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MAGAZINE

August 2023



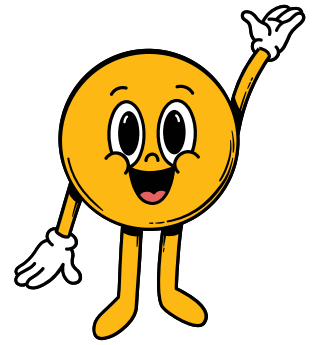
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AUTHENTICALLY SERVING
THE LORD AND
AUTHENTICALLY
POINTING OTHERS TO
CHRIST.**

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TESTIFY MAGAZINE

AUGUST 2023 EDITION



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THIS MAGAZINE IS PUBLISHED BY GO BIG MEDIA NPC

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Give Away Page

22

The Editor's Thoughts	3
Tinashe Mujera, Our Feature Story This Month	4
Testimony Time: Hybre Kivedo	11
Wealth Transfer (Column)	34
Soul Transformation (Column)	38
For this Cause (Column)	57
Impact Youth/Teen Witness	64
Embraced by Grace (Column)	71
Poems by Browlin Stroebel	75
Soul Care World Mission	78
Kids Corner (Children)	91

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City Bibles



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City Bible Foundation

The City Bible Foundation is based on the infallible Word of God as contained in the Holy Bible. The aims of the Foundation are to evangelize and distribute the Word of God worldwide regardless of race, politics or nationality. Furthermore, anything else, which is directly or indirectly conducive to fulfilling those purposes, will be undertaken. The Foundation shall remain an independent organization, while maintaining close links with other like minded groups. The Foundation seeks to achieve its objective through direct evangelistic work and support, as well as the spread of the Gospel and distribution of God's Word to the above mentioned regions.

Developed and launched in 2007, the City Bible Project of the Loukas Foundation has since proved to be a successful concept of evangelism. Its primary purpose is to encourage and support believers of local churches to become effective witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ in and around their places of residence be it a village, small town or big city. The City Bible Project is maintained by faithful men and women who are ready to devote the necessary time and finances for the printing, production and distribution of each City Bible edition. This will require the motivation and mobilization of congregations by teaching them the biblical foundation for Christian missions, providing them with the needed training for personal evangelism and instructing them how to follow up contacts and converts. The Loukas Foundation works only through the members of believer's churches. They are the hearts and hands to distribute the City Bible in support of their witness. The City Bible is based on "identification" and "communication". The City Bible Project is organized, designed, printed and transported by the Loukas Foundation without "overhead". It is a ministry for the Lord. The City Bible is now printed or prepared in 50 countries in 40 languages. Almost 3 million City Bibles and booklets are already spread.



THE EDITOR'S THOUGHTS

BY MARK PAGE

The reality of Jesus Christ is something that I see and experience nearly everyday of my life. I am extremely blessed to be in a space where God not only uses me but also allows me the humble honour of taking people from one level to the next, this really excites me so much. Testify magazine is going from strength to strength and we are maintaining our mandate of "Keeping Jesus Before People". Thank you all for your support.

This month's edition we have the cover story is about Author and Women of God - Tina Mujera. I was so overwhelmed and impressed by Tina and especially with the opportunity of not only meeting her but also reading her book called "Nashe- With God", if you do not own a copy of this book please go to our bookstore and order a copy (www.gobigpublications.com). Tina is also involved in arranging events and online opportunities for women and allowing them to become authentically serving the Lord. I am really humbled to know and count Tina a friend.

Please support her, God Bless!!

May I also please make an appeal to you to get involved with us at Go Big Media NPC. You can do so by all or of the following ways:

1. Make use of our services of Book Publishing, Special Projects and Translation services.
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ANCHORED IN FAITH: EMBRACING AUTHENTICITY AS A CHRISTIAN WOMAN IN THE WORKPLACE, BUSINESS, AND HOME

BY TINASHE MUJERA

Balancing our work and home lives can be a delicate dance, filled with its fair share of joys and challenges. However, by aligning our lives with God's calling, we can find peace even in the midst of chaos. Let's explore practical tips rooted in our Christian faith that allow us to prioritize God, invest in our families, and fulfill our professional responsibilities. With God as our guide, we can strike a harmonious balance that brings glory to His name. You can still be a mum, a wife, a corporate leader and business leader all in one. The secret is spending time in the place of prayer and devotion. Often times we are moved and feel overwhelmed because we are not centered. It is in the secret place that all answers and wisdom is revealed to navigate through seasons

My name is Tinashe Mujera
Tinashe means "God with us "

I am a child of God, an ambassador of the kingdom. I am a resilient woman driven by passion and purpose to fulfill God's plan for my life on earth. My mission is to die empty- empty of myself, empty of purpose and empty of my earthly mandate.

I wear many hats :

I'm a faith driven Authentic leadership coach, a corporate leader, I'm an author, a podcaster

and an entrepreneur at heart. But most importantly I'm a mum to a beautiful and bold girl named Atarah.

Title: Anchored in Faith: Embracing Authenticity as a Christian Woman in the Workplace, Business, and Home

Introduction:

Greetings, my fellow Christian women! Today, I want to share with you my personal journey of embracing authenticity and navigating the dynamic spaces of the workplace, business, and home, all while having

God as my anchor. As we walk this path together, let us reflect on how our faith plays a vital role in staying true to ourselves amidst the challenges we face. So, join me as I share my experiences and offer insights that may inspire you on your own journey of faith and authenticity. Because outside of titles, do you really know who you are? Yes you! The answer to that question will tell you if you are authentic or not

Rooted in God's Unique Design:

As Christian women, we were fearfully and wonderfully made by God, each with our own purpose and unique set of strengths. When we root ourselves in God's love and guidance, we can confidently embrace our individuality. Let's celebrate the gifts and abilities that God has entrusted us with, trusting that they hold the power to make a positive impact in our workplaces, businesses, and homes. It is not about competition as this is the one area where iv seen many sisters fall. When you are still competitive it is because you have not found your own true lane which is your authentic self. When one finds this place they cannot want to be anything or anyone else

Breaking Boundaries through God's Strength:

In a world that often places limitations on women's capabilities, our faith reminds us that we serve a God who breaks boundaries and defies

expectations. Sharing stories of inspiring Christian women who have overcome societal norms, shattered glass ceilings, and brought God's light to various spheres will encourage us to challenge stereotypes and embrace the limitless possibilities that God has for us .I have seen Gods hand in my life when I exercised faith. Faith is aligning and partnering with God for His will for your life. It is not our sometimes selfish asks that feed our souls, but it is all about Him and his name glorified through our lives.

Balancing God's Calling:

Balancing our work and home lives can be a delicate dance, filled with its fair share of joys and challenges. However, by aligning our lives with God's calling, we can find peace even in the midst of chaos. Let's explore practical tips rooted in our Christian faith that allow us to prioritize God, invest in our families, and fulfill our professional responsibilities. With God as our guide, we can strike a harmonious balance that brings glory to His name. You can still be a mum, a wife, a corporate leader and business leader all in one. The secret is spending time in the place of prayer and devotion. Often times we are moved and feel overwhelmed because we are not centered. It is in the secret place that all answers and wisdom is revealed to navigate through seasons

Leading with Christ-like

Authenticity:

Our authentic leadership shines brightest when we model our conduct after the ultimate example –Jesus Christ. As Christian women, we have an opportunity to bring His teachings of love, compassion, forgiveness, and servant-heartedness into our leadership roles. By remaining true to our values and exhibiting Christ-like authenticity, we can create environments that uplift others, empower them to thrive, and glorify God.

Nurturing our Souls through God's Word:

Amidst the demands of daily life, fostering our relationship with God is crucial. Let's explore various ways to nurture our souls, including prayer, personal devotion, and diving into the wisdom of Scripture. By practicing self-care informed by our Christian faith, we can draw closer to God, find strength in His word, and cultivate a deep sense of peace, which in turn, impacts every aspect of our lives.

Driving God's Love for All:

As Christian women, we are called to champion the principles of equality, justice, and compassion. Let's dive into discussions on how we can drive diversity and inclusion, ensuring that all individuals are

treated with dignity and respect in our workplaces, businesses, and homes. By reflecting God's love for all in our attitude, actions, and decisions, we can contribute to a world that honors and uplifts every person, regardless of their background, giving glory to our Heavenly Father.

Conclusion:

Dear sisters in Christ, embracing authenticity as Christian women in the workplace, business, and home is a journey that is deeply anchored in our faith. It is not an easy one. Ad it requires breaking ourselves apart to reveal truth. It's a journey where we acknowledge and celebrate God's unique design for us, break boundaries with His strength, find balance through His calling, lead with Christ-like authenticity, nurture our souls with His word, and drive His love for all. Together, let's support and inspire one another, helping each other grow in our faith and walking confidently as authentic Christian women. With God as our anchor, we can shine His light wherever we go, transforming lives and bringing glory to His name.

I have a platform named Authentically Woman and on the 5th of August we will be having our first ever gathering and event. This event is about “finding you”, your true nature,

the original plan of God for your life. It will be in Midrand at the Pere house venue.

Follow us on Instagram - nashebytinash

Facebook- NaShe

Or message on 0632099379 to find out more



Authentically^o *Woman*

Speakers.



TINA MUJERA
Host

Coach | Author | Entrepreneur



PUSHIE WATSON
Keynote speaker

Pastor | Speaker | Writer



MONALISA CHISANGO
Speaker

Award-winning TV producer |
Entrepreneur



LUNGI NTULI-BOBO
Speaker

Entrepreneur | Speaker



MPHO MOKOU
MC

Radio presenter |
Speaker | Author

Empowering women by
changing their **perspectives**
as a result of sharing
authentic stories, told from a
place of vulnerability to bring
about healing and alignment.

Time: 09:30-15:30

Venue:
Pere House
Midrand

RSVP Email: tinamujera@gmail.com

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2023

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TESTIMONY TIME

BY HYBRE KIVEDO



Lying in the room crying, he would come to the room and characterize me with various name-calling and scold me at the top of his voice for the lowest of women I can recall. It felt then as if I was going completely "crazy" undergoing anxiety disorder to such an extent that I escalated my counseling sessions and took psychiatric drugs/medication to maintain my balance accordingly. Recalling how at times, he would take my mobile phone and browse my messages, searching for a form of an argument to label me the one causing the breakup and the one having the affairs. The fear grew so much that I was afraid that he would be physical, and yet I could not get myself to obtain a protection order, and again I thought, well, this relationship can be restored, but how wrong was I? In stating all this and during this time, I held onto a little of my relationship with my Lord and my savior. My childhood relationship with my parents and grandparents was rooted in me as a child, which I held onto during this time. Had it not been for my faith, irrespective of my not rising to make the change within me, had it not been for my life in the Lord, I would have taken my life and the life of my child.

