

**A Modern Day Witness
to
Jesus Christ**

by
Lynn D. Spencer

© 2006 Designing Futures, LLC
All Rights Reserved

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical - including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system - without permission in writing from the author and/or Designing Futures, LLC. Please direct all inquiries to: info@designingfutures.net

Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved.

Contents

A Modern Day Witness to Jesus Christ

Chapter One	Jesus Appears to Me	7
Chapter Two	His Messages for the World	27
Chapter Three	A Call to Repentance	41
Chapter Four	Powerful Communication	49
Chapter Five	Giving	52
Chapter Six	Becoming Debt Free God's Way	57
Chapter Seven	Prepare for His Return	64
Chapter Eight	A Call to Action	72

Preface:

As I write this book, it is with extreme reverence, humility, and trepidation. I have to be completely honest and tell you that I struggled extensively over whether or not to share the experiences I'm about to share with you and the rest of the world. I have wrestled internally with this book, and how to handle it, more than I have wrestled with anything else in my entire life.

Because we live in such a cynical, critical, and doubting world, I knew that if I wrote this book and began sharing it with others I would be opening myself and my family up to the possibility of criticism, judgment, and even persecution. Had it not have been for the incredible love, help, encouragement, and constant support from my beautiful wife Carmen, this book would not have become reality. Thank you my love. You are an amazing example to me and a true blessing from God.

When I first started experiencing the things I am going to share with you, my instinct was to keep them very secret and private. Because I did not understand or know what they meant or what was to come next, I was even somewhat frightened by many of my experiences. One of my greatest fears was that I would be harshly labeled by society. Liar, freak, crazy, weirdo, lunatic, fanatic, doomsday prophet, and many other harsh labels came to my mind. I feared that people would feel I was making things up, or even worse, using God and Jesus Christ for my own personal gain. My internal struggle has been enormous.

I have never prayed harder in my life. I have never sought God and Jesus Christ for answers more fervently in my life. And the answers have come, just as He promised.

As you read and share the experiences I'm about to reveal to you and to the world, it is my sincere and humble prayer that you will open your heart, mind, and spirit to Jesus Christ. For it is through Him that all answers are revealed.

Chapter One

Jesus Appears to Me

During the summer, in the month of August 2005, on a Thursday morning at approximately 8:20 I was leaving for work, just like any other weekday. Only this morning something different would happen that would change the course of my life forever.

As I left my home and the subdivision we live in, I had only gone about a quarter of a mile down the highway when I saw something that I simply cannot deny. I saw Jesus walking down the side of the road towards me. At first I thought it was a man dressed up as Jesus. Naturally curious, I slowed down to get a better look as I passed by Him.

He was dressed in a long white robe, as you may imagine or picture Him, with a bright red (cloth) shield on His chest. As I watched Him for about a quarter of a mile, and drove past Him, there were some things that instantly jumped out at me.

He was walking with a staff in His left hand, a staff which looked incredibly genuine and looked as if it was from ancient times. He wore sandals on His feet. His beautiful white robe was literally grazing the top of the dirt along side the road as He walked, and yet there was not a speck of dirt or dust on His robe. His hair, beard, and mustache were perfectly groomed. There was not a single blemish on His skin.

He did not look at me or make eye contact as I passed, which actually allowed me to literally stare at Him as much as I could in a passing car. I immediately called my wife at our home and asked her to look out our back window that borders the road. He was walking in the direction of our house, so she could have

easily seen Him. I did not tell her immediately what I saw but only asked if she could see anything out back.

As my wife convinced me that she could not see anyone walking down the road, and repeatedly questioned what she was supposed to be seeing, I instantly began to realize that this was no ordinary occurrence. I also began to realize some other things my mind had caught in the experience.

For example, I realized that there were three cars behind me that morning, yet none of them had slowed down. When I slowed down, they all gained ground and caught up to me. I realized that as I had glanced into the rear view mirror, none of the drivers behind me were looking at Him. They were all focused on the road. I also specifically remembered glancing at the driver in an oncoming truck to see if he noticed and looked at Jesus walking down the side of the road. He didn't, but rather kept his eyes on the road and the coming traffic.

A big part of me wanted to turn around and go back, yet a bigger part of me was full of fear. The whole experience caught me so "off guard" that I literally didn't know what to think or do. As you may imagine, my mind was swirling with thoughts, questions, and emotions. Had I just seen Jesus Christ? Or was it merely a man dressed as Jesus?

As I finished my commute to work that morning, the one thing that kept going through my head over and over was, "Jesus is walking towards me; all I have to do is come part way and He will meet me."

At that time, even though my wife and I were pretty good about going to church each Sunday, my life was no where near what it needed to be. My wife had been actively reading the Bible and seeking God's word, but up to that point in my life I considered the Bible to be rather boring and had never been

interested in reading it. We considered ourselves Christians, but I was certainly not focused on Christianity.

I don't know whether it was my own guilt of knowing that I was certainly not worthy to meet and talk with our Savior, or the fear I was feeling, (not knowing what would happen if I did go back) that kept me from turning around that morning. Think about it...what would you do if Jesus suddenly appeared to you? Honestly, how many of us are ready to face Jesus at any given moment, without warning?

At the urging of my wife we had enrolled in, and were attending, a small group Bible study from our church held on Thursday evenings. I had already missed one of the meetings because of having to work late, and if the truth were known, my heart was not really in it. I was mostly doing it for her, as I could see that it was important to her. I did enjoy it when I went, but not near to the degree or level my wife did. In other words, I could take it or leave it. I didn't place it high on my priority list.

This particular evening at our small group Bible study class, I mentioned to the rest of the group my experience from that morning. Still not knowing or understanding what had really happened or what I had truly seen, I almost threw it out just to see their reaction. I was met with stares and questions, most of which I could not answer. I still wondered if it was truly Jesus who had appeared to me, or just a sighting of a man dressed as Jesus. It was almost as if I was hoping someone in our small group would have some answers for me.

Despite some of the things I had noticed about the experience, such as His robe brushing the ground without picking up a speck of dirt, or the authenticity of the robe and staff, or His perfect grooming, I still questioned and wondered in my mind. And I wondered about that bright red cloth shield He wore on

His chest. What did it all mean?

I remembered a dream I had not too many weeks before, in which my father, who is deceased, appeared to me and told me in the dream that I should visit many churches. I wondered if the experiences were somehow connected, or what they meant.

I have not remained a member of the church I was raised in, nor have I remained loyal to that faith and belief. Instead, over the years, I had developed my own personal relationship with God and Jesus Christ, albeit weak when compared to my current convictions. As I said, I considered myself Christian, but was certainly no shining example of Christianity.

In the days and weeks following the sighting, I began to pray earnestly for answers. In the month of September 2005, my wife's former father-in-law passed away. She was very close to him and wanted to attend the funeral in his honor. So we made the trip to southern California to attend the funeral and related services.

Keep in mind that this was a funeral for my wife's former father-in-law, which meant that all of her "ex" husband's family would be in attendance. Although she was completely comfortable with the whole thing, I was feeling rather odd and out of place. My wife and I had talked about this beforehand, so even though I knew it would be awkward for me, I respected and loved her enough to get past my own personal feelings and attend with her.

The funeral and other related services such as the viewing, etc. were all done according to the Catholic Church and faith. My wife was raised Catholic, but I was not, so I was completely unfamiliar with their practices. I really had no idea what to expect.

During the funeral, the youngest son of the deceased spoke to the congregation, and shared an experience that I immediately knew God had intended me to hear. He said that in the days before his dad had passed away, he had asked his father to send him a sign from the other side, to let the family know he was ok and was in God's hands.

He then shared with all of us the story of how his father's rosary, which he had for over fifty years, had changed from the night before. The rosary was made up of beads with a silver necklace style chain. The family had the rosary placed in their father's hands for the Rosary service held the night before. In the evening, after the viewing and Rosary service, the family went to remove the rosary from their father's hands. It was at that time, they noticed some of the links were changing color.

Now, instead of a solid silver chain, there were specific sections of the chain that had turned to gold. He explained that the rosary is used in the Catholic faith, and some of the prayers recited are the "Our Father" and "Hail Mary." He went on to explain that the sections of the rosary that had turned to gold were the sections between the "Our Father" and the "Hail Mary."

Was it a miracle? Was it a sign from our Lord to let the family know their husband and father was with God?

As the funeral ended and the casket was loaded into the hearse to proceed to the cemetery, the son that had shared this story with the congregation, allowed anyone who wanted the opportunity of holding and looking at his father's rosary to do so. Of course my wife and I wanted a closer look.

As we examined it closely, I knew I was holding a miracle in my hands. I knew God was speaking to all of us. The links that had miraculously changed from silver to gold were not the

kind of shiny gold you'd find in a jewelry store, but were real gold; pure gold from God's earth. There was no doubt in my mind that we had all just shared a true modern day miracle.

I humbly thanked God for allowing me to get past my uncomfortable feelings of attending the funeral with my wife. I thanked God and Jesus Christ sincerely for allowing me to see and share in that miracle. There was no denying God's handiwork.

A few weeks after we had returned to our home in Utah, one morning I awoke early before the sun was up and had the feeling that I should get up and pray quietly and humbly for guidance and answers. I still had the memory of seeing Jesus walking down the road towards me, and the memory of holding the rosary in my hand. I still had more questions than answers.

