call first or knock at the door when we arrive. We have full permission—from God—to invade.

God has anointed each of us, and the anointing breaks the yoke (Is. 10:27). But when we invade enemy territory as intercessors to dismantle a stronghold, our anointing alone (ministry from position) will not get the job done. We need authority (ministry from alignment). And to have authority imparted to us, we must have relationship with the King of Glory. Jesus summoned His 12 disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out and heal every disease and sickness (Matt. 10:1-2).

Principalities and powers ultimately have no defense against governmental signs and wonders being released. The antichrist spirit vehemently resists them, because it knows they can bring down its rule over a region. When we

move into this realm of apostolic signs and wonders, we don't just heal people; we free entire regions from satanic principalities and powers. In fact, signs and wonders on this level do things that our repenting and rebuking can't.

## A Different Kind of Praying

We can't resort to an old mindset of prayer if we hope to do this, however. I know far too many intercessors who, after all is said and done, approach prayer as if it involves nothing more than continually asking God for things. They're stuck in a single mode of begging God for Him to move. I call these petition prayers, and although they have their place in the arsenal of every powerful prayer warrior, God is shifting us from petition prayers to apostolic-prophetic intercession. When we spend all our time petitioning God, asking Him for that which He's *already* granted us, we've missed the purpose of intercession.

Apostolic-prophetic intercession, on the other hand, begins with two premises. First, we have been given the authority by God to speak *His* words, not ours. At its core, a petition is a formal request that originates in us rather than God. It's time we reset our default method of prayer from petition that originates in us to proclamations and declarations that originate from the Lord and align us with Him.

The second major premise—one that prayer warriors often forget—is that we are already commissioned and sent by God. Paul uses the perfect illustration of this when he refers to us as ambassadors: "We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us" (2 Cor. 5:20). When an ambassador is sent to a foreign nation, he appears on behalf of his native country's ruler, is the extension of that ruler and is given the authority to speak on his behalf. The ambassador comes with inherent power not because of anything he has done personally, but purely because he serves as the incarnate expression (i.e., the mouthpiece, hands and feet) of the one who sent him.

This is our role as apostolic-prophetic intercessors. Jesus came as God incarnate, yet through Christ, we have

been adopted as sons of God and joint heirs in His kingdom (Gal. 3:26-29). Since this is a foundational truth of our faith, we must stop praying as paupers and start interceding as ambassadors of the one true God. We have been given the authority: Jesus has commissioned us (Matt. 28:16-20) and empowered us with His Holy Spirit (Acts 2). We already know what to say because He has given us His message via the Word.

## The End of the Fight

Let me set the record straight if there is any doubt: Jesus has won. He is the lone victor in the final battle and does not split the spoils with the enemy. The script has already been written: He wins; Satan loses. But until the American church wakes up and realizes we are the enforcers of that victory in the here and now, bringing the kingdom of God to earth, then we will remain oblivious to the battle that continues to wage over souls, cities, states and regions.

If Holy Spirit-filled Christians still can't see that we are currently in a war over this country's government, education, families, media, businesses, religion, and arts and entertainment, then I seriously wonder if they shouldn't be asking God for a hefty dose of discernment. We are at war! And having spent most of my life in and among military families, I know that when you are at war you better know your enemy and his strategies of attack.

The truth is, we *do* have the most potent weapon in the world that can change everything. But until we "wise up" on the various ways Satan distracts, removes and destroys those who wield this weapon—particularly those standing in key areas of the cultural gaps—we will continue to be an army with unlimited potential yet minimal effectiveness, simply because we fail to recognize our own God-appointed power.

(For further detail on everything mentioned in this article, I suggest reading my book *Invading the Seven Mountains With Intercession*.) ◀

**TOMMI FEMRITE** contributed this article to *Charisma* magazine, partly derived from her book *Invading the Seven Mountains With Intercession*.

# THE CHURCH IN AN ANGRY WORLD

How a fresh baptism empowers believers to find their voice in this turbulent time

BY MARK RUTLAND

Perhaps when historians paste the final label on 2020, it will be “The Year of Anger.” This has been the angriest year in American history in a century and a half. The murder rate in our inner cities has skyrocketed. Violent riots have done billions of dollars of destruction. Depression, suicide, drug use and divorce have risen alarmingly. In the midst of this the American church has found itself off balance while believers struggling with their anger are longing to know if the church has answers.

I counseled one businessman whose boss and wife threatened to fire him if he did not deal with his anger. He agreed to counseling but tried to defend himself with religion, comparing his outbursts to Jesus cleansing the temple. Of course he was in denial, and his attempt to project his carnality onto the Son of God was gross arrogance. However, he’s not the first Christian to wrap himself in a convenient Bible verse.

Anger is an emotion not an action. The Bible gives us no insight into what Jesus was feeling, only what he did: cleanse his Father’s house. What Jesus felt may have been the wrath of God upon sin, something infinitely holier than our pique at an officious clerk.

Having said all that, the man in my office needed help. His wife did not care what Jesus was feeling when he flogged the moneychangers. She just didn’t want her husband to scream at her or kick a hole in the sheet rock or pound the steering wheel in a traffic jam. She never knew when his anger was going to erupt or, even scarier, how bad it might get.

## The Anger Problem

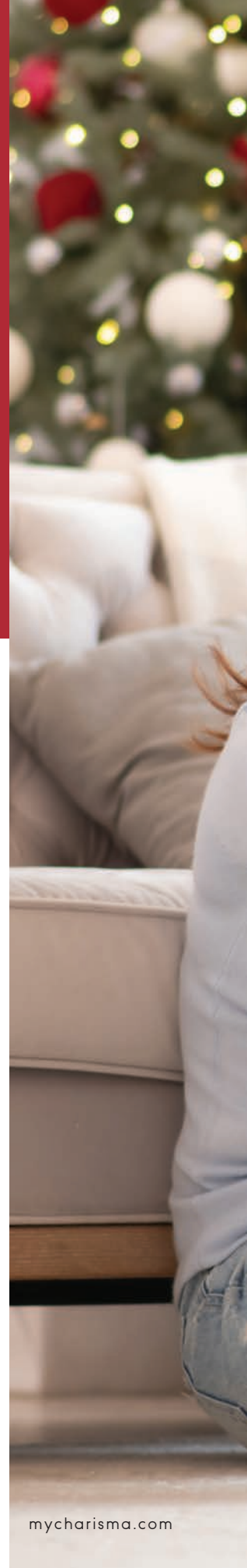
The intersection of faith and anger actually presents a thorny issue. Was the angry man in my office a Christian? He confessed that he was. His anger didn’t make him not a Christian, and up to that point, his Christianity didn’t make him not angry. And that begs important questions.