I am Hybre Myburgh, nee Kivedo, and I want to share my life's journey with the reader. I got married at the very young and tender age of twenty years old (20). My husband and I, at the time, had our first born prematurely, along with loads of complications from a medical perspective. At six months of pregnancy, I delivered a beautiful baby girl, which at the time only weighed in at 500 grams. However, we lost Margot after only three days of having her life being in the earth. It was as if, in an instant as from complications of pregnancy to birth and life taken from me, depression in a heavy state had kicked in, and I immediately started to blame myself for her death. In this depressive state, as one feels

completely helpless, I feel self-placed guilt about what occurred. In turn, I had fallen pregnant again one year after Margot's passing. Again, I endured a pregnancy of a difficult note; however, in all hope of life, I delivered a beautiful baby girl, Michaela. After two years of having Michaela, we again tried to conceive. We once again endured three miscarriages which set me back to a complete mental state of hopelessness and helplessness which I walked around with, having the mind that I was not a good enough person to bear life on earth. Whilst this time, I discovered that my husband had entwined himself into an extramarital affair while I was home caring for Michaela. This had taken me to a state of emotional and mental insecurity entirely within my being as a woman, as a mother, and generally a person overall, and worse was in trying to hold on to a marriage and raising my daughter and being told of the extra marital affair my husband is having of which I was actually in denial of, this in the hope that all will be ok at the end. I had then started blaming myself for not being a good wife and the reason that my husband had gone outside of marriage because I wasn't smart enough, I wasn't rich enough, attractive enough, strong enough, good enough, nice enough, talented enough, assertive enough, successful enough, likable enough. I was not enough for him due to the miscarriages that had occurred and with the fear of not being enough, which has devastating and crippling effects upon a human internally (psychologically) when we begin to believe the lie of not being good enough, these damaging effects and consequences cannot begin to match the devastation that occurs when we as woman believe that. Even though my husband never physically abused me, I was emotionally, mentally, and psychologically abused. I was tormented by all these happenings of the affairs over this time, as this surfaced as I started attending psychology sessions. In these counseling sessions, I had to face the reality of what had happened over 20 years of marriage and how it had happened. I had to stare at reality and forgive my husband for the affair/affairs he had during this time because I loved him. Through all that had occurred and thinking of me being the problem, he had gone out to have extramarital affairs, and as I was absorbing the hurt and the pain, I had in myself that this would pass by. I would be ok, which today I know was the work of evil not wanting me to make it in life. However, in all of this, I tried to be the perfect wife for him and towards him, placing his needs above mine and trying to be the best mother to my daughter during everything that was happening at the time. Deep down inside me, looking back, I was drowning, but at the time, I could not see that all I could see was I wasn't good enough, and I kept on trying my best. In turn, I lost myself as who I was and had been, I started gaining weight, and my husband would pass remarks

about how I looked and appeared to him; in turn, I had different eating plans, following various diets to ensure I become the person he wanted me to be, but still, it did not work out. I recall one day after my second miscarriage, how he commented to me how useless I am and have become towards him and that I would not be able to conceive a second child, and by the way was stated in a joking manner by him. It stuck with me, and I felt completely unworthy, yet I tried everything to be the person he wanted me to be, but nothing worked out. During this time, I blamed myself so much and had so much resentment even towards myself, which I couldn't understand then. I felt like a huge disappointment to crown it all in the nineteenth year of our marriage. My husband (now ex) started an affair with his blood cousin, and then upon this discovery, my entire world fell apart. This had come about because my then-husband had asked my business, which I was running at the time if I could employ his cousin as she and her life partner were having some difficulties. Me not even considering or knowing of an intimate point of an affair could be established because they were cousins, and I agreed to employ her. He would come home during his lunch hours while I attended to the clients, as his cousin was my PA in the office. This blew me away as people outside knew, but this affair blinded me; in my mind, it was cousins in blood relations who could not have affairs, but how inaccurate I was. He, in turn, filed for a divorce, and this broke me as I within myself didn't want this to happen, and this wasn't also expected on my side as I had hoped things would work out between us, if only I could get myself to the state of which he had wanted me to be like, and things will work out. The abuse continued, and he continued to press on for a divorce. I did not want it to happen, and we then separated at this time for approximately one year before our divorce was finalized. I allowed him to live in the house along with us as our daughter was busy with her matric year, and I didn't want to place undue pressure upon my daughter as, in my mind, she also needed her dad at the time, and I wanted her to have a normal final schooling year. This was far from normal then; even though we lived in separate rooms, he continued to make my life a living hell with verbal, psychological, and as much as financial abuse. Many a night, I cried myself to sleep because by this time, with my business ventures, I had multiple clients I had to attend to; I was being accused of being the one having affairs and the one who had caused the marriage to be in the state it was then. Lying in the room crying, he would come to the room and characterize me with various name-calling and scold me at the top of his voice for the lowest of women I can recall. It felt then as if I was going completely "crazy" undergoing anxiety disorder to such an extent that I escalated my

counseling sessions and took psychiatric drugs/medication to maintain my balance accordingly. Recalling how at times, he would take my mobile phone and browse my messages, searching for a form of an argument to label me the one causing the breakup and the one having the affairs. The fear grew so much that I was afraid that he would be physical, and yet I could not get myself to obtain a protection order, and again I thought, well, this relationship can be restored, but how wrong was I? In stating all this and during this time, I held onto a little of my relationship with my Lord and my savior. My childhood relationship with my parents and grandparents was rooted in me as a child, which I held onto during this time. Had it not been for my faith, irrespective of my not rising to make the change within me, had it not been for my life in the Lord, I would have taken my life and the life of my child. There were occasions where I had contemplated taking an overdose. However, In this time looking back, I can see how the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ, by the Power of His Holy Spirit, has held me because He has a plan for my being for my life, and that plan is to take this message to those women out there who have been, or perhaps you are currently being abused, or you feel that I cannot change because it is my fault that all this is happening, ladies, do not let the devil allow you to be held captive by his demonic powers in this world as he is the ruler of this world, yet, Jesus Christ is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, He can set you free from a life of abuse, a life of gender-based violence. Perhaps your partner is not physically abusing you, but psychologically and financially, you are taken to the cleaners, women. Raising your faith in Christ will make you whole. The way out, I call upon Him in your darkest hour of need. He is listening and will answer. Yes, you might be asking, but Hybre, in your message, why didn't you cry and call, and why didn't He come when He saw your life being abused by a tyrant, well his word declares, call upon me, in your hour of need, I held on by myself yet in hope and respect this too shall pass. This being I had endured in the time of my abuse, I do believe I had to go through because as it is in this hour and this day, my message you are reading even now has to be told to you so you can find your faith in Christ by the Power of His Holy Spirit.





THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

SHARE IT WITH ALL PLEASE

HAVE YOU ACCEPTED JESUS
CHRIST?

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

Romans 3:23 ESV

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

The abovementioned verse is an extremely well used verse and many people know it and can even quote it off by heart, but the significance of it is the reality that every single person needs to contemplate.

If you have not accepted Jesus as your Personal Saviour yet or are thin king about it, you have to start here. The reality of your sin problem cancels and disqualifies you from the very presence of God and this bars you from eternal Life. Your choices are simple here, either an eternity with God or an Eternity without God. I would think that the logical answer would be an Eternity with God. Why? Well let's look at this:

2 Thessalonians 1:9

**"They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from
the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might"**

NASB

This is the reality of a choice that omits Jesus as your Personal Saviour -

= Everlasting Punishment

= Destruction

= Shut Out

= No Godly Presence

= And no Glory at all

This is not something to take lightly and by the way this is not scaring you into making a false decision, God is love, thus we as His followers are love, this means if I say I have the love of God, it is my duty to tell you the truth and point you into the right direction.

So in looking at the sin problem and the reality of this, what is the answer then? Let's look at this:

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

NASB

What a wonderful solution to an immense problem, Go gas made a way and in making the way He has also made it very clear that this is the only answer to the problem. You have to accept Jesus His Son in order to obtain Eternal Life and ward off all the destruction and other bad things spoken about in the previous Bible verse.

It also makes it very clear that this can only be done through JESUS CHRIST His Son, there is no other way to salvation or Eternal life other than through Jesus, NONE!

Let's look at this too:

John 1:12-13

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

NASB

Wow! Just look at this, not only do we get Eternal Life but we become Children of God. The impact of this is massive as it speaks to the fact that we now belong to the family of God and receive the benefits of being part of a family, and not just any family but a royal family (1 Peter 2 vs 9).

So in looking and understanding all of this, How do you accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour?

Romans 10 vs 9-10

"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

NASB

Let me just make one point very clear before we look at the above verses, your salvation cannot be obtained by good works, you cannot go to Heaven or be part of God's family because you are a good person, or you do good deeds, No! The Bible makes it clear, if you want to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour then it gets done on the basis of two things. These two things are critical because it will also help you on your work with the Lord and attain righteousness and a life pleasing to God.



Firstly, you have to confess with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord, this is very important because by your confession God will know and people in the world will know. This is significant because one does not hide a light under a bowl. Everyone must see and hear that you are a child of God.



And secondly you must believe in your heart, with your whole being and understanding that Jesus was raised from the dead and is alive and is your only Saviour.

So if you have read all of this and the Holy Spirit is directing you to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour please pray the prayer on the next page, God loves you so much.



ACCEPTING JESUS IS EVERYTHING!

PRAYER FOR SALVATION

Dear Lord Jesus,

I understand that I am a sinner and in need of desperate saving, The Bible tells me clearly that the only answer is for me to confess with my mouth and believe in my heart. I am now confessing with my mouth that I am accepting You as my Personal Saviour and believing in my heart that you are alive and well and dwelling within me. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the fellowship of other Believers and allow me please to follow in your footsteps. Amen!

Wow! Congratulations if you have just prayed this prayer, and know that you are now part of the family of the Kingdom of God. Please tell someone about your decision, pray all the time and read and study your Bible. Find a Holy Ghost, Bible preaching church and join.

Please let us know if you have made this decision and allow us to point you in the right direction.

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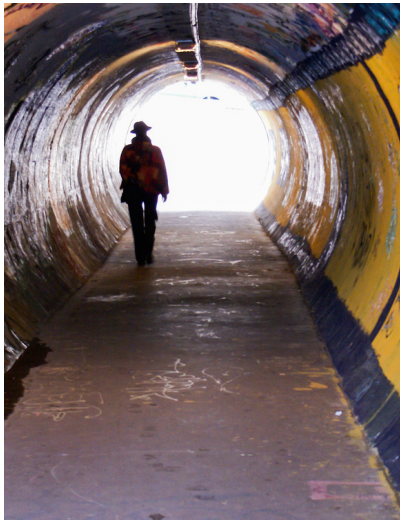


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TESTIMONIES OF NOTE

Joseph: Ghana

Your testimony compels me to write this.

I have been diagnosed with the same thing you described above about two years ago, but my faith in Jesus Christ is making me live a normal life, to my doctor's surprise. I saw my doctor just yesterday, and to the glory of God, I have been taken off all steroids. I am now only on chlorambucil.

I know the time is coming when the doctor will say, gentleman, you have no cancer, just like your case. Your testimony has really inspired me. Our God liveth.

My first time doing something like this, but this is for Christ's sake, just to let people know that even cancer cannot stand His healing powers.

In fact, I am so touched since we have the same CLL issue. My faith has been increased the more, at least.

God bless us all.

Anja: South Africa

God moved one more mountain...

I just want to share another testimony of how God healed my tendon through less than a mustard seed faith.

I was diagnosed with Covid a few months back through a rapid blood test. I had it really bad at a stage; my chest closed. I battled to breathe and could not move my stage because of no oxygen going through to my limbs. I got pins and needles in my fingers and feet.

I had no taste or sense of smell, and my body was sore, and my throat irritated; I almost did not see 2021, but once again, through faith, I asked my fiancé to contact my pastor to pray for me over the phone and after that my chest cleared opened up so I could breathe.

After my isolation, I got what they call Covid Pneumonia, and my chest closed up again, and I once again thought I'm not going to make it.

This time I was scared because my fiancé was not at home and my voice was gone, and I know that I tried to live righteously, but the thought went through my mindare you ready to meet our Father? Deep inside me, I still feel that I could've and should've done more to have a closer relationship with God.

I realized then also that I was going to die without saying goodbye without making amends. I knew at least I do forgive the people that hurt me have time, but I wanted to say goodbye, at least to my family. I decided that I'm going to fight the inevitable...

I typed a message to my pastor asking him to pray for me in the name of Jesus, and once again, through faith, my chest opened up, and I could breathe again. After that, I had blood tests done and ended up with blood clots, but once again, Jesus came through for me.

I'm back at work and getting stronger every day. Once again, I'm spending every second telling everyone that God is real, He is still doing many miracles, and we need to put our trust in Him. He never left us or forsook us.