So I got up, went to my living room so as not to disturb my wife, knelt down at our couch, and prayed for answers, guidance, and direction. I told God in that prayer, that I would devote the rest of my life to serving Him and would literally give up all control over my life. As I prayed, I told God and Jesus Christ I would serve Him in whatever manner He wanted me to serve, if He would please guide, direct, and show me His will for my life.

Upon finishing the prayer I felt that I should open the Bible and read. This was something that I was absolutely unaccustomed to doing. I did not make a practice or habit of reading scripture. The notion was rather foreign to me.

Nevertheless, I went back to our bedroom, located my wife's Bible on her night stand, took it and went back to the living room to read. I had no idea where to start, so I just closed my eyes and asked God to direct me to what He wanted me to see.

With my eyes closed, I opened the Bible to a random place and began reading. I instantly recognized what Jesus was trying to tell me and show me. I knew with absolute conviction that Jesus was speaking directly to me, just as if I heard His voice in my ears.

It was several passages of scripture that literally described where I had been so far in my life's journey. It literally described my life and the way I had lived my past. He then showed me passages that detailed where I was going with the rest of my life. It was so obvious that again I became scared, and wondered what was going on. Was it just coincidence? Had He really led me to those specific scriptures and passages?

The next morning, despite my fear and reservations, I decided to try it again. I prayed sincerely, humbly, and fervently for answers and guidance. I prayed that He would let me know whether this was Him speaking directly to me or just my imagination. I prayed for knowledge and understanding of the things I had witnessed and seen. I needed to know...had I really seen our Savior on the side of the road that day? Or was it just a man dressed as Jesus? I prayed for discernment and absolute answers.

Once again I placed my hands on the Bible with my eyes closed and opened it. As I opened my eyes, I was instantly drawn to this passage, *"Now, son of man, I am making you a watchman for the people of Israel" Therefore listen to what I say and warn them for me.*" Ezekiel 33:7 It literally jumped off the page at me. Being more curious than ever, I read the passages before and after the one my eyes had been drawn to.

"When the watchman sees the enemy coming, he sounds the alarm to warn the people. Then if those who hear the alarm refuse to take action, it is their own fault if they die. They heard the alarm but ignored it, so the responsibility is theirs. If they

had listened to the warning, they could have saved their lives. But if the watchman sees the enemy coming and doesn't sound the alarm to warn people, he is responsible for their captivity. They will die in their sins, but I will hold the watchman responsible for their deaths.” Ezekiel 33:3-6

I knew in my spirit and soul that Jesus was calling me to warn people that they need to seek Him and change their ways, but how? What does being a watchman for the house of Israel mean?

“If I announce that some wicked people are sure to die and you fail to tell them to change their ways, then they will die in their sins, and I will hold you responsible for their deaths. But if you warn them to repent and they don't repent, they will die in their sins, but you will have saved yourself.” Ezekiel 33:8-9

This was God talking to Ezekiel in biblical times. Was He trying to tell me He was calling me to be a watchman also? Was he speaking directly to me? Or was this just my own mind and imagination playing more tricks on me?

Even though something inside of me knew that Jesus was calling me to serve Him by warning others, I still had more questions than answers. I knew in my heart and spirit that the passages I had been directed to were a direct message to me from the Lord. But the passages are very powerful, and even though they are just as applicable to our lives today as they were in biblical times, the magnitude of that responsibility scared me. In fact it scared me so bad, I closed the Bible and almost wanted to pretend I hadn't seen or read the words.

At that point in time we were scheduled to head back to southern California to attend a baby shower for our son and his wife. Before we left I was sitting down to write out checks and pay our bills. According to my calculations, money was going

to be tight and I was not quite sure how we were going to be able to afford this trip to California.

We had been paying our tithes and offerings and knew God would provide, but I couldn't see how we could do it. Before I began to pay the bills, I said a prayer asking for God's guidance and help. As I was paying our bills, I heard the voice of our Lord speak to me in my head, and tell me I was not paying the bills the way I should be. He told me to pay them in a different manner.

My initial reaction and instinct was "no, I can't do that, it just doesn't work out financially that way." I heard His voice say to me, "You don't have any faith in me, do you?"

I instantly felt horrible, and felt as if I had just told the Lord to His face that I doubted what He was telling me. I have never felt such a swift, powerful, and painful reprimand in my life. It was like my very soul had been pierced with those words. And yet, even as I was being disciplined, I simultaneously felt an enormous love and kindness that I had not experienced before. I believe this was my first lesson in obedience.

Needless to say, I voided the check I was writing and re-paid the bills according to how He told me to pay them. Upon finishing, I re-calculated where we were financially. To my surprise, simply by paying our bills God's way and ignoring what I thought was best, we had just saved over \$350 in interest and now had the money we needed to make our trip to California.

That got my attention in a big way! A miracle, you ask? Not a doubt in my mind.

God knows how my mind works, and chose to show me, mathematically and financially, that when we listen to Him and

do things His way, it is always better than if we do things our own way.

But that was not where the story ended. As it turned out, that was just the beginning of a weekend I will never forget.

Not being a fan of flying commercially, we always choose to drive to California for family events. The normal and best route is simply straight down I-15, which is the route we always drive to California. As we pulled out of our driveway that morning, and drove through our subdivision towards the main street leading to the freeway, I felt a strong feeling that I should turn left instead of right. This time, on the heels of my very strong lesson of having faith, I didn't question, I just turned left as I was prompted.

My wife had wanted to go the normal route to pick up a book for the trip. She immediately asked me what I was doing. When I told her that I was simply listening to a strong prompting I had, she agreed that we should listen to the Holy Spirit.

We knew the road we were on would connect with I-15 further south, so we knew we'd be ok. As we came to the fork in the road where we had to turn left again to get to the freeway, I felt a strong prompting to turn right instead. "But I have never been on that road. I have no idea where it leads or where it goes" I silently thought.

I knew somewhere in the back of my mind that I could still reach our destination that way, but it was still completely unfamiliar territory.

We had never traveled that way before. Not only that, I knew it would take a lot longer to make the trip by going that way. When you're already faced with a ten hour trip in the car, the

thought of turning it into even a longer trip was not a pleasant thought.

So once again, I questioned the prompting. I pulled over to the side of the road to discuss it with my wife. As my wife and I talked it over, she suggested that I turn left and go just far enough towards the freeway to pick up a map, and at least see where we would be going if we listened to the prompting. I agreed, and as I entered the intersection to turn left to seek a map, I once again heard the Lord's voice saying, "You don't have any faith in me, do you?"

Without hesitation, I instantly turned the wheel hard right, and made the right turn I had been prompted to make. We had no map, and didn't know why or where we were headed, but we knew we had to listen to His voice. I knew He was speaking to me and I did not want to disobey!

Only a few miles down the road, we came across a small town that we didn't even know existed. We stopped at the only service station in town and picked up a map of Utah and Nevada so we could see where these back roads would take us. Once we determined where we were headed and where the towns were that we could re-fuel as necessary, we got back in the car to continue the trip. It was obvious that this was the long way to get to California, but we knew that there was a reason God wanted us to go that way.

We had only gone about ten more miles down the road when I once again heard the Lord's voice in my head. He said, "The journey I have called you to take will take you into many unknown and unfamiliar places, but fear not, I am with you."

I had an incredible sense of peace overtake me and fill my spirit. I knew instantly that this was another lesson I needed to learn. This was a test of faith and a lesson in listening to the

Holy Spirit. As I shared this with my wife, we both cried tears of love, joy, and appreciation for our Savior. We knew we were being guided.

As we relaxed and began enjoying the new route and scenery, I noticed three high thin cloud streams in the air above us. They were like three giant crescent jet streams that had equal distance between them. They curved from directly overhead over the mountains and as far as the eye could see in the direction of southern California. As I looked at them I realized and recognized that these three clouds represented, “The Father”, “The Son”, and “The Holy Spirit.” We were not only being directed, we were being watched over and protected. It was a peace I have never experienced before.

The clouds above stayed with us the entire day, never changing, and never altering their course. As the day turned into evening, and the skies became dark, I could no longer see the clouds but I knew we had been guided by the Lord.

The journey was longer than usual and by time we reached Las Vegas we were both very tired. However I just didn’t feel right about stopping or trying to get a room in “sin city”. After stopping to re-fuel and getting back on the road I asked the Lord in prayer, “Do you want us to stop for the night Lord?” I instantly felt more tired than I had been, almost as if I needed to take the very next exit.

I then silently prayed, “But Lord, I don’t feel right about staying the night in a city that proudly proclaims itself “sin city”, and would prefer to stop somewhere else for the night. We want to do things your way Lord, but we want to honor you as well.”

No sooner had I prayed those words than I felt completely awake and refreshed; undeniably alive and full of sufficient energy to continue down the road. I was no longer even

remotely tired.

As we headed out of Nevada and got about ten miles inside the California border we noticed a car at the side of the road with the flashers on. I slowed down and as we passed I noticed that it was a young girl attempting to change a flat tire.

I immediately pulled over and stopped, and walked back to survey the situation and see if I could help out. She was a beautiful young girl named Nicole, who lived in Las Vegas and was on her way to Lancaster, California. She had been on the side of the road for at least ten to fifteen minutes, with many cars passing by, yet no one had stopped to help her.

She only had one of those very small doughnut type spare tires with her, so after helping her get the tire changed, I asked her if she wanted us to make any phone calls for her, or help her out in any other way. She thanked us and said, “No, I’ll be ok, this will get me to Lancaster.”

As we got back on the road, even though we were ahead of her, I drove slow enough to keep her in my rear view mirror. After a few miles I told my wife, “Well, she should be ok now.” And I started to speed up, feeling as though I had done all I could do to help.