I attended a conference where the inimitable Bob Mumford spoke. In a Q&A session a woman asked him, “Do you believe a Christian can have a demon?”

Mumford answered brilliantly. “I believe a Christian can have anything he wants.”

I also believe a Christian can have whatever he wants and will have what he tolerates. Perhaps the man in my office wanted his anger. Perhaps it comforted him, or made him feel “in control.” Perhaps issues in his youth so tortured him emotionally that anger became revenge. At first he “had” the anger. After some time the anger had him. Was it demonic or emotional? It may have been either and ultimately both.

The feeling of anger is not a sin. Everyone feels anger occasionally. That’s OK. Anger such as this





ZINKEVYCH\_I/ISTOCK\_GETTYIMAGESPLUS

man's is not OK. A deep wound at the root of his anger had to be healed. Some with anger such as his need counseling, and that will require the courage to admit something is wrong and will only get "wronger" without healing. In my book, *Courage to Be Healed*, I point out that in emotional healing the greater variable is not faith but courage.

## When Is Anger a Problem?

Anger is part of the human emotional mechanism that informs our built-in flight or fight instinct. If you've ever raised up under a cupboard and nearly knocked your brains out, you remember the pain and anger that made you want to, well, say certain things. OK so far. Painful but OK.

If you took a chainsaw to the cupboard or yelled at your wife who had done nothing, your response to the anger was not OK. Trying to justify it by referencing Christ and the money-changers is also not OK.

We know self-control is a fruit of the Spirit, but that hardly helps unless we can bring anger under the Spirit's control. But how? Destructive anger from an inner wound erupts without warning. When the wound is healed, a gap is created in which the Spirit can take control. In which case the wound, not the anger, was healed.

## When Is Anger Personal?

We live in an angry culture. Some are angry at the Democrats or the Republicans or the COVID-19 virus. It seems as though America has become one huge incident of road rage just waiting to explode. Sadly, angry churches are not rare. What's it all about?

"Generalized anger," so called, is really anger at God. People who claim to be angry at the world are deceived. They are angry at the Creator of the world. The problem with anger at God is they cannot find Him or hurt Him, so they lash out at their caregiver or their parents or their pastor. Or they turn to atheism, which is anger at God. *I will deny His existence. We will see how He likes that!*

Vertical anger at God becomes horizontal, and personal relationships suffer. A wife who shrieks at her husband may

then apologize by saying, "I'm not really angry at you. I'm just angry." However, that apology doesn't work because what the husband experienced felt plenty personal to him. No one can be just "angry in general." Anger always becomes personal at some point.

One aspect of anger upon which counselors cannot agree is its possible relationship to depression. I am persuaded that the connection is undeniable. It is no coincidence that as our culture has become angrier, depression has skyrocketed. When outward anger turns inward, depression is the inevitable result. Nothing, absolutely nothing, is more depressing than self-loathing.

If it is true that general anger is anger at God, what can we do about it? It's actually simple. However, simple and easy are not the same. Tell God you're angry at Him. Tell him why. He can deal with your anger. You can't. Ask Him to forgive you and heal you. Tell Him you will no longer blame Him for stuff. Volcanoes erupt. Viruses happen. Spouses sin. Pastors fail. Board members act wickedly. Life happens and people die. Tell Him you will accept life as it comes and that you humble yourself before Him. Tell Him that when this evil world goes mad, you will never again blame Him or doubt His goodness.

## Hope in an Angry World

I was recently brought in as a consultant at two of the angriest churches I've ever encountered. I witnessed seriously unhealthy anger fueling unethical behavior that they rationalized with "Christian talk," just as the angry man in my office did. All this while fighting for power like ruthless politicians. The real tragedy was the leaders of both churches bitterly denied that they needed healing and refused to repent.

It's not like those two are the only angry churches in America. Hardly! Unfortunately, the anger level in the church has also risen amidst the madness that is 2020. Politics, race and theology have become flashpoints dividing Christian from Christian in hurtful and angry divisions filled with bitter accusations. Why?

Put simply, we got spoiled. It became mighty easy to be a believer in American culture. Oh sure, the spread of progressive secularism was a bit sobering, but all in all, we've had a long comfortable ride of it.

Then without warning, the church was gobsombed by the angriest political climate since the Civil War and, oh yes, a pandemic. Churches are suffering, especially smaller, older congregations and their pastors are battling discouragement and depression. Church-state tensions are simmering. Congregants are bitterly divided over issues such as who does or doesn't wear a mask.

At a pastors conference, I was asked straight out. "Is there hope?" Yes, first of all, we know there is always hope. God is still God, and He is not shaken by human history. To hurting churches and pastors that can sound like a platitude, but it is nonetheless true and biblical.

The church has survived Roman persecution, Attila the Hun, bubonic plague, Adolf Hitler and communism. I suspect in some of those horrific epochs, anger, depression and doubt staggered the body of Christ. Yet, by God's grace, the church remains. Sometimes weak and frail. Sometimes forced underground. Yet unconquered. The church is of God. He has not forsaken us, nor will He.

The more immediate issue is this. The contemporary American church has lost its voice, and what is left is a snarl. No sullen, self-pitying church can preach the message the world needs to hear. An angry church cannot heal an angry world. To proclaim the glorious message that Jesus saves and heals will require a church whose humble daily prayer remains unchanged after two millennia: "Save us, and we shall be saved. Heal us, and we shall be healed." We must have a fresh baptism of love and power, and for that, we need the Holy Spirit.