We need to praise Him even in the storm, no matter what you go through in life....sometimes, these things happen for a reason; it's there to make you stronger so you could handle any obstacle that comes your way.

I have learned to put everything in God's hands, and then everything else will fall into place...He is the provider, He is a miracle worker and does not expect

too much from us....all He wants is us to do is to confess our sins and believe that His son died for us on the cross and have a close relationship with Him. The book of Revelations is being fulfilled as we speak. It's important to plead the blood of Jesus over yourself and your family and to put on the full armour of God.

Please share the testimony of my healing, so people will know that God is faithful and good, and all we need is to call His name, and He will be there. Cast your anxieties on Him. He will give you rest, let Him lead you, and He will direct your steps.

God bless you and keep you safe.

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THE SPIRITUAL MAN, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DECEPTION BY PASTOR WAYNE DEVOS

The bible divides man into three parts, spirit, soul and body. The difference of spirit and soul, as well as the difference in their functions are necessary knowledge for the believer to know to grow in their spiritual lives. Only after knowing what spirit is and what is spiritual can we walk according to the spirit.

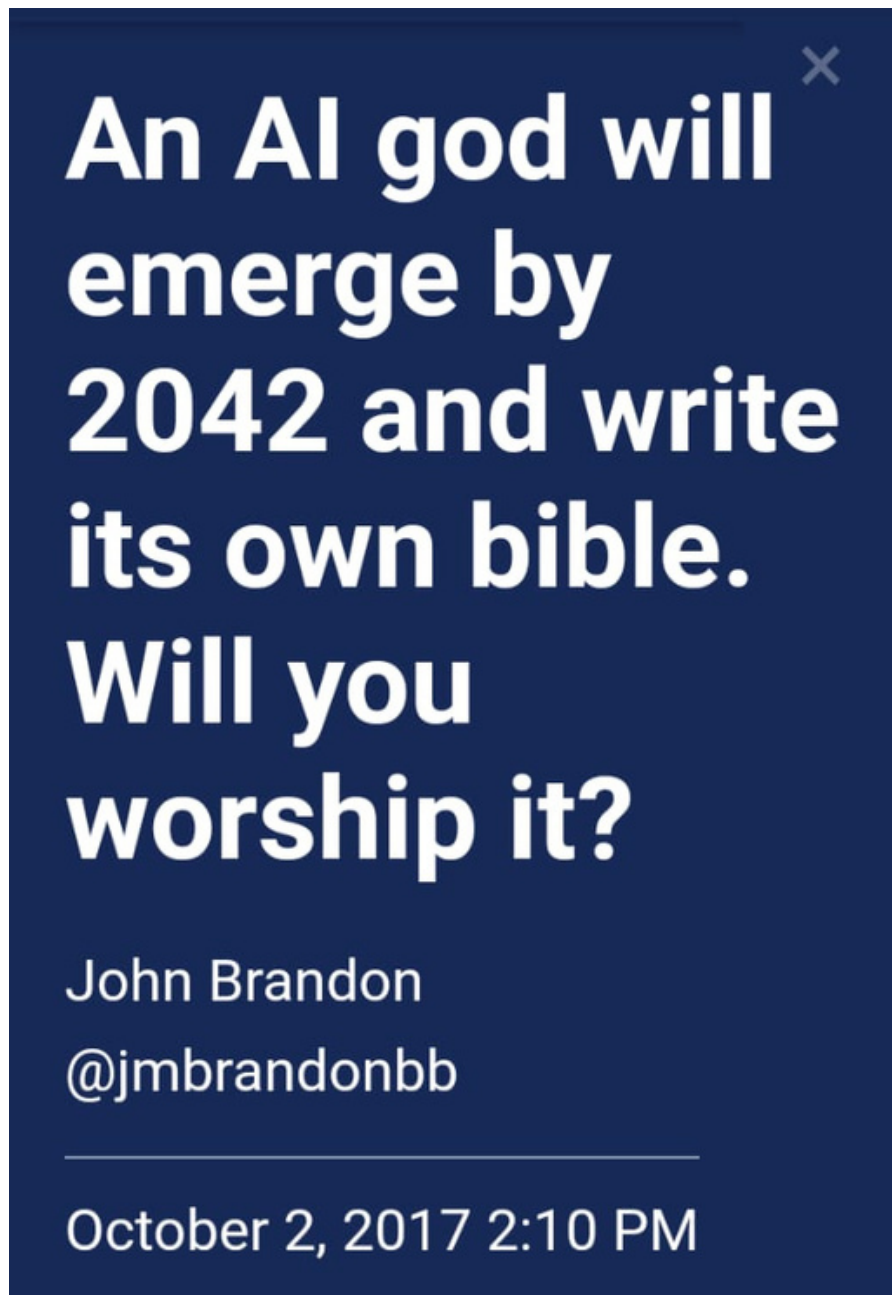
We are living in a world that has moved from a narrow-minded closed it's not possible viewpoint, to an open minded, anything is possible viewpoint. To simply put it, modern day technology has progressed from its first crude forms to the stage where it is taking over tasks that only humans can accomplish and is beginning to control and influence the lives of those that embrace it.

I write this with the thought of telecommunications in mind, thinking of Graham Bell who patented the first invention of the telephone in 1876 and it becoming a global commodity and absolute necessity in our lives.

In 1973 when the first cell phone made its appearance; all it could do was make and receive calls. Within a short space of only fifty years technology has progressed at such a rapid pace that today we are able to use our mobile phones to send and receive emails, take photos, record videos, attend zoom meetings, do shopping, banking, play games, watch movies....the list goes on. One hundred years ago this would have been deemed impossible. This gives us an idea as to just how much our lives are influenced and controlled by technology. (As we allow it too)

A.I. (Artificial intelligence) is the new kid on the block, the term A.I. was coined and came into existence in 1950s, although the groundwork for it began in the 1900s. As with the telephone, artificial intelligence is also the invention and creation of the intellect and wisdom of man, and yes! man will benefit from its use just as we do from our mobile phones, but at the same time it will not only be

used for upright moral purposes, but also for immoral wicked purposes, as we see in this statement by John Brandon.



A friend sent me a video clip of an A.I. avatar chatbot sermon being preached at a church, in my opinion to me it was a lifeless, powerless, imitation of the wisdom of this world in an attempt do what can only be done in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Apostle says this to the church in Corinth; "And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." The implications of A.I. preachers are horrendous it will lead to a falling away from the truth which is already happening as prophesied it would, we read "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to the

seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.”

The deception will be so great that the church will come under its influence if it is not led by the Spirit and walking in the spirit. Believers do not know how to differentiate between the spirit, the soul and the body, therefore they do not know how to walk in the spirit and be led by the Spirit. It is only after knowing what the spirit is and what is spiritual can we walk according to the spirit.

Those who understand these truths are responsible for the spiritual lives of others and ought to know from what and into what we lead them – from whence to where, so that we are not the blind leading the blind.

Technology as a means is not evil, Jason Thacker writes; “Technology is amoral but acts as a catalyst that expands the opportunities for humanity to pursue. It is not good or evil in itself but can be designed and used for good and evil purposes. We are able to use technology for the glory of God and the betterment of society, or it can be used to lead mankind who do not believe in the truth to destruction.

As we engage in technology, let us remember that God calls us to see that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world and not according to Christ. Colossians 2:8 (Adapted from The Age of A.I. Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humanity).

Let us begin with the creation of mankind, then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him; male and female He created them.” Genesis 1:26

Man is not the prototype invention of an earlier model, or image of anything that was previously created in heaven and earth, nor did his creation take place by chance. man is God's creation created in the image of God.

When God created man, He said; ‘Let us make man in our image and likeness. Our image most likely refers to qualities such as intellect, reason, personality as well as other attributes, the capacity to see, hear, speak and act. Is this what man is attempting with A.I. (artificial intelligence) to play God?

The bible divides man into three parts, spirit, soul and body. The difference of spirit and soul, as well as the difference in their functions are necessary knowledge for the believer to know to grow in their spiritual lives. Only after knowing what spirit is and what is spiritual can we walk according to the spirit.

The Creation of Man

“And Jehovah God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his life the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” (Gen.2:7) When God first created man He formed him from the dust of the ground, and the breathed the breath of life into his nostrils. As soon as the “breath of life,” which became man’s spirit, came into contact with man’s body, the soul was produced. Hence the soul is the combination of man’s body and spirit. The scriptures therefore call man a “living soul.” The breath of life became man’s spirit; that is, the principle of life within him. The Lord Jesus tells us, “it is the spirit that gives life.” (John 6:63)

This breath of life comes from the Lord of creation. However, we must not confuse man’s spirit with God’s Holy Spirit. The latter differs from our human spirit. Romans 8:16 demonstrates their difference by declaring that, “it is the Spirit Himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” The original of the word “life” in “breath of life” is Chay and is in the plural. This may refer to the fact that the inbreathing of God produced a twofold life, soulical and spiritual. When the inbreathing of God entered man’s body it became the spirit of man; but when the spirit reacted with the body the soul was produced. This explains the source of our spiritual and soulical lives. We must recognize, though, that this spirit is not God’s OWN life, for the “breath of the Almighty gives me life.” (Job 33:4) It is not the entrance of the uncreated of God into man, neither is it that life we receive at regeneration.

“Formed man from the dust of the ground” refers to man’s body; “breathed into his nostrils the breath of life” refers to man’s spirit as it came from God; and “man became a living soul” refers to man’s soul when it was quickened by the spirit and brought into being a living and self-conscious man. A complete man is a trinity – the composite of spirit, soul and body. According to Genesis 2:7 man was made up of only two independent elements the corporal and spiritual; but when God placed the spirit within the casing of the earth, the soul was produced. The spirit of the man touching the dead body produced the soul. The body apart from the spirit was dead, but with the spirit man was made alive. The organ thus animated was called the soul.

“Man became a living soul” expresses not merely the fact that the combination of spirit and body produced the soul; it also suggests that the spirit and the body were completely merged in the soul. In other words, soul and body were combined with the spirit and spirit and body were merged in the soul.

Adam in his unfallen state knew nothing of these ceaseless strivings of spirit and flesh which are daily experiences to us. There was a perfect blending of his three natures into one, and the soul as the uniting medium became the cause of his individuality, of his existence as a distinct being" (Pember's Earth's Earliest Age).

Man was designated in a living soul, for it was there the spirit and body met and through which his individuality was known. Perhaps we may use an imperfect illustration; drop some dye into a cup of water. The dye and the water will blend into a third substance called ink. In like manner two independent elements of spirit and body combine to become a living soul. (The analogy fails in that the soul produced by the combining of spirit and body becomes an independent, indissoluble element as much as the spirit and the body.)

God created man's soul as something unique, as the angels were created as spirits, so man was created predominantly as a living soul. Man not only had a body, a body with a breath of life, he became a living soul as well.

Thus we find later in Scriptures that God often referred to men as "souls" Why? Because what the man is depends on how his soul is. His soul represents him and expresses his individuality. It is the organ of man's free will, the organ in which spirit and soul are completely merged. If a man's soul wills to obey God, it will allow the spirit to rule over man as ordered by God. The soul if it chooses, also can suppress the spirit and take some other delight as Lord of the man.

This trinity of spirit, soul and body can be partially illustrated by a light bulb. Within the bulb, which can present the total man, there are electricity, light and wire. The spirit is like electricity, the soul the light, and the body the wire. Electricity is the cause of the light, while light is the effect of electricity. Wire is the material substance for carrying electricity as well as for manifesting the light. The combination of spirit and body produces soul, that which is unique to man. As electricity, carried by the wire, is expressed in light, so the spirit acts upon the soul, and the soul in turn expresses itself through the body.