Almost at the same time I began to speed up, the “check engine” light came on in our own car. I knew enough about cars to know that the check engine light did not mean it was an emergency, but rather that we needed to have our engine checked as soon as we could. I commented to my wife how ironic the timing of the “check engine” light was, and again slowed down to keep Nicole in my rear view mirror.

As we drove along my wife and I discussed how it may not be wise for Nicole to go all the way to Lancaster on that

undersized spare tire, and that she should really get it fixed as soon as she could. We didn't have any direct communication with her, but kept her in our sights as we drove towards the next town which is Baker. As we neared Baker, we took the first exit, hoping she would follow us. She did.

As we pulled over to the side of the road, she pulled over behind us. I got out and went back to suggest to her that she get the tire fixed before continuing. Again she stated, "No, I'll be ok, I'll just take it slow to Lancaster." She thanked us for going slow to make sure she was ok.

I went to the rear of her car and as I reached down to touch the tire I realized that it was super hot and was building up enormous heat. I had Nicole touch it as well, and once again suggested that she have the tire fixed locally before continuing.

I was prepared to pay for her tire repair if necessary to keep her safe. She called her boyfriend, and he had said he would come to Baker to help her. She agreed to stay in Baker, and not go any further down the road until he got there. She politely thanked us again for our help, and assured us she would be ok and that we could continue on our trip.

As my wife and I got back on the road that night, we realized that the course of the day, taking the long way instead of the normal freeway, had put us exactly where we needed to be at the time we needed to be there to help Nicole. We prayed and thanked the Lord for giving us the opportunity of helping her. We made it all the way to Victorville that night before stopping at a motel.

I have to tell you...I have stayed in a lot of motels/hotels in my life and normally don't sleep that well away from home. But that night, I slept deeper and woke up more refreshed the next morning than I have experienced in a long time. When I

awoke, I once again prayed and asked the Lord if He had any message for me. With my eyes closed, I opened my Bible to a passage that says, “The Lord controls the clouds.”

As we got back in our car to complete the trip to our destination, I noticed that the “check engine” light was no longer on. We had not taken it to a mechanic, but the light was off.

Coincidence you say? No. During the last five years we have made the journey from Utah to California dozens of times. Yet we learned more on this particular trip than we have ever learned before. There was nothing coincidental about it. It was a journey with our Lord into the unknown that we cannot deny. The lessons we learned were great.

The biggest lesson we learned is obedience in giving up control. We learned that when we ask for God’s guidance, we have to listen to what He tells us and follow His direction. Asking for His guidance and then doing things our own way is not giving up control over our lives and serving Him the way He wants us to serve. If we want God to guide us through our lives, show us His purpose for our lives, He will. But it is up to us to listen and obediently follow His lead.

Over the course of the few days we were in California for the baby shower, I did not spend too much time opening my Bible or praying for more answers. I was in awe of the lessons He had taught me.

You would think, after the experiences I have just shared, that I would know without any doubt that I had witnessed Jesus on the side of the road. You’d think I would have had complete knowledge, faith and understanding that our Lord and Savior was answering my prayers and leading me down the path He wanted me to take. But not me, believe it or not I still had

questions in my mind. I know I can be a bit thick headed at times, but it still was not clear to me.

What did all of this mean? He had shown me the passage about being called to be a watchman for the people of Israel, but what does it really mean to be a watchman for the Lord?

He had spoken to me, telling me that I would be taking many unknown paths and that He would be with me.

But did that mean I was supposed to move to Israel? The very thought scared me to death. Was He really calling me to be a watchman or was that just my imagination? I still had so many questions. Even after all I had experienced, I had more questions than answers.

Upon our return home, I once again got up early in the morning, went to our front room, knelt and prayed very hard for answers. Yet again, I was directed to open the Bible. This time, as I opened the Bible my eyes instantly read this verse:

“Now get to your feet! For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and witness. You are to tell the world what you have seen and what I will show you in the future.”

Acts 26:16

This time it became obvious to me, even a doubter, that God was answering my questions and prayers. This time, He showed me passages that were clearly detailing where my life was headed, what a life of serving Him really means, and some of the things He was calling me to do.

Over the following weeks and months He spoke to me daily, both directly and through the Holy Spirit, and continues to show me message after message He wants me to share with you. There have been many things revealed to me. Sometimes

He will show me the same passage two, three, and even four times, days apart, to make sure I understand and know that they are messages the Lord is calling on me to deliver.

I now understand that being called as a watchman has several meanings. The most important meaning, where I am concerned, is that I am an appointed servant and a witness to the Lord Jesus Christ and I am to deliver His messages to His people. I now understand that the people of Israel is God's reference to all of His chosen children all over the world.

He has shown me what will happen to me if I fail; the price of obedience is high, but the price of disobedience is even higher. I cannot deny or turn away from what I am being called to do for the Lord. I understand that the consequences of sharing my experiences with the world will be high. But I also understand the price of not sharing, or failing the Lord, is my soul.

There will be many who will doubt, persecute, and do whatever they can to bring shame and humiliation upon me and my family. There will be others who will miss the messages entirely, and will proceed with their own agenda - ahead of God's purposes.

There will be those whom I thought were my friends, who turn away and ridicule me for my choices and beliefs. There will be those in my own family circle who do not believe. There will be those who call me a hypocrite, as I myself am a sinner, yet now I am professing to be a chosen witness and servant of the Lord. The controversy will be strong, but the Lord's love and guidance are my strength.

"For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

I must deliver the messages He has directed me to deliver. That

is the calling He has given me. That is the calling I have accepted and I am determined to devote the rest of my life to. The messages He has asked me to deliver are detailed in the next chapter.

Each and every time I question all of this, and really start to doubt again whether I am really being called upon by Jesus Christ to serve Him and help others, it is re-confirmed in a significant manner.

Such was the case not long ago, as I began to doubt again, I was prompted to go the basement of my house to find a patriarchal blessing I had received when I was just 16 years old; some thirty years ago. At the time I had received that blessing, it didn't really have that much meaning to me. I didn't understand it, and even as little as six months ago, it still did not make a lot of sense to me. This time, as I read it, it became crystal clear. It confirmed everything that had transpired and much that is yet to come.

At the direction of the Holy Spirit, I will share the following passages from that blessing with you.

“You will be continually willing to give of yourself in the interest of the development of the Kingdom and the work to which the Lord has set His hand and which you become a partner with Him in accomplishing. You will increasingly be assured that your pre-earth life was a faithful one and that your position here is in part, reward for diligent and faithful obedience to the commandments you there received.”

“You will come to realize that your purpose here in life is not only to obtain a body and be tested and tried, but in that process of testing, to discover anew the marvelous truths with which you were formerly acquainted and which you

championed. So you were sent here to enjoy inheritance in the royal house of Israel.”

“You will come to realize the responsibility that lies upon you, both for exemplary living and for crying repentance to the nations of the earth and to your associates.”

“You will be willing to sacrifice the approval of friends and associates if needs be in order that you may honor the name which you bear.”

These are only a few passages from the blessing I received over thirty years ago. That blessing has largely been a mystery to me, and has not had much impact in my life, until now. I now understand that the name I bear is not referring to my given name, but is referring to being named as a “witness” and “servant” of the Lord.

Of all the titles I have held in my life: C.E.O., President, Manager, City Councilman, etc. I will tell you that the simple, yet eternally powerful title, “Servant of the Lord” is the one that means the most to me. Imagine me - a lowly sinner, being called by the Lord Himself to be a servant and a witness to Him. I am beyond humbled.

I do not have all the answers. I can only share what has been revealed to me to date. I do not know your specific situation or how this book may be talking to you directly, but God knows, and He knows what you need.

The truth is, we are all sinners, yet we are all called to be servants of the Lord and witnesses to Him in a world that has turned so far away from Him.

It has been a little over five months since Jesus appeared to me along the road, and during that time He has lovingly revealed many things to me.

As this book continues, I will share other experiences with you that serve as absolute confirmation of everything I am telling you here.

Chapter Two

His Messages for the World

Before I share with you the messages He has asked me to share, first I want to bear strong testimony to you that:

Jesus Christ is the Lord of this world. He alone is our Lord and Savior. Jesus Christ is in control. Everything we have or will receive comes from Him. Jesus Christ is the only way to lasting joy and peace. It is through serving Him that we can build up lasting treasures in Heaven. Jesus Christ is the only way to God the Father.

My job here is to deliver the Lord's messages to you. It is your choice whether you choose to accept the message or turn away in disbelief. We all have free agency. We all make our own decisions and choose the path we will follow. Your choices are between you and Jesus Christ. He alone knows your heart and will be your judge.

Message #1 – TIME IS SHORT! This message is for everyone, Christian and non Christian alike. I cannot state this message strongly enough. He has shown me this over and over again. Please, for your own sake, DO NOT take this message lightly.

Read Ezekiel Chapter 7. (I use the Life Application Study Bible New Living Translation). He has shown me this chapter seven times in the past few weeks! He has also shown me countless other passages in various areas of the Bible that all contain the same message. There are too many to list.

Remember, I am not a Bible scholar. I am a regular, ordinary man whom God has chosen to be a servant and a witness. He

has brought this message to me so many times, so strongly and so clearly, in so many ways, there is absolutely no denying it. Believe me when I tell you **time is short!**

You may think these Bible verses have already played out, and only pertain to history. Let me assure you they apply to today every bit as much as they did to days gone by. A person only has to look closely at the powder keg in the middle east to clearly see we no longer have the luxury of time on our side.