O come, Holy Spirit, and be poured out fresh upon us in this angry, angry season. ◀

**DR. MARK RUTLAND** contributed this article for *Charisma* magazine. His new book, *Keep On Keeping On*, releases in January and is available now on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

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# CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

## Spreading the Gospel Through Pickleball

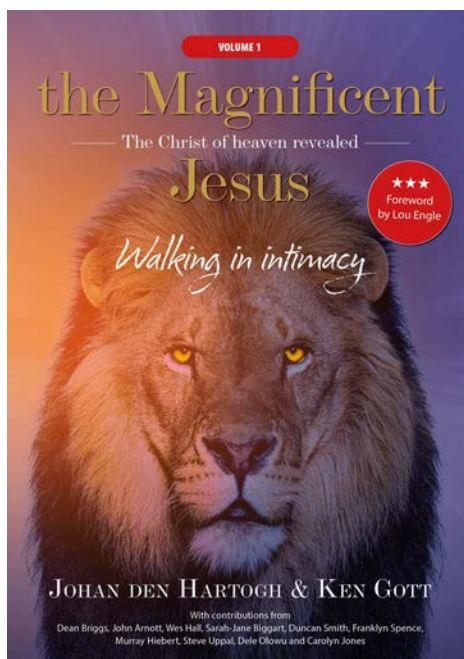
As the fastest-growing sport in America, pickleball is gaining popularity in churches, with many setting up nets to connect with their communities. God is using this sport as a way to draw people closer to Him, providing a space where shared interests spark conversations and the Holy Spirit can work through the relationships formed.

Anthony felt God's call to create Christian-themed paddles, and soon, the Holy Spirit began to inspire him with Greek words rich in spiritual significance. These words became central to the paddles' designs:

- *Dunamis*: "The miraculous power of God."
- *Agape*: The highest form of love, exemplified by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.
- *Hagios*: Meaning "holy" or "sacred," it reflects the call to "be holy, for I am holy."
- *Eklektos*: "The chosen," reminding us that God chooses us because He knows our hearts.

Through God's Elite LLC, Anthony shares these powerful messages and uses quality paddles to reach others for Christ through the sport of pickleball.

[PURCHASE Your Paddles Here](#)



## The Magnificent Jesus: The Christ of Heaven Revealed - Walking in Intimacy

Foreword by Lou Engle

Embark on a life-changing journey with *The Magnificent Jesus*, the first volume in a powerful trilogy designed to draw you into a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. This book reveals Jesus as the perfect union of love and justice, showcasing His infinite grace, humility, and strength.

Stunning photography enriched with breathtaking imagery beautifully complement the book's transformative message.

Key spiritual Leaders like John Arnott, Dean Briggs, Wes Hall, Sarah-Jane Biggart, and others, contribute to diverse insights into the nature and heart of Christ.

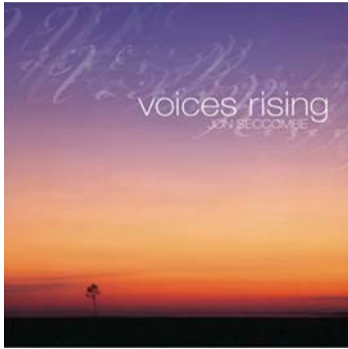
Included is a dedicated space for your own reflections, thoughts, and prayers, helping you internalize and apply the teachings in a personal and meaningful way.

*The Magnificent Jesus* invites both seasoned believers and those new to the faith to spend time in the "inner room" with the Father. Immerse yourself in His love by following the example of Jesus in your everyday life. Be transformed by the life-changing presence of Christ.

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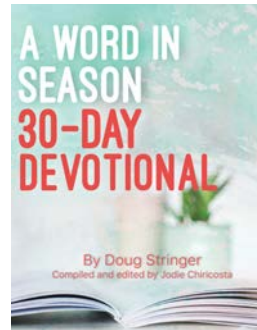
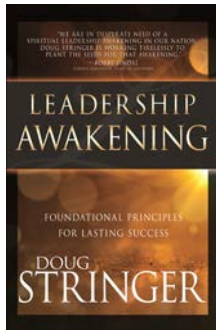
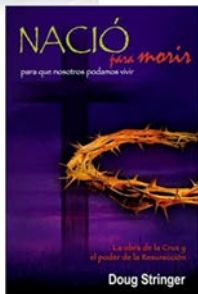
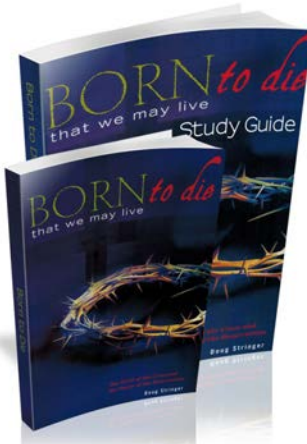


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**CDs with Soaring Melodies and Memorable Lyrics**

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## CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

### This Christmas, Give the Gift of Heaven

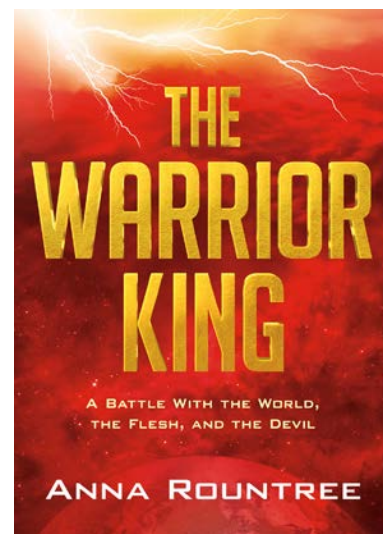
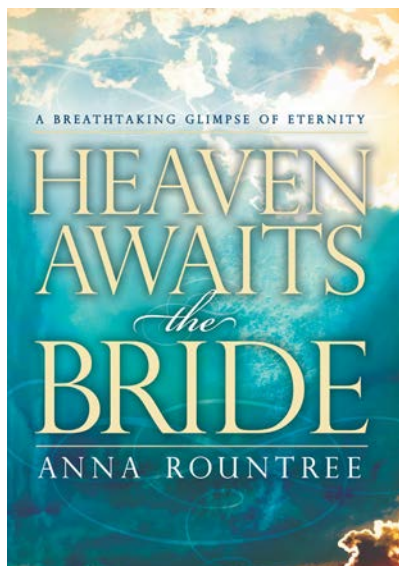
The newly completed trilogy takes us into the wondrous heart of LOVE HIMSELF.