However, we must remember well that whereas the soul is the meeting - point of the elements of our being in this present life, the spirit will be the only ruling power in our resurrection state. For the bible tells us that it is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body" 1 Cor. 15:44,45 here is a vital point; we who have been joined to the resurrected Lord can even now have our spirit rule over the whole being, we are not united to the first Adam who was made a living soul but to the last Adam Who is a life giving Spirit. (Adapted from "The Spiritual Man" Watchman Nee)

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DAILY DEVOTIONAL

BY BISHOP MATTHEW DANIELS

THE ORDER OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

As believers we are expected to look back to what Christ has done on the cross to enable us live victorious in the present and in the future.

"And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God." (5:2b)

In English we sometimes use the word "hope" in the sense of a fond desire for the future, which may or may not come to pass. However, the word for hope in Greek is much more certain.

The word "Hope," in Greek is "elpis", it is the looking forward to something with strong confidence in the expectation of fulfillment or the happy anticipation of good. This means that when you hope in the Lord, there is a joy in your countenance (simply put, a smile on your face). There is a confident assurance in your heart that, bleak as the circumstances appear to be, it's not over yet.

The word is more fully explored in Romans 8:24-25. Hope is one of three remaining virtues when all else has past: "faith, hope, and love" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Hope does not mean what we think hope is today. In today's language, the word hope implies that there is a little bit of doubt that what we hope for will actually happen

In today's language, just by using the word hope, we imply that there is at least a little bit of anxiety present, because in today's language, we are not certain that what we hope for will actually happen.

This is not true of the Biblical language. The word used for "hope" in the Bible contains no doubt that the hoped for event will happen.

Unfortunately, the word "hope" as used in our modern vernacular is completely different and sometimes even antithetical to the way the Bible defines it. When we say things such as, "I hope that I will prosper," our use

of the word connotes uncertainty, doubt, and fear.

Romans 5:5 declares:

"Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us, for God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us" AMP.

We can have true hope—a certain, joyful, confident expectation of good—when we rightly believe how dearly God loves us! There is a direct and proportionate correlation between hope and rightly believing in God's love for you. Hope springs in your heart when you believe that God loves you.

TITLE: UNCOVERING THE DEEP MYSTERIES IN THE EPISTLE OF ROMANS

God's touch of grace in our lives and His bending toward us favorably with His help and strengthening power, is absolutely incomprehensible!

May the eyes of our understanding be opened to the richness of His Charis ... His grace upon grace!

Romans 5:2: "By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein WE STAND, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

The word "stand" is translated from the Greek histemi, and in this context it means "to continue, endure, or persist."

"Histemi" has the following implications:

- (1). To cause or make to stand, to place, put, set
- (2). To bid to stand by, [set up] in the presence of others, in the midst, before judges, before members of the Sanhedrin (the Supreme judicial & ecclesiastical council of ancient Jerusalem)
- (3) To make firm, fix establish
- (4) To cause a person or a thing to keep his or its place
- (5) To stand, be kept intact (of family, a kingdom), to escape in safety
- (6) To uphold or sustain the authority or force of anything
- (7) To set or place in a balance
- (👓) To weigh: money to one (because in very early times before the introduction of coinage, the metals used to be weighed)
- (9) To stop, stand still, to stand immovable, stand firm of the foundation of a building
- (10) To stand continue safe and sound, stand unharmed, to stand ready or prepared
- (11) To be of a steadfast mind of quality, one who does not hesitate, does not waiver

"...this grace wherein WE STAND," refers not to what we deserve, but our supernatural legal standing or condition before God. Sometimes we may sin and feel overcome with guilt and regret. We think that God is angry at us and will punish us. But we still stand in a place of grace or favor before our Father. Our standing doesn't change, since it was created by an act of God's righteousness, not by our own righteousness.

TITLE: UNCOVERING THE DEEP MYSTERIES IN THE EPISTLE OF ROMANS
THE ORDER OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Romans 5:2 "By whom also we have access by faith into this GRACE wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

No matter our our mess, or our stubbornness, or our sins in charis-grace, God reaches out favorably to make Himself available to us.

Charis (grace) is the merciful kindness by which God, exerting His holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in godly faith, knowledge, affection, and inflame them to the exercise of the Christian virtues

When you feel strengthened to increase in faith or something in your heart has been kindled to practice your faith, that's is the result of grace! Grace seriously rich, isn't it?

- **When we deserve punishment, instead, God gives mercy.**
 - **When we cannot do it alone, God's grace provides help.**
 - **When we lack in wisdom, God's grace gives wise guidance.**
 - **When we suffer, God's grace gives us comfort and healing.**
 - **When we are unloveable, God's grace comforts us with divine affection**
 - **When we continually sin and fail, God's grace gives forgiveness and helps us to overcome sin and weakness**
 - **When we need strength, God gives perseverance through His grace**
- Grace allows God to freely extend Himself to meet us where we are and with what we need.**



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SOUL TRANSFORMATION

BY PASTOR MIKE GOBEL

“SIN AND MAN’S ETERNAL PURPOSE”¹ by Pastor Mike Gobel

Keynote Scripture: Romans 6: 1 - 7 (NKJV)

1 “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be [a]done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been [b]freed from sin.”

This month’s article entitled “Sin and Man’s Eternal Purpose” is like most of my Christian writings and evangelistic ministry focused on primarily three things – becoming a Christian; living the Christian life; and going to heaven. Theologians refer to these three steps as Justification, Sanctification, and Glorification. The first and third steps are instantaneous experiences, but the second step (sanctification) is a lifelong process whereby the Holy Spirit works in the believer’s life to bring about practical holiness to

transform our nature and character into the likeness of Christ. It is this second step of salvation with which the believer struggles, because it requires putting to death the deeds of the flesh (saying “no” to our sin nature) and obeying the prompting of the Holy Spirit (saying “yes” to God) – this is the essence of spiritual warfare. Sadly, most churches in the Western world these days pretty much ignore the issue of Sanctification, and just focus on Justification – either out of ignorance about what Scripture

teaches, or out of fear that living a holy life is essentially “legalism.” But living a life of obedience to Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit has nothing to do with legalism – legalists think they “gain favour with God” by being good, but believers obey Christ out of gratitude because they already “have favour with God!” The key to sanctified living and discipleship is gratitude for what Christ did for us on the Cross! The Bible emphatically describes God as being both loving and holy, yet western Christianity primarily focuses on God’s love, and says almost nothing at all about His holiness. As such, the central message of most churches is one of love and forgiveness, with scarcely a word being said about holiness, and “death to sin” and “self.” It is for this reason that I felt the need to teach on this subject in an honest and biblical way to bring the believer back to a life of obedience in Christ. Temptation is part of Satan’s crafty plan that appeals to our “NATURAL DESIRES” (the flesh) in an attempt to cause division between us and God; hence, it is an invitation to live a self-serving life that leads to rebellion against God. It was this exact same “rebellious spirit” that got Lucifer cast out of heaven by God. Ron Rhodes, president of ‘Reasoning from the Scriptures Ministries’ wrote in an article called, How Did Lucifer Fall and Become Satan?, “Lucifer became so

impressed with his own beauty, intelligence, power, and position that he began to desire for himself the honour and glory that belonged to God alone. This “pride” represents the actual beginning of sin in the universe –preceding the fall of the human Adam by an indeterminate time.”²

Since then, temptation has become Satan’s invitation for mankind to give into his kind of life and give up a God’s kind of life. Satan tempted Eve to doubt God’s goodness, implying that He was stingy and selfish for not wanting Eve to share His knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 3:1-7). Satan made Eve forget all that God had given to her, and instead got her to focus on what was prohibited. We fall into trouble too, when we dwell on the few things, we don’t have rather than on the countless things with which God has blessed us. Temptation generally hits hardest in our “AREAS OF WEAKNESS.” For all his wisdom, King Solomon had numerous weak spots—he couldn’t say “no” to compromise or lustful desires. You may have strong faith, but you also have significant weak spots. All of us do. The three major areas of temptation categorized for us in Satan’s temptation of Jesus are: 1) Physical needs and desires; 2) Possessions and power; and 3) Pride. We read in Matthew 4:1-11 that Jesus

was tempted in every way in which we are tempted, but He did not give in to such temptation—He knows firsthand the difficulties of temptation; as such, He sympathizes with us and wants to help us in our struggles (Heb. 4:15-16). The devil often tempts us when we are most vulnerable—when we are under physical or emotional stress—but he also tempts us where we think we are strong, where we are most susceptible to pride. It's ironic when you come to think about it that the transgender and LGBTQ+ movement recently celebrated "Pride Month."

By now you would have noticed that those who support this form of ungodly disposition or ideological narrative are predominately people who suffer with the "spirit of pride." Pride is an unreasonable sense of superiority in one's talents, beauty, wealth, social rank, and other such factors. The other undesirable characteristics of pride include: 1) Boasting about oneself; 2) Liking to draw attention to oneself; 3) Being self-centred; 4) Loving to be honoured and recognised by people; 5) Often leading towards extremism and imbalanced in one's thoughts and actions; 6) Narrowminded; and 7) Often having weak determination, lacking in rational judgment or discernment to see the moral wrongness in something. As believer's

we need to guard ourselves against these kinds of attacks from Satan. Without exception, sin results when temptation strikes a sympathetic chord in "OUR HEARTS." Because it operates in the realm of "feelings" (wants, desires, lusts), that's what makes it so difficult. The reason all of us sin is that "we feel like it," "we want to"—if we didn't feel like it or want to, we wouldn't sin. The simple truth is this: "our flesh is not a paragon of moral virtue or righteousness!" Obviously, feelings can be extremely difficult to overcome—it is the main reason people "divorce" each other... they no longer have "feelings" for each other. Society's number one message is that we should do what we "feel" like doing or want to do (freedom of liberties)—it places an inordinate emphasis on feelings rather than on what we ought to do. The dynamic of the flesh is "feelings," and the dynamic of the Spirit is "faith"—so either you live your life according to how you feel (flesh), or you live your life according to the truth (faith). By the way, nowhere in the Bible does God ever command us to feel anything, because we cannot directly control our feelings—feelings in large are a byproduct of our thoughts; hence, the need to control our thoughts which is the dwelling place of the devil. This is where the devil attacks the believer most. To pray that God would take

away a particular temptation is to ask God to take away our “FEELINGS”—that is not going to happen! Let me illustrate it: If you are physically attracted to someone outside your “eligible arena of candidates” (namely, if you are attracted to someone other than your wife or husband for example) ... and you pray about it ... do you think God is going to remove the God-given attraction He placed within you in the first place? No. That’s absurd. We are all naturally attracted to someone of the opposite sex (when we are single)—so, that is not the problem; the problem is our “corrupt flesh” that seeks to take advantage of that attraction and express it in a manner that is inconsistent and completely against God’s will when we are married. Therefore, we cannot remove that “spirit of attraction” but we can ask God to help us “control our flesh” to kill the desire to be attracted to someone or something that is against God’s “dispositional will” (meaning, God’s desire for what is good and pleasing to Him.) Furthermore, for us to pray that God would remove our feelings, essentially is to ask God to “remove our flesh”—our “sinful” disposition. Again, that is not going to happen. Yet, that is precisely the way most believers pray! Why would God remove the very thing that He uses to “mature us” in our faith? Our problem is we are not into this spiritual warfare type stuff and

fighting the fight of faith—why? Because most believers are not prayerful in their obedience and daily devotion to God! Trials and temptations are the “primary method” God uses to accomplish His sanctifying work in us, to build our faith and spiritual character and maturity (James 1:2-3). Incidentally, the words trial and temptation are the same word in Greek—peirasmos—this word literally means to test, try, prove, or tempt; thus, inherent in every trial is the temptation to do evil. Some “PASSIONATE FEELINGS” can be very difficult to overcome—anger, lust, jealousy, and hatred can be brutally tough at times—because when they arise in our hearts, we tend to fan the flame before we even think about trying to extricate ourselves from them. Feelings can grow in intensity very quickly, and oftentimes we do not begin to fight against them until we have a raging inferno inside of us! To feed “inappropriate feelings” in our minds only “fans the flame”—so the battle is one that is “lost” in the mind. Feelings always follow “thoughts”—what you think causes you to feel the way you do. Adam and Eve opted for the satisfaction of “desire” rather than for “obedience” to follow the commandment of God. It should be noted, there are only these two ways of living—the “feeling-oriented life” of

desire that is oriented toward “self” ... and the “commandment-oriented life” of holiness that is oriented toward “GOD.”