We can no longer live for ourselves today, putting our own selfish pursuits ahead of all else, and hope to still have time later to turn our lives to God. We are out of time. The time to turn our focus from living for ourselves, to living for the purpose of serving God, Jesus Christ, and others is now.

God is giving His children one last opportunity to re-prioritize their lives, turn to Him, serve Him, and serve others. There will soon be no more chances.

The time for getting our own lives in order, getting out of debt, becoming good stewards, faithful servants, and living to serve others is now; not tomorrow, not next week, not next year, but now.

The time to stop pursuing worldly treasures such as money, fancy cars, nice homes, better jobs, more power and earthly prestige is **now**, not later. God views our selfish pursuit of such things as idolatry. Do you want to focus on and serve a worldly idol? Or do you want to serve your Lord and Savior? You cannot do both.

It is no longer a question of “when” will the end be here, or “when” will Christ return to rule over the earth, but a question of “will you be ready” when He does? We must begin to live each and every day as if it is the final day before He returns. We must prepare ourselves and help Him prepare the world for

His return.

Message #2 – Regardless of who you are, what you have done in the past, what sins you have committed, or whether you are currently a Christian or not, Jesus Christ loves you and wants to forgive you of your sins.

It is not too late to seek God, accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, and change your life. He is giving you this one last opportunity before He returns to get your life in order, turn away from your sins and your past, and begin to serve Him and serve others. He is giving you the opportunity to find true joy and lasting treasure through Him.

Jesus Christ loves you. He suffered and died on the cross to pay the price of our sins. He wants to save you. Please, do not take His sacrifice lightly.

Message #3 – Forgive those who have harmed you.

Let go of your hurts, your pain, your sadness, bitterness, and resentments. Forgive others and Christ will forgive you.

Message #4 – Pray. Seek God’s guidance. Ask God to show you His purpose for your life, what He designed you for, and what He wants for you.

I cannot tell you strongly enough how powerful a prayer can be, especially prayers of thanks, gratitude, and praise. Be grateful for everything God has given you. Thank and praise Him often. Instead of focusing on what you don’t have, focus on what you do have, be grateful, and He will give you more.

Message #5 – Give generously to others.

It doesn’t matter how you give. What matters is that you give. Look for ways to bless others every opportunity you get.

There is no greater reward than that of service to others. If you are rich, use your wealth to serve others and build God's Kingdom. You can start by giving and sharing this book with others.

Can you think of a better gift to give someone than a gift that leads them to salvation?

No matter how much money you may gain or accumulate, do not forget that it came from God. He blessed you with it. Use it for His purpose.

Message #6 – Get out of debt!

It is imperative that you do everything you can do to get yourself completely out of debt and out from under the slavery of indebtedness.

In my first book titled, "Becoming Debt Free God's Way - A Financial Awakening" I outline a very specific 5 Step Plan that can help you get out of debt in the shortest time possible. I will give you the order information you need to get a copy at the end of this book. Whether you choose to get out of debt rapidly by following our 5 Step Plan or not, it is vital that you become debt free.

You cannot serve two masters. You cannot be enslaved by indebtedness, forced to work long hard hours to pay your bills, debts, and interest while simultaneously devoting yourself to serving God and others. You need to get your priorities straight.

Time is short. Choose the fastest and best way for getting yourself debt free and take action. Don't make the mistake of putting it off any longer. NOW is the time to take whatever action is necessary to become debt free!

Get yourself into a position of being prepared, financially, spiritually, and physically for what is to come. Time is no longer a luxury.

Message #7 – Help prepare the world for Christ’s return.

God is asking you, through me, to help prepare the world for the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. His return is imminent and we must all do everything we can to prepare ourselves and others for His magnificent and glorious return.

If you could see the spirit world right now, you would be shocked at how active they are doing the work necessary to prepare the world for Christ’s return. I cannot state this strongly enough...**time is short!**

There are many other experiences I have been directed, and want to share with you. My experiences are ongoing, so it is impossible to relay them all in this book.

God has put in my spirit an extreme urgency to get this book completed, published, and into everyone’s hands as quickly as possible. Therefore I will simply highlight some other experiences. If you are interested in reading more they will be available through our website or free email newsletter.

Jesus will light the path He wants you to follow: This experience happened to me after weeks and weeks of praying hard for God to light the path He wanted me to follow.

One night I awoke to a brilliant light at the side of my bed illuminating a space from the floor up to about two feet off the floor. My wife had previously gotten up and had gone to the kitchen for something. As she returned and opened the door to the bedroom - the light disappeared. I knew instantly what the message was. It was the Lord and the Holy Spirit showing me

that, as long as I continue to sincerely pray and ask for guidance, He will light the path I am to follow.

Jesus will confirm the truth in others, who believe and seek Him, when you share His word: Not too long ago my wife and I took my son Chris to lunch to share our experiences with him. Chris was not raised in a religious environment, and although he has always believed in God and Jesus Christ, he has not been active in any form of worship or church.

After sharing my experiences with him, and sharing that I had witnessed Jesus walking along the side of the road towards me, he got up and went to the restroom. I was expecting total disbelief from him and expecting him to think I had lost my mind or something. Instead he came back to the table, sat down, and said “yes, you saw Jesus.”

As it turns out, when he went to the restroom, the first thought he had was a question, “Dad saw Jesus?” He said in an instant he knew the truth and the next thought he had was, “yes, Dad saw Jesus.”

When we left the restaurant that day and parted company, it wasn't two minutes before my cell phone rang. It was Chris who said, “You'll never believe what just happened.”

As he had started his car there was a song finishing on the radio and the final words of the song were, “You live because I live.” He said when he looked at his radio, he realized that it was on a station that he does not normally listen to.

He got the message loud and clear. And as if that were not enough confirmation, a few nights later, while he and his wife were home lying in their bed, they saw an image of Christ on their ceiling.

You may doubt if you wish, but Chris had not told his wife up to that point anything I had shared with him. Yet they both witnessed the image of Jesus Christ on their ceiling. As they watched the image, they tried turning on the light, moving the light around, and turning it off again. The image held firm and steadfast and did not move.

My son and his wife, along with my wife and I, all know without any doubt in our minds that experience was confirmation of the truths that I had shared with my son. We also knew that the Lord wanted Chris to be actively involved with our business and ministry.

Jesus will watch over and protect His servants: As my son Chris and his wife were sharing their experience of seeing Christ's image on their ceiling, both my wife and I broke down in tears of joy. You see, Christ's image had appeared to us a few nights prior, in our own bedroom. We know, without any doubt or reservation that Jesus Christ lives, and is guiding us, directing us, and watching over us today.

We know that we are on the path the Lord wants us to be on. We know that everything I have shared with you in this book is true and real. We know that the messages I have shared with you are from the Lord. We give Him all credit and glory. We would be nothing without Him.

The Holy Spirit will keep you on track if you ask with a humble, sincere heart: As I have already mentioned, the Lord speaks to me often times through the Holy Scriptures. It is not just an ordinary "open the Bible and read" experience, but is a very obvious guidance and leading. Many times he will show me the same passages over and over until I learn the lesson.

Such was the case a few nights ago. I had prayed my evening prayer before bed, and before I turned out the light and went to

sleep I opened the Bible to a couple of pages in the book of Ezra. After reading through the two pages and closing the book without marking it or noting any page numbers, my wife asked, “Did He show you anything tonight?” Since I had not really grasped any real message from what I had read, I simply replied “no”, turned out the light, and went to sleep.

During the night, in the early morning hours somewhere around 2 in the morning, as I slept I felt a hand on the back of my head trying to turn my head to the right. My immediate reaction as I woke up was to turn the opposite way (to the left) to see who was in my room and had a hold of my head. It was a struggle, but I finally was able to turn my head to the left.

Needless to say, there was no one in our room. After realizing that the hand was trying hard to turn my head to the right, I did so voluntarily, and immediately saw in our bedroom mirror the image of Christ on the cross. There was no mistaking the image. Surprisingly, it did not scare me. In fact I had an overwhelming feeling of peace and security.

After some reflection, I went back to sleep. The following morning I prayed hard for discernment. I asked the Lord to reveal to me the message I was suppose to learn. I asked for understanding of my experience. Was it the Lord who was turning my head? Was it the Holy Spirit? Was it Satan? What had happened? What did it mean?

After finishing the prayer, I opened my Bible and instantly recognized the exact same pages He had shown me the night before. I had not understood the message on those pages, so had just summarily dismissed them the night before. But this time, as He showed me these same pages again, it was very clear to me what He wanted me to see for myself and to share with others. It became clear to me that the message was there. (Ezra Chapters 8, 9 & 10)

It is a message that stewardship means taking special care of whatever God has entrusted to you. This means considering what God has given to you as being *from* Him and *for* His use. What has God entrusted to your care?

It is a message to all of us that our sins are piled high, yet if we confess our sins and turn to Christ, accept His sacrifice of dying on the cross for our sins, and begin to live for Him, all will be forgiven. It is a call of repentance for our own behavior, for being caught up in living for ourselves and living worldly lives.

We should be living for Christ, not chasing after our own pursuits. Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is asking us to give up our worldly lives and begin living for Him. He is asking us to use our time, resources, talents, and gifts to serve Him and serve others. We have been given a brief moment of grace from our Lord.

Will we hear the message, accept His forgiveness, and change our lives and put Him first?