**BOOK 1:** *The Heavens Opened* reveals a search for our Heavenly Father.

**BOOK 2:** *The Priestly Bride* shows the romance between our Lord and His bride.

**BOOK 3:** *The Warrior King* shows us the work of the Holy Spirit as he leads us through test after test to replace our fleshly soul life with Christ.

[CLICK HERE to purchase your copies](#)



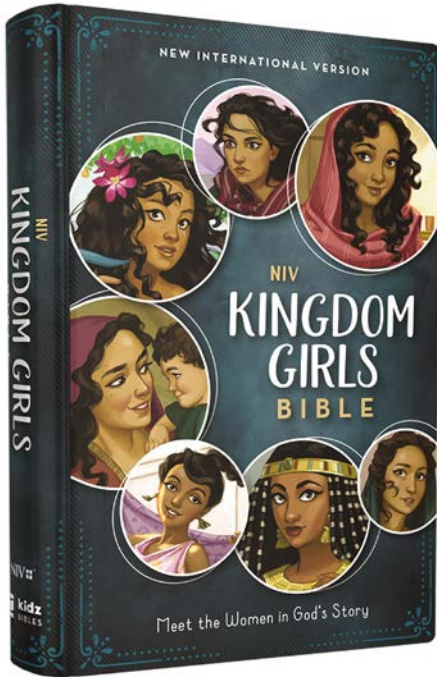
### Take your young explorer on an adventure through God's Word with the #1 Bible for kids!

The bestselling *NIV Adventure Bible*® will get kids excited about reading the Scriptures! Your kids will be captivated with the full-color features that make it fun and engaging to read the Bible and memorize their favorite verses. Along the way they will meet all types of people, see all sorts of places, and learn all kinds of things about the Bible. Most importantly, they will grow closer in their relationship with God.

The Adventure Bible is recommended by more Christian schools and churches than any other Bible for kids, and the Adventure Bible brand has impacted more than 10 million individuals and families to date!

[Go to AdventureBible.com for free resources and to learn more about the NIV Adventure Bible!](#)





## Girls will discover the power of faith in this beautiful Bible that features women of the Bible!

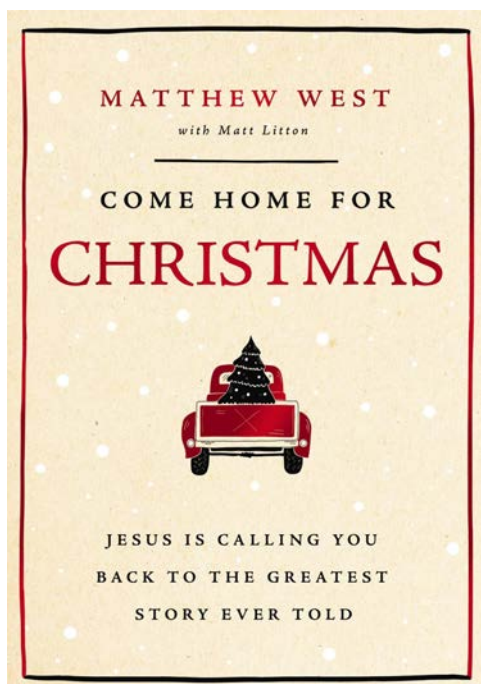
Here is the ideal Bible for girls on their journey of faith! This special Bible is specifically crafted to highlight the stories and lessons of the inspiring, famous, and sometimes infamous women of the Bible.

With over 400 engaging features, colorful illustrations, and helpful notes, this Bible is perfect for girls ages 8 to 12 as they learn about the strong and faithful women who came before them. From Eve to Ruth, Esther to Mary, this Bible brings the stories of these women to life and shows how their faith and strength can still inspire girls today.

Featuring a beautiful design and easy-to-read text, this Bible is a great resource for girls as they grow in their own faith and learn about the women who have impacted the world.

Follow the link for a 7-day reading plan, Bible activities, a free sampler of the NIV Kingdom Girls Bible and much more!

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE](#)



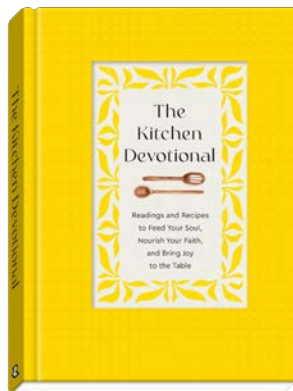
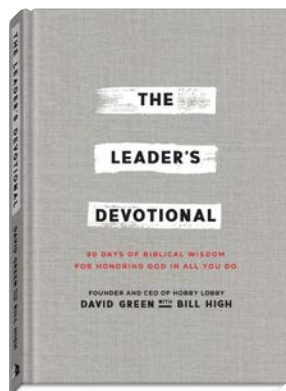
## Come Home for Christmas

*Come Home for Christmas* by Matthew West is the perfect gift for anyone longing to rediscover the true meaning of the season. With his signature warmth and storytelling, West guides readers back to the heart of Christmas—reminding them of the joy, hope, and peace found only in Jesus. Each chapter helps bring the wonder of the holiday back into focus, offering Bible readings, discussion questions, and a special Advent challenge to deepen the experience.

Whether you're gifting this to a friend, a family member, or even yourself, *Come Home for Christmas* is more than just a book—it's an invitation to embrace the season with childlike wonder and reconnect with what matters most. Wrapped in heartfelt insights and practical reflections, this book makes a meaningful and encouraging present, perfect for sharing the love and warmth of the holiday season.