The first is motivated by feeling, and the second is motivated by obedient faith in God. Satan got to Adam and Eve through “desire” – all sin grows out of the “desire-oriented life.” Again, we all sin because we desire or want to sin! Many Christians say they just can’t control their “thoughts” – yes, you can! It may not be easy, but God commands it! Matthew 22:37 Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” And in Romans 8:6 it warns us, “For to be [a]carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace” (see Cor. 10:5; Eph. 4:23). Without a disciplined mind the flesh will rule ... an undisciplined mind is the devil’s workshop ... a “disciplined mind” is not a spiritual option; it is what God expects of us. While researching for biblical material for my new book that is near completion, I studied several books in the Bible, one of which was the book of Romans dealing with “sin.” In chapters 5 and 6 in the book of Romans the Bible speaks of the contrasting difference between Adam and Christ. Adam was given dominion over the old creation; he sinned, and he lost his kingdom. Because of Adam’s sin, all people are under

condemnation and death. As believers we know that Christ came as the King over a “new creation,” for it says in 2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” By His obedience on the cross, He brought in righteousness and justification. Christ not only undid all the damage caused by Adam’s sin, but He accomplished much more (“much more [is] the grace of God”) by making us the very sons of God. Adam’s offense is contrasted with Christ’s free gift. Because of Adam’s trespass, many died; because of Christ’s obedience, the grace of God generously flows to many, bringing life. But it’s important that believers in Christ understand the aspects relating to the doctrines of sin, the law and of grace, which is rarely understood by believers because the church fails to put emphasis on the “doctrine of sin” as much as they like to place emphasis on the “doctrine of grace.” The Law and Grace are contrasting doctrines, yet they are unified in their application and purpose. Grace was not an addition to God’s plan; grace was a part of God’s plan from the very beginning. God dealt with Adam and Eve in grace; He dealt with the patriarchs in grace; and He dealt with the nation of Israel in grace. He gave the law through Moses, not to replace His grace, but to reveal humanity’s

need for grace. The law was temporary, but grace is eternal. In the same way that the law made humanity's sins increase, God's "grace abounded much more." God's grace was more than adequate to deal with people's sins. Even though sin and death still reign in this world, God's grace is also reigning through the righteousness of Christ. Christians' bodies are subject to death, and their old natures tempt them to sin, but in Jesus Christ they can reign in life because they are part of the gracious kingdom of Christ. The basic truth Paul is teaching in Romans chapter 6 is the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. Just as we were identified with Adam in sin and condemnation, so believers are now identified with Christ in righteousness and justification. Sin is a terrible master, and it finds a willing servant in the human body. The body is not sinful; the body is neutral. It can be controlled either by sin or by God. But a person's "fallen nature," which is not changed at conversion, gives sin a strategic position from which it can attack and then control. Justification by faith is not simply a legal matter between me and God; it is a living relationship resulting in justification of life. I am in Christ and identified with Him; therefore, whatever happened to Christ has happened to me. When He died, I died. When He arose, I arose in Him. I am now seated with Him in the heavenly realm (see Ephesians 2:1-10; Col. 3:1-3). Because of this living union with Christ, the believer has a totally new relationship with sin. Sin wants to be our master. It finds a foothold in the "old" nature and through the old nature seeks to control the member of the body. But in Jesus Christ, we died to sin, and the old nature was crucified so that the old life is rendered inoperative. In Romans chapter 6 Paul was not describing an experience; he was stating a fact. Trust in Christ is an "act of the will" based on the knowledge we have of what Christ has done for us. It is an intelligent act, not the impulsive decision of the moment based on some emotional stirring. The believer must experience that final and complete surrender of the body of Jesus Christ. This does not mean no further steps of surrender will be necessary because they will. The longer we walk with Christ, the deeper the fellowship must become. Sin and death have no control over Christ. We are "in Christ"; therefore, sin and death have no control over us. Jesus Christ not only died for sin, but He also died unto sin. That is, He not only paid the penalty for sin, but He broke the power of sin over the believer's life. We yield ourselves to God because of His grace. Paul has proved that we are not saved by the law and that we do not live under the law. However, it is important that Christians understand this principle on the doctrine of grace, that being, the fact that we are saved by grace does not give us an excuse to

sin, but it does give us a reason to obey. Grace does not mean that we can or should ignore walking in obedience to the laws and principles of God. Our primary purpose should always be to live in obedience to God's Word and His will which will enable us to have power over sin in our lives.

May God bless you!

1 Written copyright approval: Ekstrand, D., Soul Transformation: The Sanctification Experience of the Believer., 2012, pp. 465 – 467.

2 Rhodes R., "How Did Lucifer Fall and Become Satan?," Christianity.com, Aug 08, 2022. Accessed: 18/07/23

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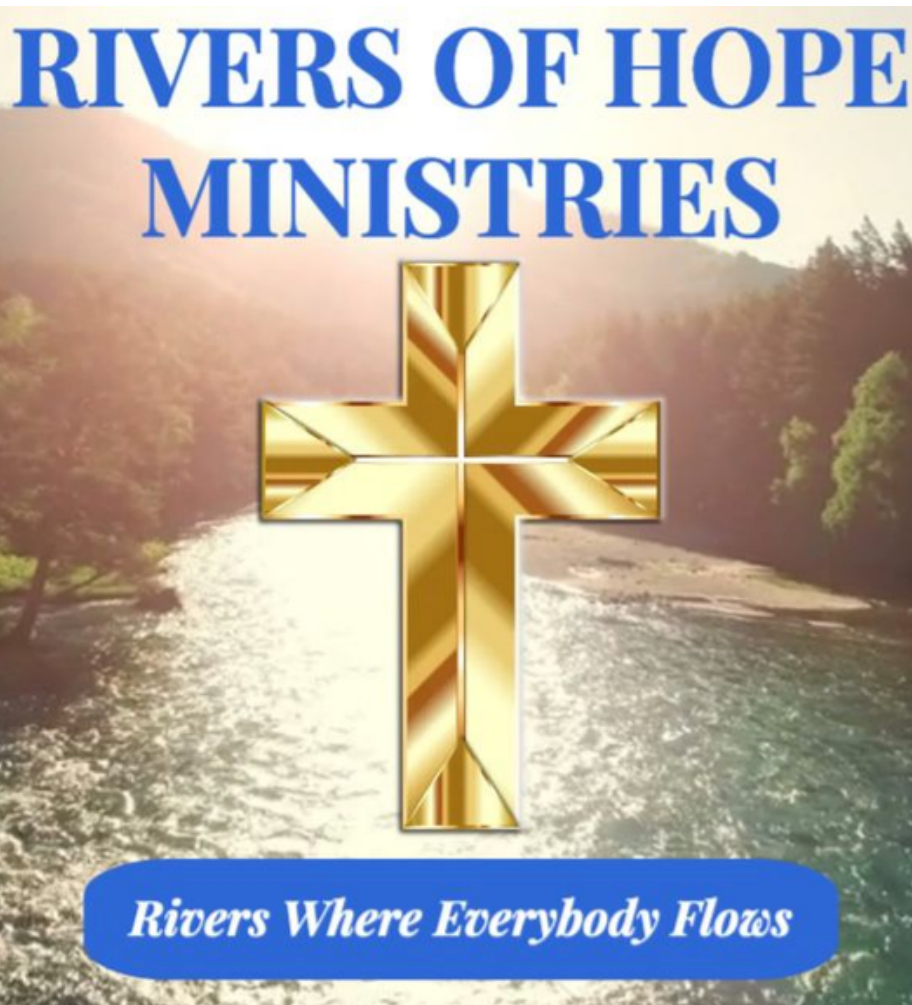
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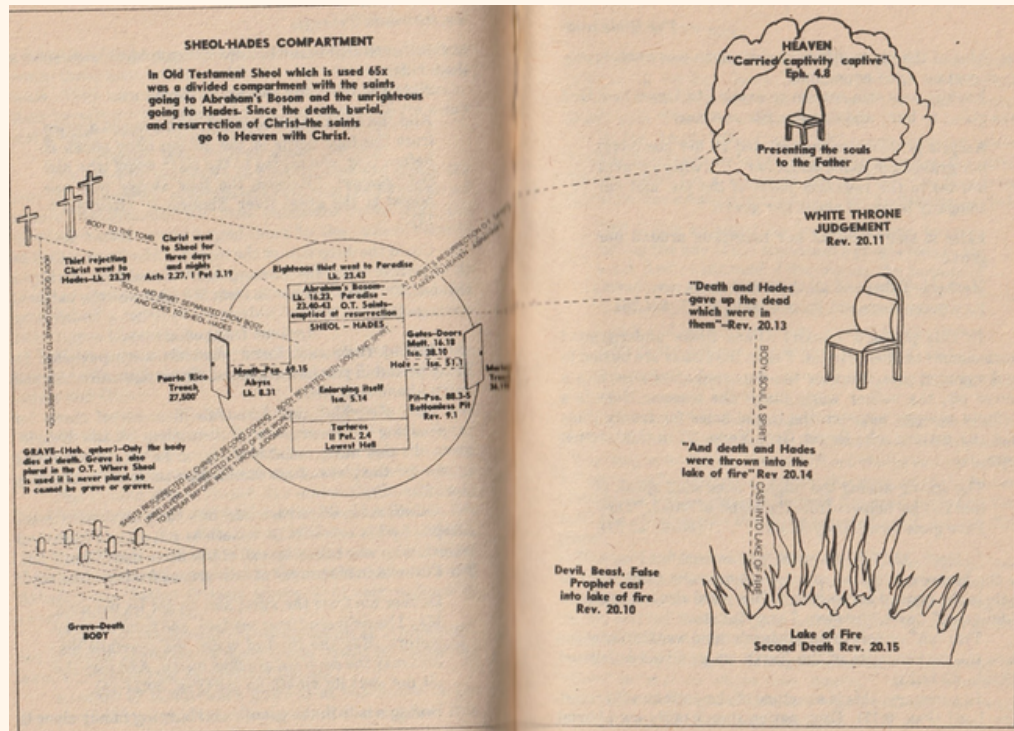


PORTALS TO HEAVEN AND HELL

Are there actual places on earth where these portals exist?

What is a portal?

A portal is a doorway, gate, or other entrance, especially a large and imposing one, in this case into the spiritual realm. Many became aware of portals through movies they have seen, others have read something in the Bible about a gateway to Heaven or Hell and many claim that they have experienced one of these portals.



Picture: From the Book; The Bible and the Bermuda Triangle by George Johnson & Don Tanner

What does the Bible say?

In Gen. 28: 10-12, 16-17 we read the following:

10 Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. 11 So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. 12 Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." 17 And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" - NKJV

Biblical scholars believe that Jacob's ladder was set on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, where the temple will one day be built, because the temple mount is the gateway to Heaven. The entrance to the Gate of Heaven was up in the heavens above the Temple Mount area and it is believed that there are two big portals.

Portal to Heaven

Jacob said Jerusalem is the Gate of Heaven, this is the house of God. House of God is Bethel and of course the actual house of God was built by Solomon, Solomon's Temple, was later rebuilt in the time of Christ and became known as the second temple.