Even as I write these words, I reach for my Bible and once again He's shown me Ezekiel Chapter 7. He has repeatedly directed me to this chapter, more so than any other passage in the Bible. There are over 2400 pages in the Bible I use, yet He has shown me this specific chapter seven times. The Lord is talking to us all, right now...today! It is imperative that you open a Bible and read in full Ezekiel Chapter 7.

Please do not make the mistake of believing this message applies only to the world of the past. It is not a coincidence that Jesus appeared to me, has sent me sign after sign, confirmation after confirmation, and has shown me Ezekiel Chapter 7 so many times. For your own sake, please - do not make the mistake of believing we can live any old way we want to any

longer. Our Lord and Savior is preparing, right now, for His magnificent return. It is time to live for Him.

If you get nothing else out of this entire book, please get the 7 messages that I have shared with you in this chapter. Especially #1 – **TIME IS SHORT!!!**

Jesus loves us and heals us still today: In early November 2005, my ex-wife Joslyn asked if I could make time to talk with her privately. I agreed and we met a few days afterwards. As we sat in the car and talked, she revealed to me that she was quite certain she had cancer.

There was a sizable “mass” under her arm at the side of her breast, and during a recent visit to the doctor for a pap smear, the doctor had been alarmed at what she saw on her cervix. She was instructed to go to the Huntsman Cancer center for tests. At the time she was telling me these things, she had already done this, and the tests were being processed.

We have a beautiful eight year old son together, so she was preparing me that if anything should happen to her I needed to be ready to take full custody of our son.

After listening to everything she had told me I felt the Holy Spirit prompt me to pray for her. I asked if she would like me to, she agreed, and so I took her hand and said a very humble and sincere prayer asking the Lord to heal her so that she could live to see her son grow up and someday have a family of his own.

At the end of the prayer she asked if I wanted to feel the mass under her arm which I did. It was clear, even to me, that it was not good.

Some time later, after she had returned to the doctor’s office to

find out the results of her tests, we once again were sitting and talking. She shared with me that when she went back to the doctor she was summoned into the doctor's private office.

The doctor proceeded to tell her that she had no explanation of "why" but that all of her tests had come back negative. Even though the doctor knew she had every sign of cervical cancer when she did the Pap smear, Joslyn's tests were clear.

Joslyn also told me that it was only a matter of days after my prayer for her that the mass under her arm completely disappeared.

We both knew that the Lord had healed her through my prayer and my touch. It was not me, by any stretch of the imagination, but was our loving, healing, compassionate Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Jesus is there for us, even when things go wrong: This happened to me just a few days ago. I had been working in my home office all morning and as lunch time approached, I was getting hungry. I went to the fridge and the pantry, but nothing looked good or appealing. I heard a voice speak to me, "Why don't you just grab something to eat at the local fast food place? You have errands to run anyway."

Ok, I thought. So after telling my wife where I was going, I got in my car and drove to the restaurant. I went through the drive through, got my order, and as I was pulling out of the restaurant parking lot I was thanking the Lord for the food and asking Him to bless it. But this particular prayer went on a little longer than normal. I was feeling enormously grateful to the Lord for all He'd been doing in my life. As I was thanking Him and praising Him, I clearly heard Him say, "I hope you still feel that way when things go wrong." I said, "Of course Lord. I understand that even when things go wrong you are still

there, still watching over us, and still lovingly guiding us through it. Even when things go wrong, I love you Lord.”

I turned the corner and headed into town to run my errands. I had not gone more than a quarter of a mile down the road when the low oil pressure light came on and the car almost immediately started sounding strange. I had just passed the place where I last had the oil changed, so without hesitation, I pulled over, waited for traffic to clear, and turned around to go back. As I turned around and headed back, the car started to run rough. I had to really step on the gas to get any momentum.

As I approached the plaza near the oil change place, the car completely died and I lost all power steering. The parking lot had several Sheriff cars in it, and as I manually worked the steering wheel trying to pull into the plaza, I was simultaneously praying that I wouldn't hit a Sheriff's car!

I made it into the plaza, past a long row of cars, and into an empty parking space literally right in front of the oil change place before the car lost all momentum.

The Lord had literally taken my car with His hand and placed me right where I needed to be. There was no doubt in my mind I had been enormously blessed.

I didn't have to call a tow truck. I didn't have to push. And as it turned out, it didn't end up costing me one penny to get it fixed. Apparently the last time they had changed the oil, they had either not put the filter on tight enough, or the filter had a bad seal. But either way, the Lord put me right back where I needed to be to resolve the issue.

Had I not listened to His prompting to have lunch at the local drive through restaurant, with the car idling the entire time, who knows where I would have been when the problem

occurred? The problem could have had any number of possible scenarios, any of which would have caused inconvenience, cost, and even possibly danger. But as it was, I listened and was guided.

Not only do I realize the power of the Lord to help us all through times of trouble (if we'll listen to Him), but I also understand the significance of that experience.

How many times do we go through our lives without power steering (the Lord's guidance)? How much easier would it be if we accepted His guidance (power steering) in our lives, learned to listen to the Holy Spirit, and follow His lead?

In recent weeks, I have also come to understand much more fully the significance of Jesus's appearance to me on the side of the road, and the many messages that were there.

Remember the bright red shield on His chest when He appeared to me? I have been shown that, even though it is cloth, nothing can penetrate it. Nothing! If we turn our lives completely to the Lord, we too will have His complete shield of protection around us. We may die, and lose our bodies, but nothing can pierce our spirit when we live for our Lord. We are His.

I have also come to realize that the shield also signifies that He is preparing for battle. The end is near. I do not know when, nor am I foolish enough to predict, but I do know with absolute certainty that His return is near. It is much closer than any of us want to believe.

“Be dressed for service and keep your lamps burning, as though you were waiting for your master to return from the wedding feast. Then you will be ready to open the door and let him in the moment he arrives and knocks. The servants who are ready and waiting for his return will be rewarded. I tell you the

truth, he himself will seat them, put on an apron, and serve them as they sit and eat! He may come in the middle of the night or just before dawn. But whenever he comes, he will reward the servants who are ready.”

“Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would not permit his house to be broken into. You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.” Luke 12:35-40

Through prayer, I have also come to understand the significance of His appearing to me along the side of the road, where so many others were also passing by, yet did not see Him. He is right here, beside us, yet so many pass Him by in their own daily pursuits.

All any of us have to do is reach out to Him.

He is here, and He is reaching out to us more than ever before.

He is giving us all one final chance to seek Him and turn to Him.

He loves each and every one of us more than we can possibly understand or imagine, and He wants to save us all.

But we must do our part.

Chapter Three

A Call to Repentance

It is with sincere reverence and humility that I write this chapter. I certainly do not put myself above anyone. I have been, and continue to be, a sinner by God's perfect standards. Let me assure you that it is only through the divine grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and His guidance, that I am able to present this message to the world.

Webster defines repentance as, "the action or process of repenting especially for misdeeds or moral shortcomings." The one synonym listed for repentance is "penitence", which is defined as, "the quality or state of being penitent, sorrow for sins or faults."

In the last chapter I outlined seven very distinct messages for you from the Lord. In this chapter, I will focus on messages #2 and #3. For your convenience, I will repeat them here.

Message #2 – Regardless of who you are, what you have done in the past, what sins you have committed, or whether you are currently a Christian or not, Jesus Christ loves you and wants to forgive you of your sins.

Message #3 – Forgive those who have harmed you.

God wants to forgive us of our sins. None of us are perfect. We all need His grace, love, and forgiveness.

But in order to gain salvation through Jesus Christ, and gain God's forgiveness, we must repent of our sins and then work hard not to repeat them. It is through His mercy, grace, and the power of the Holy Spirit that this is done.

In Jesus' own words, *"It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent."* Luke 24:47

Peter tells us, very specifically in scripture, how we can be saved.

"He told us how an angel had appeared to him in his home and had told him, Send messengers to Joppa, and summon a man named Simon Peter. He will tell you how you and everyone in your household can be saved!"

*"As I began to speak, Peter continued, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as he fell on us at the beginning. **Then I thought of the Lord's words when he said John baptized with water, but you will be baptized by the Holy Spirit.** And since God gave these Gentiles the same gift he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to stand in God's way?"*
Acts 11:13-17

Life is not easy for any of us. God never promised that it would be. We all have trials we must go through. And we all sin. Thank God that He freely grants us His forgiveness if we confess our sins, repent, and ask for His forgiveness.

"For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death." 2 Corinthians 7:10

It is vital to recognize that God's purpose for trial and struggles is not to harm us, but rather to allow us to grow spiritually in Him. His love and forgiveness is the best gift we could ever receive. And it is free.

I am extremely humbled by the Lord's calling on my life. I know I am not worthy of such an honor. Thankfully, our Lord, Jesus Christ, wants to save sinners.

When the religious leaders and teachers of religious law asked Jesus why He ate with (kept the company of) sinners, He answered them: *"Healthy people don't need a doctor - sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent."* Luke 5:31-32

There is no one in this world more shocked and amazed that the Savior of the world, our Lord and Master, chose to appear to me than I am. I know, without a doubt, this is absolute proof that Jesus Christ seeks and forgives sinners. I know with certainty that He transforms our greatest weaknesses into our greatest strengths so that we may then help others.

In order for God to forgive us, we must forgive others. (Message #2) I know this to be true.

Please allow me to share another brief personal experience with you. This experience began about two years ago when I was fired from a company where my wife and I had both been employed for many years.

Without going into all of the details, I will simply share with you that my wife and many other female employees had been the victims of some extremely poor treatment including sexual harassment and blatant discrimination.