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

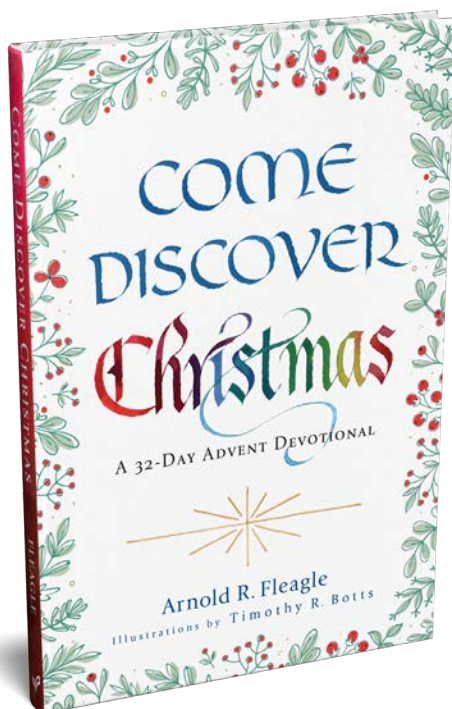
# CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE



## Gift-Worthy Picks for Every Reader

No matter where you are or what role you play, these devotionals provide moments of peace, faith, and growth. These unique readings were designed to uplift and inspire every aspect of your life. Whether you're leading others, nurturing a foster child, cooking up meals with meaning, or seeking a general devotional for daily encouragement, we have something for you. **Order from BakerBookHouse.com for a special discount on these products and FREE US SHIPPING!**

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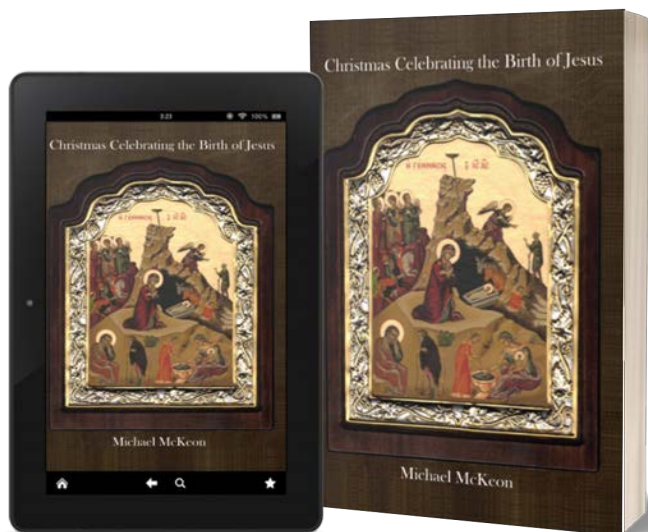


## Rediscover the Joy and Hope of Christmas

This year, breathe fresh wonder and purpose back into the celebration of the Advent. Designed as a road map back to Bethlehem, this captivating devotional takes you on an unforgettable journey through the season.

This season, infuse peace and joy back into your celebrations—and come discover Christmas.

[CLICK HERE to Purchase from Baker Book House](#)



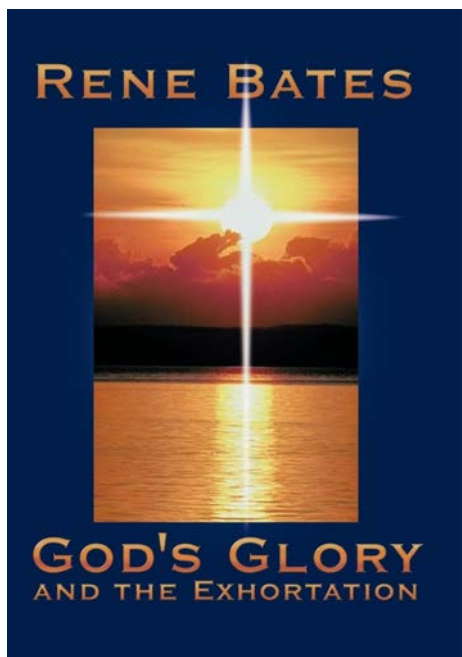
## Christmas Celebrating the Birth of Jesus

*Christmas Celebrating the Birth of Jesus* is a reflection on scripture explaining why Jesus, King of heaven, was born into the world as one of us, fully God and fully human to restore humankind's broken relationship with God.

Jesus paid the ransom for our lives. Only He could pay the spiritual debt of our sin through His death and by His blood to redeem people from every tribe, people, and nation into a right relationship with the Father, Himself and the Holy Spirit forever.

**e-Books by Michael McKeon Available on Amazon Kindle**

[CLICK HERE to Purchase on Amazon](#)



## THE FINAL TESTAMENT

**A Warning from God to the Saved and Lost.**

**To the Lost: Receive Jesus Now.**

**To the Saved: Get Rid of Your "Traditions of Men" Before the Soon Coming of Christ.**

*God's Glory and the Exhortation* is an astute and provocative point of view on the ways and follies of the modern church.

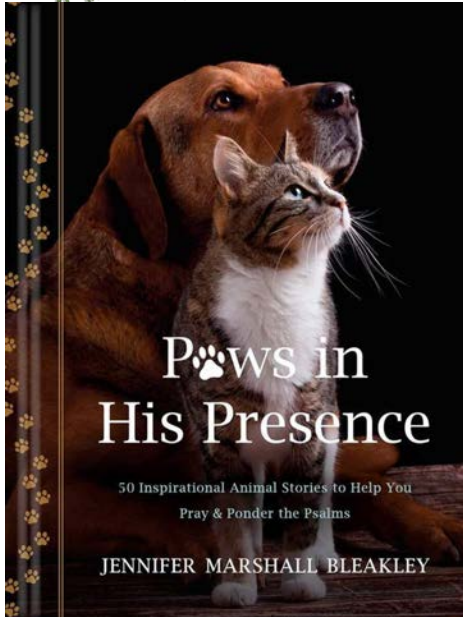
Brother Rene speaks God's truth, refusing to bow to the weight of misguided tradition. His work is in line with the great but opposed prophets of the Old Testament as well as the hard-pressed apostles of the New. His writings bear the same weight of divine wisdom to both bless and course-correct the faithful few.

**84% of book owners are giving a 5-STAR RATING on the content of the book.**

[Available for purchase on Amazon and Barnes & Noble](#)



# CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE



## Be Still and Know...You Are Loved More Than You Can Pawsibly Imagine

Nothing on earth exemplifies the unconditional love and enduring faithfulness of God quite like our four-legged friends. Their loyalty, calming presence and constant companionship bring us the same sense of peace and contentment that we find throughout the book of Psalms.