Here are a few clues pointing to Jerusalem as a big portal to Heaven.

- 1.The foundation stone of creation is at the Temple Mount.
- 2.The first King and Priest Melchizedek met Abraham there.
3. It is where Abraham built the altar of Genesis 22.
4. Jacob saw the ladder with angels ascending and descending.
5. It is the area where David rebuilt an altar and the judgment was stopped when he prayed and sought God and put a sacrifice on the altar. Even Solomon said that when the Israelites go into captivity, their captivity will be turned if they pray and face the city of Jerusalem. Read:

2 Chro. 6:34,35 "34 When Your people go out to battle against their enemies, wherever You send them, and when they pray to You toward this city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name, 35 then hear from heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

In other words give them full complete direction. This is the reason why Daniel in Dan. 6:10 while he was in Babylon(that stronghold headquarters of the enemy) prayed with his window open to the east facing Israel in the direction of Jerusalem and where the temple that had been destroyed once existed. Christ had to go there to be crucified, buried and raised from the dead. He ascended to Heaven from the Mount of Olives and He will return there, where He will setup His kingdom, because it is the portal of God. You can basically say it is God's Earthly headquarters

Portal to Hell

In the Garden of Eden we know that Satan fell from heaven according to Luke 10:18. Man was placed in the Garden of Eden and there were four rivers in Eden. 1. Gihon, which according to Josephus was the Nile, 2. Pishan, 3.Tigris and 5.The Euphrates, that was a border of the East entrance of the Garden of Eden.

The Tower of Babel was also located along the Euphrates River. It was the first major small Empire, first world religion that existed and Babylon was one of the first major prophetic Empires that would affect Israel and the Jewish people in a negative way. The Babylonians, The Greeks, The Median and The Persians ruled from that area and one of the strongest Spirits the prophet Daniel ever encountered was

when he was in the city of Babylon and had been fasting for 21 days, but received no answer from God. The angel Gabriel said to him; “ from the first day you set yourself to pray, God heard your prayer, but the prince of the kingdom of Persia (Persian Empire had spirit that was over the Persian Empire which set up his headquarters



in Babylon) hindered Daniel's prayer for 21 days or for three weeks. When you look at these areas. the Babylon area of Iraq(this includes the area of Syria and Iran when you study Biblical maps) has always been an area of war, fighting and bloodshed. The spirits that have ruled those areas have been very evil. They are strong demonic spirits that have affected Jerusalem, the Jewish people negatively. The atmosphere where those supernatural portal were opened clearly still exists today when we look at those regions.

There are many Biblical events that clearly points to either the portal to Heaven or the portal to Hell when you do an in depth study of the word.

Modern Day Portals.

I recently did an article on Aliens a.k.a. demons, which you will find in the February 2023 edition of Rite Life Magazine, now renamed Testify Magazine. In this article I gave great detail about the deepest place on earth, the Abyss that is

mentioned in The Book of Revelation. We discovered that The Mariana Trench, which is in the western Pacific Ocean, is in fact the deepest place on earth. What makes this discovery even more interesting is that if you would enter the ocean by Guam, one of the largest Islands of the Mariana Islands on the trench and go straight through the middle of the Earth, you will exit by the Bermuda Triangle.

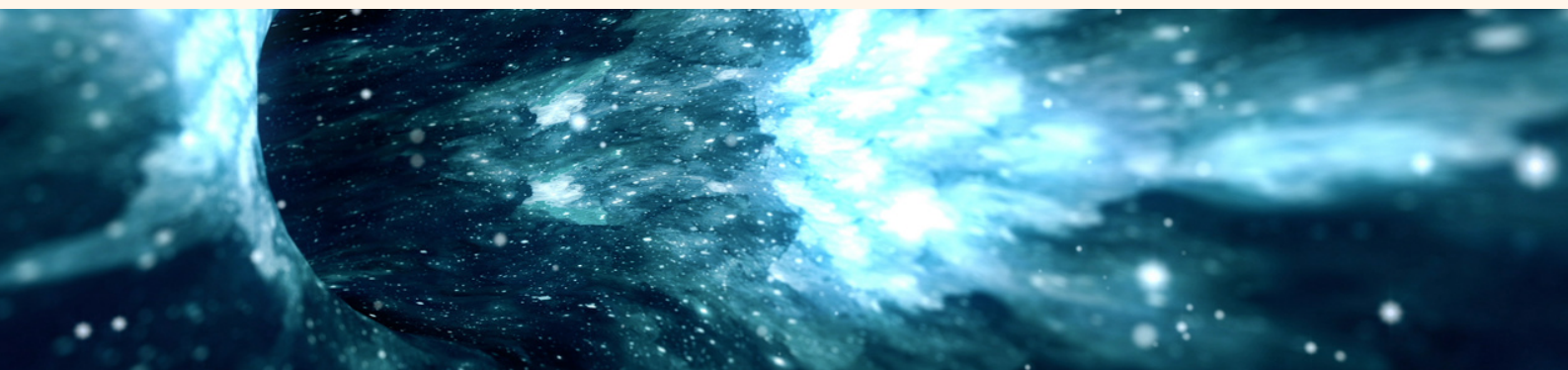
When you hear Bermuda Triangle; the first words that comes to mind are paranormal activity, disappearances, troubled waters etc. Terms like “Devil’s Triangle”, “Devil’s Sea” and “Hoodoo Sea”, have been in the conversations of mariners for years. The Puerto Rican Trench lies under the Bermuda or Devil’s Triangle at 27,500 feet and the Mariana Trench lies under the Devil’s Sea off the Island of Guam at 36,198 feet.

The gates or entrances to Sheol-Hades are under the sea. We read about this in various scripture e.g. in the book of Jona, Rev. 9:13-14, Psa. 69:14-15, Ezek. 32:18-24, Isa. 14:15 and many more. According to the mariners, pilots, locals and theologians spiritual, physical and natural disturbances at these entrances come from the spiritual warfare being waged for the souls of humanity.

Ivan Sanderson suggests that there are twelve “vortices” or electromagnetic aberrations around the world. He established a network of twelve “anomalies” at seventy-two-degree intervals. As already mentioned, two of these correspond to the Bermuda Triangle and Guam.

Gerhard Kittel says in his Theological Dictionary of the New Testament: Sheol-Hades signifies the dark(Job 10:21) “realm of the dead” which is set beneath the ocean(26:5), and which consigns all men indiscriminately (Psa.89:48) behind its portals.

Dr. Finis Dake says in reference to Job 26:5-6: The place of the departed spirits of giants and ordinary wicked men is beneath the oceans and under the earth.





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Coincidence or not? I find it very interesting that the headquarters of CERN is precisely in the middle of the Bermuda Triangle and Guam if you would fly across and had to stop in Switzerland.

I would suggest that you do your own research on CERN, and the very disturbing things that's going on there, from satanic rituals to opening demonic portals. They are presently, trying to discover inter dimensional travel using a large machine known as The Large Hadron Collider.

Conclusion.

As Christians we can now open a portal directly to Heaven through prayer, whilst in the former days only the priests could enter God's holy place on specific times and during sacrifices. God only opened the portal when it was time, but since the veil was torn when Jesus died on the cross, we can now open the portal at any given time or place.

Unfortunately, the enemy is a copy-cat like always and opens portals to the demonic realm to anyone willing and seeking, anyone or thing other than God. He misleads them by letting them think they are following the light, but they find themselves in a tunnel of despair, turmoil, confusion, and darkness. Their souls trapped for eternity if they don't wake up spiritually in time to see the enemy for whom he really is.

1 Pet. 5:8-10 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." - NKJV



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FOR THIS CAUSE

BY BISHOP O T WHITTAKER

The detachment starts when he starts feeling indifferent to everyone around him and alternatives becomes the option. He is no longer interested in being the husband to the wife or a father to the children because somewhere along the line passion is lost. Everything around him seems to be irritating him. He slowly disappears for breathing space and demands alone time. The saddest thing is that this feeling doesn't happen overnight but it is a gradual process which doesn't make it easily identifiable because he is still around.

The last time we dealt with the difficulties that men face and we used Mark 5 as a model. We addressed the possession of men and when we looked at the term possession we realized that there are various definitions to the term possession. In the context of Mark 5 the possession was a demonic one but there are various possessions e.g. substance abuse; pornography; lust; aggression; been preoccupied with certain activities things that replaces your time with God; family etc. We concluded that our definition of possession for the sake of this presentation is anything that seeks to control

man and therefore alters his behaviour. Not only was the man possessed but the spirit disconnected

him from his normal environment.

1. Man Is Detached From His Normal Environment.

In Mark 5:3 the scriptures tells us that the spirit detaches him from his home; family and even society and made him live among the tombs.

The definition of detached is "to disengage someone or something and remove it; leave or separate oneself from a group or a place." In order for this man to leave his normal environment and

support structure he had to be emotionally; mentally and spiritually detached which then made it easy for him to leave. We notice that what happens with most men before they leave their wives; children and home etc., there is a detachment that is busy taking place. The detachment starts when he starts feeling indifferent to everyone around him and alternatives becomes the option. He is no longer interested in being the husband to the wife or a father to the children because somewhere along the line passion is lost. Everything around him seems to be irritating him. He slowly disappears for breathing space and demands alone time. The saddest thing is that this feeling doesn't happen overnight but it is a gradual process which doesn't make it easily identifiable because he is still around. The day he leaves is when it was well thought of and had reached the point of having enough. We see this in the case of the prodigal son in Luke 15:13.

2. Lived Amongst The Tombs.

After the spirit detaches the man from his family and home; it then introduces him to alternatives.(Lk 15:12-13; Prov 1:10-15) At the beginning stage everything looks like just the way he wanted it to be, freedom from a lifetime

commitment from a wife and a freedom from a responsibility he has over his children. He deceptively feels that he is free to do what he wants and go where he wants. The spirit makes him feel that whilst he was with his wife and kids it deprived him from enjoying himself. Just like the prodigal son everything looked good until he lost everything. The scripture says in Mk 5:3 that the man now after enjoying his life found his habitation at the tombs. The definition of a tomb in the strictest sense is a home or house for the dead. As the spirit disconnects you from your life he connects you to his life which in actual fact is death. (Prov 14:12; Prov 2:16-18; Lk 15:14-16)

Everything that this man was now living for he slowly started losing. The sad part of this stage is that it also happens gradually and not instantaneously; so for a while it looks like that you have things under control until you lose everything and now you are under control and not in control. You now find your habitation in places that kills your dreams; resources and also your ability to live.

Conclusion.

There is a tremendous attack on men in particular, the enemy wants them to feel insignificant and as

a result cause them to abdicate their responsibilities as husbands and fathers. The enemy wants to attack them emotionally; mentally and spiritually so that they can be detached from their support structures. We need to discern those attacks and extend a hand to man.

Bishop OT Whittaker can be contacted at: michelley679@gmail.com



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WISDOM SEED

BY PASTOR OLUWATOMI OYEBANJI

Sixth Edition

Wisdom Seed

The Lord is delighted in the prosperity of the believers. God created and redeemed us to enjoy the best of His provision. Wealth and riches are part of our redemptive heritages. As part of my redemptive choice, I vote against poverty in my life and generation. I shall be wealthy, and I shall be supernaturally rich in all things in Jesus' name. Amen. Hallelujah!

Congratulations, you shall not be poor.

Wisdom Seed

In God's kingdom there are different vessels. I choose to be a vessel of honour, sanctified and deployable for God's use in my generation. Divine resourcefulness, usefulness, and high level productivity shall be my portion. My life on daily basis shall add value and advance the interest of the kingdom of God on earth in Jesus name. Amen. Hallelujah!