It was the owners (senior executives) of the company who were guilty of much of the wrong doing. I was in a human resource position at the time, so I called the incidents to their attention. Instead of rectifying the situations, they chose to make our lives unbearable, to the point where my wife could no longer tolerate

the working conditions, and had to resign.

Six months later, once they felt there was no longer any legal threat from us, they not only fired me, but literally invented a false reason for doing so. It was obvious to us and many others that their actions were purely acts of retaliation.

The reason I'm sharing this with you now is because, as would many people under similar circumstances in today's world, we sought and retained an attorney. Our attorney repeatedly told us that in over eleven years of practicing employment law, our case was among the top three he had ever witnessed. In other words, we were absolutely in the right, and we had a very solid case against them.

We continued to pursue the case for a year and a half, and had even won a very important preliminary ruling from the judge, when we came to a crossroad.

We knew that we could win the case. We knew that God would give us a victory. But we also knew that we were pursuing the case with the motive of vengeance, justice, and of course for the monetary damages we had suffered.

After a great deal of prayer and reflection, we decided to drop the case. Even though we knew we could win if we pursued it, we also knew it would take up virtually all of our time and energy. We knew that for months we would be focusing our lives on vengeance and justice, and the monetary damages we could recover. That simply did not feel right to us.

We read in the scriptures how God is the ultimate judge. Even though we wanted the company and their top executives to pay dearly for the injustice they had openly shown, in the long run, it is God, according to His will, who can deliver a much harder justice and sentence, than any court could ever deliver.

We made the decision to put the entire matter into God's hands, drop our lawsuit, forgive the executives for their trespasses against us, and begin focusing on living a life of service to God.

Upon making that decision, I cannot begin to describe the peace we began to feel in our hearts. It was also very shortly after that when Jesus appeared to me on the side of the road, and when our real journey and walk with Him began.

We have come to realize that we had to stop going after our own selfish pursuits; stop trying to control everything; stop trying to exact punishment on those who did us wrong; and turn our lives over to God before we could receive the blessings He has in store for us.

Jesus has since shown me, in scripture, what will happen to employers who are not fair with their employees. We are at complete peace now. It is in His hands. It is between those company owners, executives, and their Creator. He will be their judge.

Since the day we told our Lord that we wanted to live the rest of our lives in service to Him and to others, we have been so richly blessed it is beyond our imagination.

Jesus Christ died on the cross so that our sins would be forgiven. Is it too much to ask of us then to forgive others?

Whoever has hurt you in this life, in whatever way, Jesus Christ knows. He is aware of your pain. It may seem difficult to forgive someone who has hurt you. Depending on the severity of their action against you, it may even seem impossible. But I assure you that it is possible.

Your Lord and Savior wants to release your pain and give you peace. Will you allow Him to do so? No matter how difficult

it may seem, Jesus Christ will bring you the most incredible inner peace you have ever felt if you simply ask Him to help you forgive your offender. When you humbly and sincerely ask the Lord to help you forgive those who have hurt you, He will.

Once you have forgiven others, the next step is to acknowledge your own sins in prayer to the Lord. This is important. Confess your sins with a humble and repentant heart. Ask God humbly, in prayer, to forgive you of your own sins.

I promise you, just as sure as I am writing these words, when you do these things with a sincere and humble heart, you will be filled with the most incredible peace you have ever experienced. God will bless you when you forgive others.

Remember, after my wife and I gave up our bitterness and resentment towards our former employer, and truly forgave them in our hearts, incredible things began to happen in our lives.

We all suffer pain and hurt at the hands of others. God uses our pain, suffering, lessons, and experiences to strengthen us. How else are we to learn kindness, mercy, grace, and forgiveness?

God has a purpose and a calling for your life as well. He wants to use your past pains, lessons, and experiences to strengthen you, so you can then help others and build His Kingdom.

He wants each of us to help save as many souls as possible, before it's too late.

For some, the message that "time is short" is difficult to hear. I understand. So many times in my life I have heard various people predict "the end." And so many times they have been wrong. Please understand something very clearly here. I am not predicting "the end." The Bible is full of prophets who

have already done that. The Lord Himself, throughout the Bible, talks about the time when He will return. I do not need to predict something He has already promised.

Please understand the message I am relaying to you very clearly. *“The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.”* 2 Peter 3:9

Make no mistake about it; **time is short**. But please don’t let that message fill you with fear and panic.

Jesus Christ is lovingly allowing everyone a final opportunity to seek Him, accept Him as your Lord and Savior, repent, and ask Him to forgive your sins. He wants to save you! He wants to save us all. He loves each of us more than we know.

I urge you not to panic or let the devil fill you with fear.

We can all be ready and waiting for His glorious return if we are prepared. I will share with you everything you can do to become prepared in chapter seven. But for the purpose of this chapter, and in fact the purpose of this book, we must all recognize that the first step in preparing for our Lord’s return is to repent of our sins. Then accept His forgiveness and begin living our lives for Him.

“Owe nothing to anyone - except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God’s law. For the commandments say, ‘You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet.’ These - and other such commandments - are summed up in this one commandment: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God’s law.”

“This is all more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living.”

“Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don’t participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don’t let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires. Romans 13: 8-14

I testify to you and to the world that Jesus Christ lives. He is the chosen Son of God. He is the Savior and Lord of the world.

As I come to the end of this chapter, I humbly and sincerely pray that you will seek God. I pray that you will accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

He is the only way to salvation. No one else has the power to forgive us and save us. Jesus Christ is our One and only Savior and His return is imminent.

I pray that you will forgive those who have hurt you.

I pray that you will confess your sins to the Lord, repent, and accept God’s forgiveness.

Chapter Four

Powerful Communication

In this modern day of cell phones, high speed internet, satellite, etc., communication has become highly evolved. We can pick up a phone in London and talk to someone in Tahiti. We can be on-line in Alaska and talk to someone in Costa Rica. We can turn on the news and see what is happening virtually anywhere in the world, often live as the story unfolds before our eyes.

We live in a world that could be described as a world of powerful communication. Yet, for much of the world, the most powerful of all communication is still over-looked and ignored, even though it has been available for over 2000 years. The most powerful communication device ever revealed to man was, and still is, prayer.

Before Jesus Christ was crucified, resurrected, and blessed us with the Holy Spirit, the ability to communicate directly with God was reserved for a chosen few. Now, and for the last 20 centuries, because of Christ's love for the world and gift of salvation, we can openly and directly communicate with our very Creator. We have been blessed with the most powerful communication tool ever designed or conceived - prayer.

Imagine, being able to talk directly to God! Imagine being able to ask questions of our Lord and Savior! Imagine being able to ask any question our mind can think of, and getting an answer directly from Him. Such power, yet so over-looked and under used.

When Jesus appeared to me, I had so many questions swimming in my head that I could hardly sleep at night.

I wanted answers. I wanted to know if it was really Him. I wanted to know what it meant. I wanted to know why He had chosen me to reveal Himself to. I wanted to know everything He would tell me. So I prayed. I asked questions. In fact I asked so many questions at one point I asked Him if I was asking too many questions! He has answered every one, including telling me “no, you are not asking too many questions.”

Message #4 - Pray. Seek His guidance.

In my younger years, I got caught up in the worldly pursuit of money, business, and success. In fact I enjoyed tremendous success along the way. Yet I was brought to my knees, not just once but twice, because I had failed to put God first in my life. The biggest mistake I ever made was forgetting to put God first in my life. I forgot to pray and ask God what His purpose for my life was. I forgot to ask for His guidance in my everyday life. I simply took charge, ran full steam ahead, and did things my way. Which worked for awhile, but it did not last. Only through the lessons God taught me, and learning from my past mistakes, have I been blessed with the peace and prosperity I now enjoy.

Free agency, the ability to make our own choices, is indeed a beautiful gift from God. But through my many successes and subsequent failures and losses, I have discovered something far more powerful than free agency; prayer. The ability to be guided and directed each day of our lives by the most brilliant and loving teacher we could ever hope for; Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. He is the most gentle, loving, compassionate teacher in existence. He is also the most powerful, wise, all-knowing Lord and Master any of us could ever hope for. And He allows us to talk directly to Him through prayer, anytime, anywhere.

In chapter seven, “Prepare for His Return”, I will share with you the most powerful, yet simple prayer anyone could ever pray. The prayer of salvation.

But the message here and now is a simple, yet powerful message that our Lord and Savior is asking us to seek Him in prayer. Seek His forgiveness, His guidance, His council, His purpose and goals for us. Do not be afraid to ask the Lord anything in prayer. If you ask with a humble and sincere heart, He will hear you and answer you.

Jesus said, "Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." Matthew 7:7

There are countless books that will tell you “how to” pray, but I can tell you with absolute certainty that there is no wrong way to pray. Even the most simple of prayers will be answered when it is prayed with a sincere heart. It is not important “how” you pray, but it is vital “that” you pray.

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. If you do this, you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4: 6-7

Seek the Lord’s guidance everyday in prayer, as often as you choose, and He will answer, guide, teach, and direct. I promise you, when you begin to live your life daily for the Lord, seeking His path each and every day through prayer, your life will change in a powerful way.

Chapter Five

Giving

Ask anyone who is well versed in the Bible what the most talked about subject is, and they will likely tell you “giving.”

Giving is an eternal principle that is so important, it is discussed more than any other topic in the Bible.

Up until a few months ago, after the Lord appeared to me, I did not know this. I am not a Bible scholar. I openly admit that reading scripture has not been a high priority to me for most of my life.