In *Paws in His Presence*, bestselling author of the *Pawverbs* devotional books Jennifer Marshall Bleakley takes you on a 50-day devotional journey through the heart of the Psalms with the help of God's most faithful and lovable creatures.

As you read these and other true stories—along with passages from Psalms, full-color photos, prayers, and reflection questions—you will start to see the animals around you as living, breathing pictures of God's love. And you will find yourself pausing in the presence of the God who knows you, sees you, and loves you more than you can imagine.

Find *Paws in His Presence* and more by Jennifer Marshall Bleakley for the animal lover in your life at Tyndale.com.

[Purchase Your Copy Here](#)



## Thank You God

Thank You God is a colorful and engaging book for children aged 1-7, available in both boys and girls versions. It encourages children to express gratitude to God for the small things in their lives. The book uses fun illustrations to help kids appreciate family, friendships, and everyday blessings. Overall, it is a heartwarming and inspiring story that will bring joy to children and parents alike.

[PURCHASE NOW on Amazon](#)

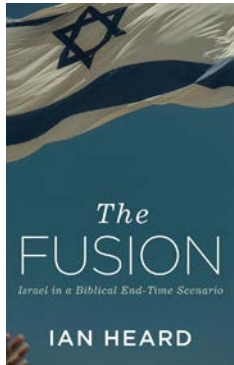


## Garden to Garden 30 Days Through the Bible

*Garden to Garden* is a 30-day devotional journey from the Garden of Eden in Genesis to the Eternal Garden Paradise revealed in Revelation. In just 30 days, readers will discover the full redemption story, learn how all the Bible characters and stories flow together, and how each book of the Bible points to Jesus Christ.

Scripture is God-breathed; by reading it, we discover who we are, why we are here, what happened to us, and our eternal destiny. In *Garden to Garden*, Marian Jordan Ellis walks alongside readers as they experience the Bible through short devotional readings and explains the story arc of God's great redemptive plan. *Garden to Garden* is the perfect gift for mature Believers and seekers.

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## ISRAEL...WHAT AWAITS?

In a time of intense interest—for both right and wrong reasons—what is to become of those once known as ‘the apple of God’s eye’?

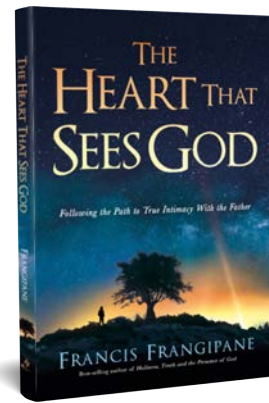
This very readable book proposes that the zealot, Saul of Tarsus, described as ‘one born out of due time’ to become Paul, the great Apostle to the gentiles—typifies the miraculous, late turning of his own people!

*‘...beautifully captures the focus...of Paul as firstfruits and representation of a re-grafted Israel’*  
—Prof. W. Liebenberg, Therapon University.

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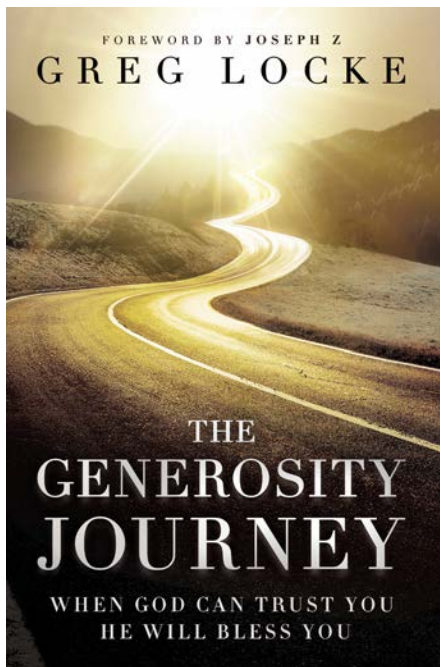
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## *The Heart That Sees God* by Francis Frangipane

What if everything you think you know about the Sermon on the Mount has only scratched the surface? The Sermon on the Mount is more than a list of blessings—it’s the recipe to becoming who God created you to be. In this captivating book by Francis Frangipane, revisit Jesus’ most famous teaching and discover the amazing life-transforming truths hidden behind the words He shared. As you delve into *The Heart That Sees God*, you’ll learn what it looks like to live the authentic, fulfilling Christian life you’ve always wanted to live.

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## *The Generosity Journey* by Greg Locke

Nothing will change a believer’s life more than biblical giving. Greg Locke’s *The Generosity Journey* shows that generosity is the remedy for materialism and the ultimate game-changer for walking in the abundance and favor of God. Generosity is not just a gift to others but also a weapon in spiritual warfare against the negative influences of the enemy. Through generosity, you *can* and *will* experience spiritual breakthrough! After reading this book, you will not only discover the joy of giving, but you will also receive the extraordinary rewards that comes when you align yourself with God’s generous plan for your life. Additionally, you will walk away with the confidence that God will take what you give and do exceedingly and abundantly more with it than you could ever have imagined.

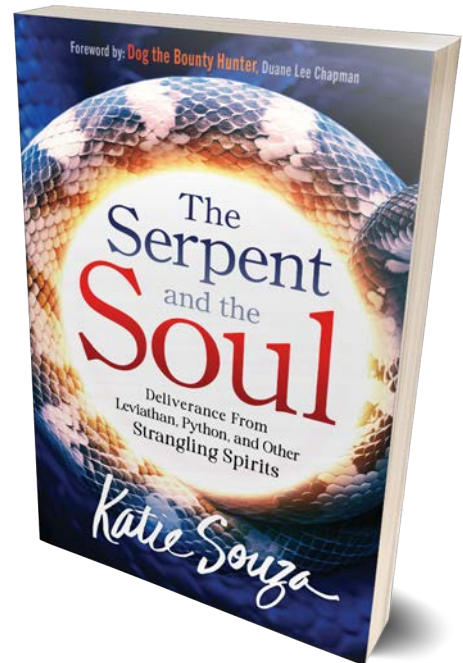
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# CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

## ***The Serpent and the Soul*** by Katie Souza

Deadly serpent spirits are seeking to destroy your soul! Katie Souza's *The Serpent and the Soul* reveals the sly strategies of Python, Leviathan, and other demonic spirits, as they attempt to attack you at all levels: *financially, physically, and spiritually*. Working against our relationships, our faith, and our future, these serpent spirits want to constrict you so that you suffer like they will in eternity. But have no fear! In Luke 10:19, Jesus gave us the power to trample serpents and have authority over the enemy. Although the serpent spirits may seem intimidating at first, they will run away as soon as you take back what they have stolen from you. Using the powerful prayers and spiritual tools inside this practical guide, you will be able to break free from the serpents' deadly grip and restore peace in your life! Likewise, you will be able to see that your life was created for *wholeness*, not *brokenness*.