Congratulations, for being a vessel of honour

Wisdom Seed

Marvellous God, you are worthy of my praise. There is a melody in my heart today. I rejoice in your lovingkindness and tender mercies. Your blessings and favour in my life and family are overwhelming. Our lives and well-being are proofs of your goodness and miracle power on earth. May the sound of rejoicing and melody never cease in our lives in Jesus' name. Amen. Hallelujah!

Congratulations, your joy will know no bound.

Wisdom Seed

God is committed to children of His who delight themselves in Him and He will grant unto them the desires of their hearts. O Lord, I receive grace to always delight myself in you, in the learning and obedience of your statutes. In your word, I shall meditate day and night, and enjoy doing only the things that please you. May the meditation of my heart, the word I speak, and the way I live please you in Jesus' name. Amen. Hallelujah!

Congratulations, the Lord will grant thee all your heart desires.





IMPACT YOUTH

TESTIMONY BY

VERNADINE GOLIATH

I suffered from severe anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. I was blinded by the enemy and got involved in new age practices and abandoned my faith. But God's Grace is so abundant that even in my disobedience, He brought me back to life. One encounter with Jesus and my whole life changed. Everything changes when we fix our eyes on Jesus, I found a Father and Friend in Jesus.

My name is Vernadine Goliath, a 25-year-old young lady from Alra Park, Nigel. I am a Child of a King a servant of Christ. I am very passionate about creating, writing stories, and capturing moments. I am a gogetter if I put my mind to something no matter how hard it is I will achieve it. I'm also a first-year student, studying a Theology degree. I am also a worshipper and the Youth Leader at Rivers of Hope Ministries.

I am also a Sparkle ambassador. The Sparkle Foundation, founded by Amy Amigo is a Youth Development and Leadership program dedicated to transforming the world one girl at a time. I am also employed as

an Administrator and the Social Media Marketing manager at M & A Amigo Construction Pty Ltd, Founded by Mondaine Amigo and Amy Amigo. I thank both my mentors Amy Amigo and Mondaine Amigo for investing in me and the opportunity to work for their company. God's timing is impeccable, He will connect you to the right people at the right time I am the Founder of Goliath Media. Goliath Media is a Digital Marketing Company that helps businesses to Market their business online. I thank God for the opportunity at The Sparkle Foundation, it sparked the inner entrepreneur inside of me. I am also a product of Jesus Maak Nxa that is where my journey in Christ

started. I thank Elder Clarence and Elder Nicole Olivier for the time they invested in me. I would not be where I am today if it wasn't for them.

I suffered from severe anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. I was blinded by the enemy and got involved in new age practices and abandoned my faith. But God's Grace is so abundant that even in my disobedience, He brought me back to life. One encounter with Jesus and my whole life changed.

Everything changes when we fix our eyes on Jesus, I found a Father and Friend in Jesus. I had such an amazing support structure and I thank God for the following individuals who encouraged, prayed for me and played a huge role in my spiritual journey. Pastor Anthony Haai, Pastor Lauretta Haai, Elder Nicole Olivier, Elder Clarence Olivier, and the Jesus Maak Nxa Team. Sister Sally-Ann, Brother Shepherd Rothmans, Pastor Abigail Probert and Sister Sheila. Probert, Janeth Stevens, Nina Gibbs, Betty Jansen, Ronwin Jansen and Brother Levi. The Goliath Family,

Stevens family and the Dhladla family. I would never have made it without you guys. I love and appreciate each and everyone of

you.

This phase of my life is called “walking on water” and it requires me to trust Jesus in a way that I’ve never trusted him before. When I read the passage in Mathew 14:22-33 is speaks about trust and keeping your eyes focused on Jesus Christ. “If Peter only kept His eyes focused on Jesus”. The minute we take our eyes off Jesus, we lose sight of who He really is. It is very important, and I am speaking specifically to young people to know your identity in Christ. I am grateful for mentors Elder Amy Amigo and Mondaine Amigo.

I thank Jesus Christ, my Spiritual Parents Bishop Oral Theo Whittaker, Apostle Krystle Whittaker, and River of Hope Ministries Leadership for trusting myself and Ps Orietta Whittaker with the youth ministry. Impact Youth is a youth ministry that is there to empower young people in every area of their lives. Our mission as leaders is to ensure that young people are equipped to enter the corridors of power. We live in a time where consumerism is the new norm and young people are much more skeptical about the message of Jesus Christ. Our aim is not to give young people a fashionable Jesus, but to help them become grounded in the word. Also, to give them solid teachings. I thank Ps Orietta

Whittaker for mentoring and counselling me. I absolutely enjoy serving with her in the youth ministry. **WE ARE IMPACT YOUTH AND WE ARE READY TO MAKE AN IMPACT!!**

The world doesn't have anything to offer you, all it does is just takes away from you. Give your life to Christ that is the best thing you can do for yourself. Having Jesus in your life means that you are able to withstand the storms and trials of life, it means that you have peace in the midst of a storm. Jesus is always willing to save you, all that you have to do is call on him. If Jesus could deliver me from depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts he can certainly do it for you too. It so important to have a support structure especially Godly people that will steer you in the right direction and someone to hold you accountable. It's so important for young people to belong to a local church, as young people we need guidance and direction. As a leader at Impact Youth, we need to empower young people and see them integrate to the overall program of the church. We also want them to become grounded in the word of God. We don't only want to profess holiness, but it should be a lifestyle. I hope that when you read this article, it stirs up

a desire inside of you to want to pursue a relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.





TEEN WITNESS

BY NICOLENE DEKKER

FOR OUR TEENAGERS

We can't always choose the things which happen or happened to us in life. There are often things we must consider and identify and hand over to God to help us become all that He wants us to be. It is only through Him and in Him by His grace that we can overcome and become all that He destined us to be.

KICK THE DOUBT AND POLISH THAT SHIELD!

PROVERBS 23:7 in the Passion Translation states the following...
"For as he thinks within himself, so is he." James 4:8 "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded. My friend Clayton Gabriels (Bible teacher/pastor and founder of Abiding Word Teaching Ministry and Presenter of the program called Table Talk on the Leading internet radio station in Capetown, Radio Eersterivier) said the following
"Doubt in the heart brings about double mindedness which ultimately results in instability in ALL things.

The way we should look for answers and solutions to situations in our lives is by asking ourselves what God says about it. Does the word of God not say that the word is a lamp to our feet... guiding us in the right direction? So, can we then say that without the word we are in darkness... not knowing where we're going. So, in essence we are dependent on the word to lead us to our end destinations. God is light and in Him there is no darkness... God and His word are one... His words are the light which will give us life if we BELIEVE it. Sometimes there are certain things that happen to us which make all this sound much easier than it is. Let's face it... our paths aren't always straight. We



The way we should look for answers and solutions to situations in our lives is by asking ourselves what God says about it. Does the word of God not say that the word is a lamp to our feet... guiding us in the right direction? So, can we then say that without the word we are in darkness... not knowing where we're going. So, in essence we are dependent on the word to lead us to our end destinations. God is light and in Him there is no darkness... God and His word are one... His words are the light which will give us life if we BELIEVE it. Sometimes there are certain things that happen to us which make all this sound much easier than it is. Let's face it... our paths aren't always straight. We can't always choose the things which happen or happened to us in life. There are often things we must consider and identify and hand over to God to help us become all that He wants us to be. It is only through Him and in Him by His grace that we can overcome and become all that He destined us to be. Our whole life is a beautiful journey of surrendering and yielding... growing and learning. We will make mistakes as we are not perfect as Jesus was, but God knew that and that is why He made sure that there is something like grace and mercy in place to catch us when we fall. Faith is a treasure, it truly is our shield and if we take it up and use it, it will help us to overcome and also become. Therefore, I would urge you to believe the word of God and treasure that shield of yours. A shield according to google are used to intercept specific attacks, whether from closed range weaponry or projectiles such as arrows, by means of active blocks, as well as to provide passive protection by closing one or more lines of engagement during combat. In the Bible the shield generally represents the protection of God. We all face various trials BUT our faith is the tool that will safeguard us during those trials combatting us into victory. Our faith is symbolic of a shield... it will protect and guard us during battle. So, when doubt creeps in our faith (shield) is that which will protect us. It will protect us against fear and anxiety because we can stand firm in knowing that if God spoke it in His word, so it shall be. He will heal, He will deliver, He will provide, He will protect, He will preserve... and the list goes on and on and on. Our shield is a very important part of our armor. The word of God says that without it, we can not please God. So, DO NOT ALLOW ANYONE OR

ANYTHING TO STEAL YOUR FAITH. Close your ears to negative voices, even your own. Listen to yourself and correct your wrong way of thinking so that your thinking comes in line with the word of God. It's not something that will automatically happen... we must consciously choose to do that in order to live a victorious life in Christ. If you're a young believer and your faith is not yet so strong... do not give up. Use the various trials and objects which is on your path to exercise your faith AND DO NOT GET WEARY IF YOU FAIL AT TIMES. We are all still a work in progress... JUST KEEP GOING! Pray to God and ask Him to increase your faith or to give you the gift of faith. (For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: It is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.) So, in essence... We should BELIEVE whatever God said in His word and use our shield of faith to combat all doubt because faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen. (Hebrews 11:1)

Choose FAITH over FEAR. Remember that faith is not a feeling, it's a choice to TRUST and BELIEVE God even when the road ahead seems uncertain.

F A I T H

(F) Forwarding

(A) All

(I) Issues

(T) To

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**Nicci Dekker can be
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We appeal to you for your assistance and financial support especially in our efforts to implement and roll-out various prison and schools programmes and interventions – one of which is our PEDI Programme for children in school. This programme is aimed at helping children cope with '**Adverse Childhood Experiences**' and by empowering them with sound teachings on the importance of having fundamental moral values and principles in life to be respectable, law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your sincere consideration.

In God's service,
Pastor Michael Gobel

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EMBRACED BY GRACE

BY NINA KEEGAN

We are in a war against life itself!

The real war behind every single one of these is a spiritual war. And it must be fought by the spirit of God. Our nation our world is under a spiritual attack of the hugest degree..The truth is that Jesus Christ already won all of these wars, Jesus fought and won every battle with his blood shed for us all on the cross... because of this truth, they are wars we must stand valiantly in and and declare God's truth with great faith and boldness to then see His abundant victory... It's time for the body of Christ, here on earth, in this present time, to be ready, be in our armor and be serving, standing, speaking, declaring God's word, Gods truth!

We are in a spiritual battle!

We are at the point that our world right now of great decay, anarchy and division ..morals, values, marriages, families, freedoms constitutionally are being torn to shreds by a spirit of antichrist... this demonic spirit that comes only to steal, kill, and destroy, is wreaking havoc and sowing chaos and division ...If you are not with Christ, then you are against Christ ... Those are the two sides we face right now.. that is the great divide! At the end of the day, this is what

it all boils down to ...It is very apparent that this is spiritual warfare at the highest level.

If you don't think we are in a war, you may be being deceived! We are in a war for our children, against unfathomable perversion, we are in a war of words, hate, greed, a war against a delusional ideology, a war against pedophilia, a war of what is truly right versus truly wrong, we are in a war against confusion, delusional mindsets perpetually, stealing our peace... we are in a war against our food, our

health and financial systems..we are at war against crimes on humanity ... there are so many evils compounding, splitting, tearing apart our moral fabric we are in a war of fear and panic and that causes us to shrink back, and do nothing in the face of adversity...

We are in a war against life itself!