Since Jesus appeared to me, He has continually answered my prayers. He has firmly corrected me when I’ve needed to be, and lovingly teaches me. Through my ongoing communication (prayer), I now have a passion for learning. That includes a passion for reading and learning from scripture. As I shared with you earlier, many of the answers to my prayers have come from Him showing me the answer directly in scripture.

I have come to learn and understand that virtually every solution to every one of life’s problems is in the scriptures. It would be impractical to share with you all of the verses and passages that talk about giving. Rather, with the Lord’s direction and guidance, I have chosen these four:

“One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.”

Proverbs 11:24-25

“He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses.” Proverbs 28:27

“And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or property, for my sake, will receive a hundred times as much in return and will inherit eternal life.” Matthew 19:29

“Whosoever sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly, and whosoever sows generously will also reap generously.”
2 Corinthians 9:6

My parents were very giving and generous people. Despite their teachings, I have struggled with the principle of giving for much of my life. At various times throughout my life I have been more giving than at other times, but overall I have not been nearly as giving as I should or could have.

Giving comes very natural to some people. But for many, it is learned. Even though giving is a God given directive, many people, including myself, have to work at it. Many of us are selfish by nature. The idea of giving something up, for the benefit of another, is foreign to some of us.

But you don't have to read very far in the Bible to learn how incredibly giving our God is. He gave the world His only begotten Son. He loves us that much! He gives us love, grace, mercy, comfort, forgiveness, leadership, guidance, direction, energy, health, strength, and even life itself. He gives us food, money, shelter, clothing, jobs, cars, homes, and churches. He gives us parents, spouses, children, and grandchildren. The list of everything God gives us is an endless list.

God is a giving God! And He wants us to learn to be as giving and loving as He is.

It may not be easy, in fact it may go against our human nature, but it is vitally important to our eternal future.

Many people struggle with the principle of tithing. I myself have had periods in my life where I did not tithe and in fact questioned the very act of tithing. I was raised in a wealthy church, and I simply could not understand why they needed my money too.

Even though my parents were poor, and I grew up in American poverty, they always tithed their 10% to God. Sometimes I felt I understood it, but at some points in my life it made no sense whatsoever. Why does God want us to give 10% to Him? Doesn't He already have everything He needs?

During those times in my life when I have been heavily burdened with debt it has been especially difficult to pay tithing and give to others. When our own money and resources are so tight we don't know how we'll ever survive, the last thing on our minds is giving.

It took me most of my life to discover that tithing is not for God's benefit, it is for our benefit. Tithing has nothing to do with God needing our money. It has everything to do with God teaching us to be thankful for what He blesses us with, and giving for the purpose of building His Kingdom and benefitting others.

It took me equally as long to figure out that giving generously to others is the very way He will, in turn, bless us with abundance. Just as the four scriptures I shared with you say, it is through giving that our own blessings are unlocked and poured out upon us.

Giving is an area in our lives that is so vital, and so important to our very growth, that the Lord actually invites us to put Him to the test.

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my temple. If you do, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!” Malachi 3:10

Each of us, someday, will give an account to God for our lives. He will ask us what we did with our lives and how we used it to benefit others.

Of course we all have free agency. We can choose to take, receive, and keep. Or we can choose to give, bless, and help. But sooner or later, we will all be held accountable for our decisions and actions.

Joyce Meyer, well known for her Ministries, and her outspoken yet loving teachings of God’s word to millions of Christians all over the world put it this way, *“We either choose to be accountable for our actions; or we eventually will be forced to be accountable by our circumstances.”* I love the way she states that because it is absolutely true.

I am certainly not the first, nor will I be the last, successful businessman that God has brought to their knees because of selfish pursuits. Failing to acknowledge and show gratitude for God’s blessings by refusing to pay tithes, or failing to give generously to others is a sure way to disaster.

Whether it is in this life or in the next life, on the day of our judgment, believe me when I tell you that we will be held accountable for the choices we make in this life.

God did not design us to be a bank vault and hold tightly onto everything He gives us in fear of losing it. He wants each of us to build His Kingdom, then see to others, helping them fulfill their needs before our own. That's how we unlock our own bank vault and allow God to deposit more into it. The key to unlocking His abundance is giving.

Whenever I failed to practice this powerful principle in my own life, God lovingly, yet firmly, brought me to my knees. Not just once, but twice. I have not only learned my lesson, but have been shown how to keep others from making the same mistake. By the divine guidance of the Lord, the powerful 5 Step Plan in my first book, "Becoming Debt Free God's Way - A Financial Awakening" is centered around giving. Giving is the very essence of what makes it so powerful.

God loves us so much He gave his only begotten Son so that we could have eternal life. Jesus Christ loves us so much He willingly gave his life on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven. Giving is a godly principle.

Message #5 - Give generously to others.

If we truly want to unlock the blessings of success, prosperity, wealth, and lasting treasure, we must learn and practice the eternal principle of giving.

As Matthew 19:29 clearly states, there is no better reward in this life or the next than giving to another for Jesus' sake.

With this eternal principle in mind, I will share a very powerful way that you can give to others, and simultaneously build God's Kingdom, in the final chapter of this book.

Thank you Lord for giving me a way to help others.

Chapter Six

Becoming Debt Free God's Way

When I was young, probably because we were poor, I developed the idea that money was the answer. Watching how successful business men were able to live their lives seemingly above the rest. Seeing the beautiful homes they could afford, and the new cars and trucks they could drive led me to believe that money was the very definition of success.

As I share in my first book, that bears the same title as this chapter, it was that very pursuit of money and success that led me away from God and into a self-serving world.

Through God's loving, yet firm correction I have come to understand that money is not the answer. Riches do not represent success. In fact, wealth can become a curse if it is not used for God's purpose. Those who gain wealth and success by treating others unfairly will be judged accordingly.

"Tainted wealth has no lasting value, but right living can save your life." Proverbs 10:2

"They will throw their money in the streets, tossing it out like worthless trash. Their silver and gold won't save them on that day of the Lord's anger. It will neither satisfy nor feed them, for their greed can only trip them up." Ezekiel 7:19

Do these passages mean that God wants us to be poor in order to inherit all that He has planned for us? No, not at all. There is nothing wrong with having money when we use it for God's purpose. It is the priority and emphasis we place on money that becomes the very source of our own judgment.

The truth is, God wants to bless each and every one of us with prosperity and abundance. But we must always keep our number one focus and priority on Him first and foremost. When we keep our focus on God, and allow Him to work through us, by giving generously to others, He will bless us with even more.

“Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful, in order to fulfill the covenant he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath.” Deuteronomy 8:18

“The Lord your God will then make you successful in everything you do.” Deuteronomy 30:9

“The Lord your God will delight in you if you obey his voice and keep his commands and decrees written in this Book of Instruction, and if you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.” Deuteronomy 30:10

We must become good stewards over all He blesses us with first, before He will bless us with more.

Some people have a real problem discussing God and money in the same breath. It makes them very uncomfortable. I understand that, because for years, it made me uncomfortable as well.

I can clearly remember, all of my adolescent life, my mother saying that money is the root of all evil. But is that true?

Despite what you may think, money is not the root of all evil.

God recognizes and knows that we all need money to function in society. It is the love of money that the scripture is talking about. Read this closely; *“For the **love** of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have*

wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:10

The second line in that verse was talking about me. For much of my adult life that is exactly what I did. I craved money, wandered from the true faith (God and Jesus) and consequently pierced myself with many sorrows.

Thanks to God, and the lessons He taught me, I finally woke up! But sadly, I know there are countless others who have fallen into this same trap.

Just as with anything else in our life that God blesses us with, money is also a blessing from God. We need to fully understand the real relationship between God and money.

Let's look a little further.

In another scripture it states, “No one can serve two masters, for you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Matthew 6:24

Does that scripture say we cannot have money in our lives? Does it say we cannot prosper, gain wealth, and have abundance?

No. It very clearly states that money should not be the focus of our life. Money should not come “first.” We should not be treating money as our master. Money should not be what motivates us. Money, and the things it can buy, should not be the driving force in our lives.

Instead, if we make God the focus, and serve Him above all else, He will naturally bless us with success and prosperity.

How do I know this?

Let's look at how God wants us to handle our money and be a good steward over that which He entrusts to us.

Remember the parable Jesus taught about the bags of silver?

“Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last - dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.”

“The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. The servant with the two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money.”

“After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said ‘Master you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.’”

“The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!’”

“The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said ‘Master you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.’”

“The master said ‘Well done my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!’”

“Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said ‘Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate. I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.’”

“But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate, why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.’”

“Then he ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.’” Matthew 25:14-30.

This same parable is also found in Luke 19:12-27.

At the end of these verses in Jesus’ story, He tells that the King, or Master, takes away the silver from the servant who did nothing with it, (buried it in the ground), and gave it to the servant who got the best return on his investment.

A large number of us today, as high as 70%, are in debt. In many cases our debt far exceeds our assets. So not only have we failed to get our Master a good return on His investment, we have essentially lost it all and borrowed more.

Can you understand why it is so important to become debt free?
Do you understand why our Lord wants us to be debt free?

Message #6 - Get out of debt.

“Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is a servant to the lender.” Proverbs 22:7

Debt enslaves us! When we buy on credit, spend money we don't have, or sign contracts to purchase over time, we are literally enslaving ourselves to the lender.

It is vitally important to become debt free.