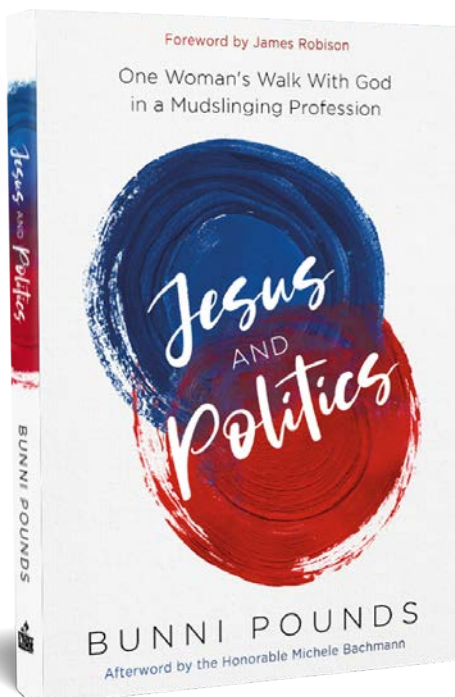
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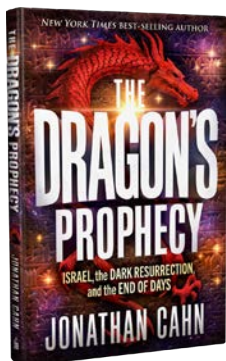
## ***Jesus and Politics*** by Bunni Pounds

The Christian life isn't about doing things the easy way—it's about living as Christ even in a hostile environment. With Bunni Pounds' *Jesus and Politics*, you will gain insight from Pounds' sixteen-year career in the political atmosphere on how you can disciple a nation one heart at a time. Christians don't have to sit on the sidelines while we see a crumbling world around us, even in the political realm—we can be a light in the darkness to all people, in all situations.

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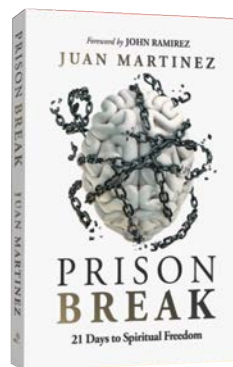




## ***The Dragon's Prophecy*** **by Jonathan Cahn**

Is there more to the world than we see with our eyes, unseen forces and ancient prophecies playing out to the *End of Days*? *New York Times* best-selling author Jonathan Cahn is back with another spiritual bomb to drop in ***THE DRAGON'S PROPHECY: Israel, the Dark Resurrection, and the End of Days***. In this mind-blowing book, your readers will reveal the ancient forces at work transforming our world, the mysteries of the future, and the ancient secrets given to overcome and prevail in view of what lies ahead! Your readers will never be the same after reading this mind-bending revelation!

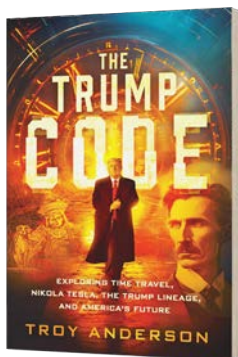
[BooksByJonathanCahn.com](http://BooksByJonathanCahn.com)



## ***Prison Break*** **by Juan Martinez**

A life with Christ is about unshackling your chains of bondage to embrace a life of freedom. Juan Martinez's twenty-one-day devotional, *Prison Break*, encourages life change through practical steps such as challenging negative thinking patterns with positive affirmations and setting realistic goals. It also serves as a poignant reminder that freedom is possible and shows you that with the right mindset, you can overcome past mistakes, forgive others, be renewed by the transformation of your minds, and lead a fulfilling life. By reading this book, your readers will recognize the root causes of the psychological chains breaking them so they can reach greater personal growth.

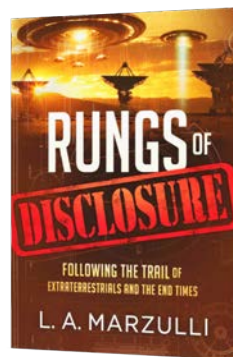
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## ***The Trump Code*** **by Troy Anderson**

Could the Trump family's connections to time travel theories, esoteric knowledge, and secret societies hold clues to unlocking the mysteries of our past and future? Troy Anderson's *The Trump Code* delves into the connections between the Baron Trump novels and the enigmatic Trump family legacy, asking whether this nineteenth-century novelist foresaw the future of Trump, America, and the world. It also uncovers a web of historical events and divine providence. While reading this book, your readers will have to confront questions that defy easy answers such as: Is there a divine hand guiding the course of human events?

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## ***Rungs of Disclosure*** **by L.A. Marzulli**

Is this the coming Great Deception? In *Rungs of Disclosure*, what once was fringe is now reality! While reading, you'll meet regular people—just like you—who have encountered something beyond their ability to explain. You'll also hear from people of great faith and religious belief who continue to have these strange and deeply unsettling encounters. L. A. Marzulli explores these ongoing incidents to discover the answers to these questions: Who are "they"? What do they want? And why are they here? If your readers can handle the truth, they should read this book—if they dare.

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Let your clothing reflect your beliefs. Boldly share your faith to connect with those lost and hungry for Jesus.

All 4 designs are crafted with premium quality materials. The T-shirts' timeless designs and soft fabrics combine faith and fashion to reach the world.