The real war behind every single one of these is a spiritual war. And it must be fought by the spirit of God. Our nation our world is under a spiritual attack of the hugest degree..The truth is that Jesus Christ already won all of these wars, Jesus fought and won every battle with his blood shed for us all on the cross... because of this truth, they are wars we must stand valiantly in and and declare God's truth with great faith and boldness to then see His abundant victory... It's time for the body of Christ, here on earth, in this present time, to be ready, be in our armor and be serving, standing, speaking, declaring God's word, Gods truth! The old church style hasn't been and isn't going to do it now! Our complacency is part of the problem.. the devil truly has come in like a thief in the night, the Bible warned us but we were not paying attention... Come out of religion and get into the war! Take your God-given authority... Know who you are, and what you have available to you

through the powerful blood of Jesus Christ! When you've done all you know to do stand! ... Trust God, declare His word incessantly .., command these evil schemes be thwarted, persevere, never give up and never lose hope! Encourage yourself in the Lord, for the joy of the Lord is our strength ..God's word says overwhelming victory is HIS in Christ Jesus... We will stand firm in our faith, declaring that we will never be entangled in the strong hold of bondage again... for whom the Son sets free is free indeed!!!

Pray for this nation, pray for the world!

Let's not get into an agreement with the devil and his plans and schemes. Let's stop rehearsing all the things that he is doing and let's start overcoming these things with what God says about it in His word... There is nothing new under the sun... God wins every time!

1John 4:3

And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh, is not of God; and such is the spirit of Antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come, and even now already it is in the world.

In Galatians 5:1-15, the apostle Paul

discusses the nature of Christian freedom, beginning with an admonition to “stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage” (Galatians 5:1, NKJV). Paul contends that Jesus Christ came to set believers free from a burdensome, legalistic existence as slaves to the law. Therefore, Christians must ensure that they stay free and not get bound up again under a yoke of bondage to the law.

Paul references the good fight again in 2 Timothy 4:7 where he says, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” Fighting the good fight of the faith is also about perseverance and continuing, even when the road is hard.

Romans 8:37

No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love.

Isaiah 5:20 ESV

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

2 Timothy 3:1-5 ESV

But understand this, that in the last

days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

2 Timothy 4:3 ESV

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,



Nina Keegan

Cohost of GRACE GRACE with Nina and Michelle

Author 100 Days With God I and II

Social Media Director Nina Keegan Ministries

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CAVED IN A DARK WORLD

BY BROWLIN STROEBEL

God is in control

Miracles happen for the believers, cry now and release your tears know that it doesn't fall onto the ground it falls into the palms of God's hand. You may be closing in on your death bed or so you think don't have so little faith, because your life was already set out to be spontaneous know that God is in control, for he has plans to make miracles in your life. It may seem like cancer is getting the best of you now, you feel pain and weak inside, little do you know that the roots has changed the cancer that grew has now vanished from your body never to return the pain you feel now will be the testimony for years to come, open up your eyes and clear your mind know that you are conqueror to life and every obstacle before you. Just a shame that you'll turn back to the life you once knew because it was the life you once lived and can't seem to find the strength and courage to turn away from it the disadvantage of being young, we tend to make foolish decisions.

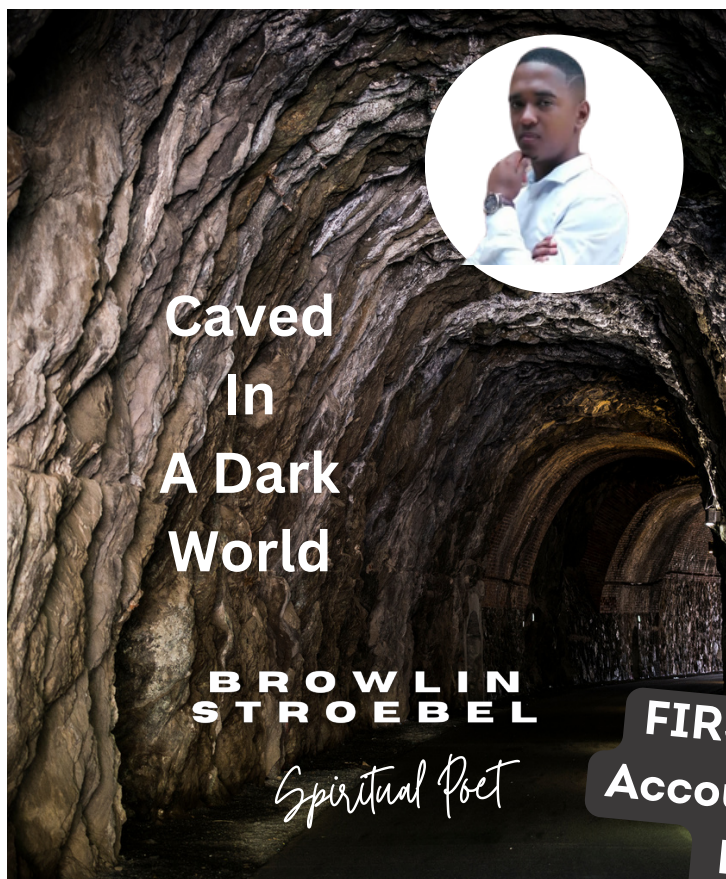


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MISSION WITH A VISION

BY PASTOR WAYNE DEVOS

SOUL CARE WORLD MISSION





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THE FUNNY SIDE OF LIFE

YOUR ALLOWED TO LAUGH

Thanks for Sending a Professional—Most unlikely person

As I was gathering my sermon, I couldn't help thinking about a story of a little girl who was home alone and ill. She called her mother at work and told her, "Momma, I need you and I need you really bad." This mother asked to get off work and frantically rushed down to the corner drug store to bring home some medicine. She notices it was beginning to rain, but she thought she would just "run in and out" to get the medicine for her sick little girl. When she came back to her car, she noticed something quite different. You guessed it...she had locked her keys in the car. She ran inside to get help from the employees but none of them seemed to know what to do and finally gave her a clothes hanger and said, "good luck!" She ran back to her car, frantically trying to get the door open. The more she tried, the harder it rained and suddenly, it came down what we call, "an old fashion gully-washer". Out of desperation, she cried out "Lord, I need your help and I need you right now!" Suddenly, an old pickup pulled right next to her. She looked up and saw this man approaching



her. He was dirty, had a dew rag on top of his head with scars and tattoos all over his body, one in which you wouldn't want to come across, especially alone. Without thinking she embraced this man and said, "Sir, could you possibly help me. My daughter is sick at home, and I have to get this medicine to her as soon as possible and I have locked my keys in the car." Within a minute or two, this man successfully unlocked her car. Out of joy, she grabbed this man, giving him a huge hug, and said, "you're such a nice man." The man pushed her away and said, "no, ma'am, I am not! You see, I have just escaped from prison, and I steal cars for a living!" Without any hesitation, this woman looked up toward heaven and said, "Thanks, God, for sending a professional!!!"

www.pastoralcareinc.com

The image shows a bright green background with colorful foam letters. The letters are arranged in two rows. The top row spells out 'IT'S' with a red 'I', a blue 'T', a small green apostrophe, and a green 'S'. The bottom row spells out 'A JOKE' with a blue 'A', an orange 'J', a blue 'O', an orange 'K', and a green 'E'. The letters are 3D and have a soft, fuzzy texture.



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GO BIG PUBLICATIONS GOOD NEWS GOSPEL PACKAGES

18And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen." Matthew 28 vs 18-20 NKJV

I ever so often get enquiries about publications that can be used for witnessing, evangelism or various ministries such as prison ministry, street ministry or even ministries to youth.

I then go thinking and prayed about it and got to the point of producing a package publication called "The Good News Gospel Package." The package consists out of the book of John, witnessing pointers and a notebook.

Then in the early hours of one morning the Holy Spirit gave me the outline and layout of the package to consist out of one booklet with a tear out section in the middle of the

booklet and it must be called "The Holy Ghost Converter."

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"Testimonies come in all shapes and sizes. From salvation to small breakthroughs. All of them matter and all of them are powerful to show God's love, grace, and faithfulness.

I have always loved what my pastor would say about testimonies...

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DR. FRANK BENADE Counselling Psychologist

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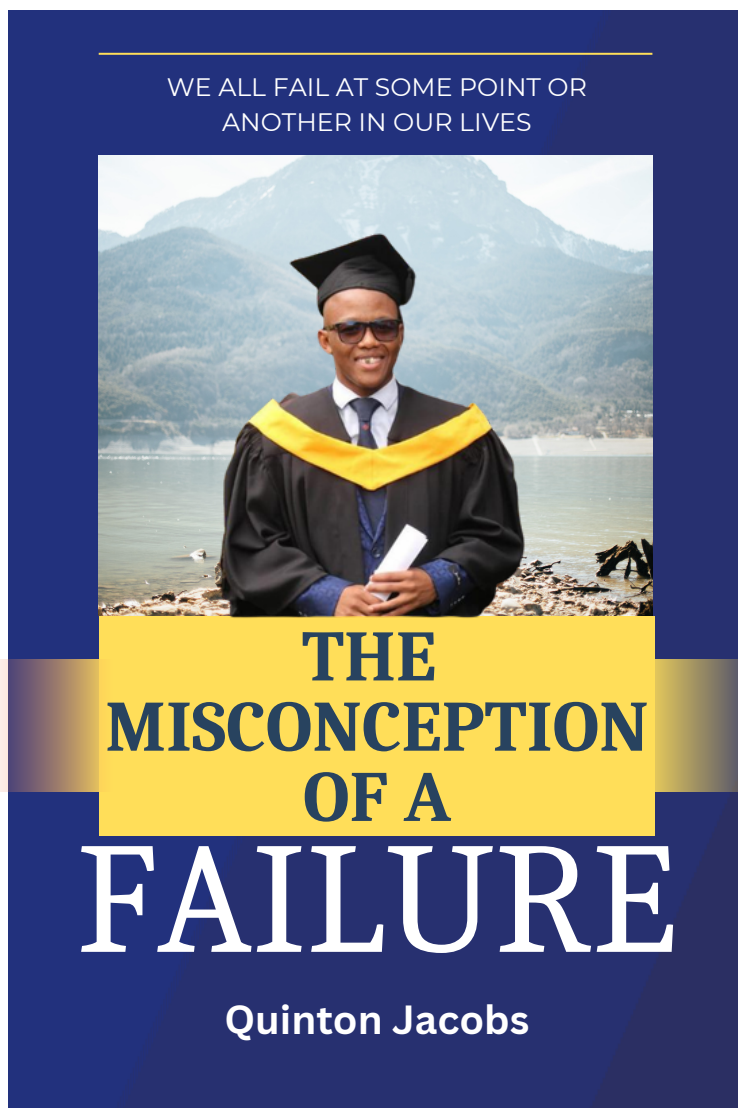
ABOUT ME

I have been diagnosed with and survived cancer. I have a unique viewpoint on cancer and all trauma-related matters. I have both the theoretical knowledge of a PhD and have lived through the effects of trauma. This allows me a level of empathy that all counsellors strive to achieve. I have a passion for counselling. As part of my trauma counselling services, I supply counselling for all dreaded disease diagnoses and related mental challenges and emotional healing. I have a special affinity for cancer diagnosis trauma counselling and assisting the patient with all cancer-related services such as dietary assistance and wigs.



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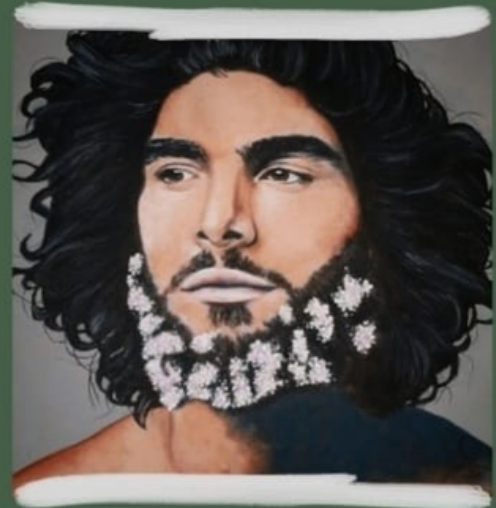


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