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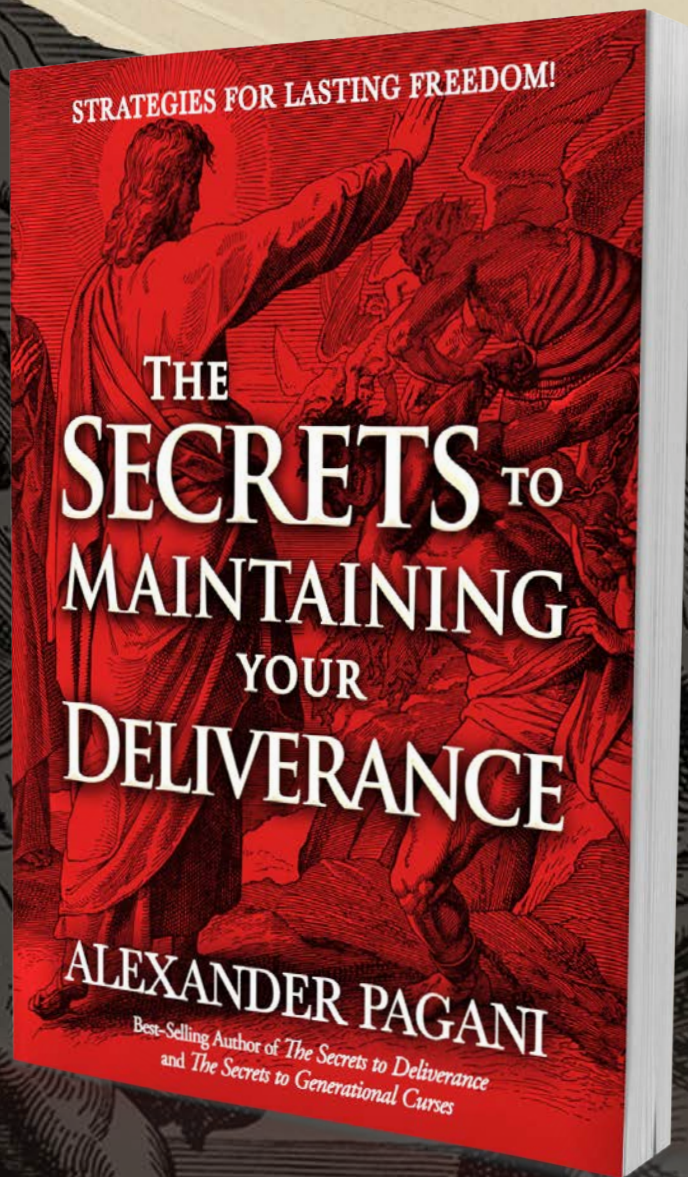
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# FREEDOM ISN'T FOUND, *IT'S MAINTAINED.*

*You've been saved...*  
**NOW WHAT?**

As Alexander Pagani states in *The Secrets to Maintaining Your Deliverance*, your freedom is not a one-time experience but rather a daily occurrence. If you want truly lasting freedom from demonic oppression, then you'll need expert guidance. *The Secrets to Maintaining Your Deliverance* goes beyond the initial experience of deliverance and **equips believers with the tools needed to stand firm against demonic adversaries.** Pagani's expertise and genuine passion for helping others shine through, making this book an indispensable resource for anyone seeking lasting freedom from demonic oppression. **It's time for believers to stop letting the enemy rob them of their freedom!** This book will empower readers with the wisdom to experience lasting deliverance. **The path to victory starts here!**

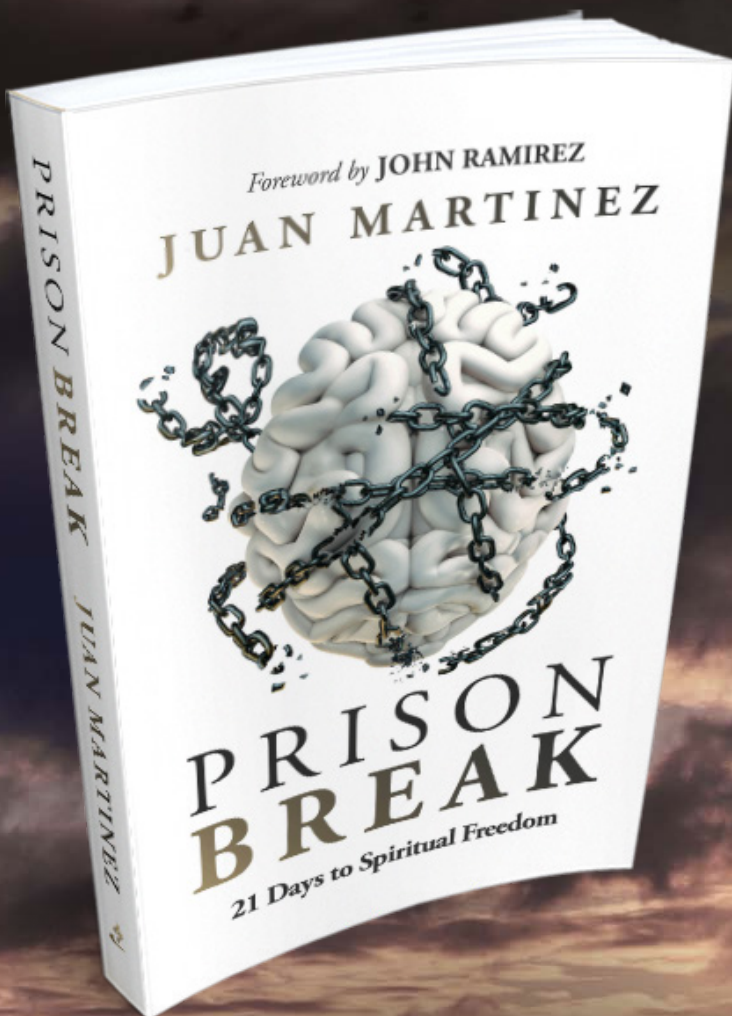


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**IS ABOUT UNSHACKLING YOUR CHAINS  
OF BONDAGE TO EMBRACE A LIFE OF  
FREEDOM**



Are you shackled by your sins? Pastor Juan Martinez's **Prison Break** reveals how you can achieve true freedom in every way possible: emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Your past traumas will be healed and **true freedom will be obtained in Jesus Christ**. If you are searching for real change, then why wait?



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