Many of us allow our own pursuit of worldly treasure to cloud our vision. We forget that God has a better plan for our lives than we could ever come up with. We allow the images of a successful modern world such as a big beautiful house, sleek new car, high paying job, etc., to become our goal rather than focusing on the real goal; seeking and serving Jesus Christ.

On the other hand, if we place our priority and focus on God first, with the belief, faith, and trust that He will show us a better way, He will. If we learn to be giving, He will bless us. We can succeed. He will cause it to happen. He will pour out His blessings of abundance upon our lives when we get our priorities right.

When we learn to put Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, make Him our focus on a daily basis, and submit ourselves to Him, everything else becomes possible!

Becoming debt free is definitely not an easy thing to do. The world we live in stacks the odds against us in many ways. That's the very reason this subject takes another entire book.

If you or anyone you know is in debt, I strongly urge you to get a copy of my first book "Becoming Debt Free God's Way - A Financial Awakening." In it, I outline many reasons why people today can't seem to get ahead no matter how hard they work or how fast they run. In fact, in most cases, the harder we work, and the faster we run, the more problems we face.

It is a very educational and compelling book that outlines a powerful 5 Step Plan which allows people to become debt free

in the shortest time possible. The principles used are all based on God's biblical principles of stewardship and giving.

I'm not trying to toot my own horn here. I do not take any credit for the brilliant design or inspiration of the powerful 5 Step Plan. It was designed and given to me by the Lord to help as many as possible become debt free. **Time is short!**

For those of you who are not in debt, but want to do more to further God's Kingdom and serve others, I also urge you to get the book and read the 5 Step Plan. It is an excellent way to serve God, serve others, and be generously rewarded by giving.

What you choose to do with the money God has, and will, entrust you with is a huge responsibility. For your own sake, please do not take it lightly.

God's purposes for money are:

- 1 - Tithing (building His Kingdom)
- 2 - To be a blessing to others (giving to those in need)
- 3 - Preparing for the future, and providing for our own needs

The minute we begin to put our own wants and desires above God's purpose, we are endangering ourselves. On the other hand, putting God's purposes for money first insures that we can become debt free and build up lasting treasures in heaven.

At this time in history, when time is short, it is more important than ever to prepare ourselves financially for what is to come. If we fail to plan, we are actually planning to fail. We must plan, by becoming debt free, and preparing ourselves and others for His return. Please, if you or someone you know is in debt, get a copy of my first book and read the 5 Step Plan. It is the most powerful, comprehensive, and fastest way to get completely out of debt. With a little action, you can become debt free and prepared!

Chapter Seven

Prepare for His Return

It is interesting to me, though I'm sure it is not coincidence, that the verses in Matthew immediately preceding the parable of the bags of silver speak of being prepared. In Jesus's own words:

“The Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps, but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.”

“At midnight they were roused by the shout, ‘Look the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!’”

“All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. Then the five foolish ones asked the others, ‘Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’”

“But the others replied, ‘We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.’”

“But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked. Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, ‘Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!’”

“But he called back, ‘Believe me, I don't know you!’”

“So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.” Matthew 25:1-13

The question of when will Christ return has perplexed man since He told His disciples of His return in ancient times.

Many biblical scholars and religious leaders closely watch world events, study prophecy that has already been fulfilled, and try to pinpoint a time when Christ will return.

Throughout this book I have stated the fact that the Lord has revealed to me **time is short**.

But the truth is, no one knows the exact day and time Christ will return. Here's what Jesus states:

“However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows.”

“When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah’s day. In those days before the flood, the people were enjoying banquets and parties and weddings right up to the time Noah entered his boat. People didn’t realize what was going to happen until the flood came and swept them all away. That is the way it will be when the Son of Man comes.”

“So you, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know what day your Lord is coming. Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would keep watch and not permit his house to be broken into. You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.” Matthew 24:36-44

This is the same warning Jesus issued in Luke 12:39, which I listed in chapter two. It is also found in 1Thessalonians 5:2 and in Revelations 16:15.

Because of the way in which Jesus Christ appeared to me, as I outlined in chapter one, I know these scriptures are true.

I do not know when Christ will return, nor am I going to predict. What I do know, with complete certainty, are three very important truths.

1 -Time is short.

2 -The time to repent and turn to the Lord is now, not later.

3 -He will catch the world off guard when He returns.

As I got into my car with coffee mug in hand; left my subdivision and headed to work on the morning of August 25, 2005, do you think I planned on seeing Jesus along the side of the road walking towards me?

I could not have been more caught off guard. Just as I stated in chapter one, there are many reasons why He appeared to me in the manner in which He did. The significance of being caught off guard, and not knowing what to do or how to react, is very real.

This is the most compelling reason I can list for our preparing now for His return. The worst thing any of us can do is to blindly go through our daily lives believing that there will always be more time to prepare.

Friends, this is my prayer and my plea. Please do whatever is necessary to get your lives in order. Please do not delay in seeking Jesus Christ, accepting Him as your Lord and Savior.

Now is the time to get our priorities right with God. Our number one priority is to prepare ourselves so that we will be ready when He comes. Nothing else is as important as this.

If you spend all your time trying to figure out “when” he will return, I promise you, He will catch you unprepared.

He does not say to prepare yourself, and then spend the rest of your life at the window watching. What He does say is that it is our responsibility to be prepared, and to help others prepare.

“A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. I tell you the truth, the master will put the servant in charge of all he owns. But what if the servant is evil and thinks, ‘My master won’t be back for awhile,’ and he begins beating the other servants, partying, and getting drunk? The master will return unannounced and unexpected, and he will cut the servant into pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 24:45-51

Once we understand that time is short, and that we must get ourselves prepared to meet our Lord and Savior, it then becomes our inherent responsibility to warn others and help them prepare as well.

So, how do we prepare for His glorious return?

First, accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

If you have not already done so, in prayer, accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. Confess and repent of your sins. Ask God to baptize you with the Holy Spirit. This is not hard to do. Simply say these words, out loud, with a sincere heart. *“God, I accept your Son, Jesus Christ, as my Lord and Savior. I thank you for His sacrifice and love for me. I humbly ask you to forgive me of my sins and baptize me with your Holy Spirit. In your Holy name Jesus, Amen.”*

Second, learn everything you can about Jesus Christ.

Please understand something here. Even though I was raised in a loving Christian home, and had some knowledge of Jesus Christ, I really did not “know” Him. Rather it would be more accurate to say that I “knew about” Him. In other words, up until the time that He appeared to me and I truly began to pray, search, and learn about Him, I really only knew very basic things about Him.

What I am saying to you now is that if you truly desire to prepare for His return, you must first get to know everything you can about Jesus Christ.

Jesus wants to establish a personal relationship with you. The best way to get to know Him, and really learn His truths, is to 1) pray, and 2) read His word in scripture.

Prayer is the beginning of a true personal relationship with our Lord. He will answer your prayers if you come to Him with a sincere heart. Again, He wants to establish a personal relationship with you. Do not be afraid to speak to Him through prayer. There is no better way to begin your personal relationship with Jesus Christ than through prayer.

Then turn to His word in scripture. The very best books within the Bible to learn about Jesus Christ are the four books in the New Testament that are referred to as the “four gospels.” I personally recommend that you read them in the following order: John, Luke, Matthew, and Mark. This is the order the Lord directed me to read these four books.

Each of these books bear striking similarities with the others, however, they are also each individual’s testimony and witness to Jesus Christ. As such, they each have a unique perspective.

As you read these four books within the New Testament, (John, Luke, Matthew, and Mark), be sure to pray each time before you begin your reading. Ask God to help you fully understand

and comprehend what you are reading. Ask God for the Holy Spirit to teach you everything you want to know about your Savior.

In my youth I was not interested in the Bible. Up to the point in which Jesus appeared to me, I will confess that I did not have a desire to read the scriptures. It is a testament to Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit that I now have a thirst for His knowledge.

I urge you to pray, read, and learn who Jesus Christ is.

Third, ask Him how He wants you to prepare for His return.

Each of us is unique and special. The Lord knows precisely where you are at in your life and what you need to do to prepare for His return. It is vital that you get your personal instruction directly from Him and through the Holy Spirit.

I am a very firm believer in going straight to the source.

When you go directly to the source of everything, even life itself, Jesus Christ; He will answer you and bless you.

Message #7 - Help prepare the world for Christ's return.

"If you love me, obey my commandments." John 14:15

At this point in the book, at the Lord's instruction, I have inserted the Ten Commandments, from scripture.

From Exodus 20:1-17

“Then God gave the people all these instructions.”

1 - *“I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. **You must not have any other God but me.**”*

2 - *“**You must not make for yourself an idol** of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected - even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.”*

3 - *“**You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God.** The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.”*

4 - *“**Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.** You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.”*

5 - *“Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.”*

6 - *“You must not murder.”*

7 - *“You must not commit adultery.”*

8 - *“You must not steal.”*

9 - *“You must not testify falsely against your neighbor.”*

10 - *“You must not covet your neighbor’s house. You must not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.”*

I also urge you to open your Bible in the New Testament and read the book of Ephesians. It is a beautifully written book telling us how we should live our lives for Christ.

As you read it, even though it was written in biblical times, you will easily recognize how it could have just as easily been written yesterday. God’s truths are timeless.

It is time for all Christians, Gentiles and Jews, from every faith and every walk of life to unite in Christ.

Please read: Romans Chapters 13, 14, & 15.

The Lord has shown me these chapters and passages in Romans multiple times. They are important!

All believers should unite in their commitment to Jesus Christ. We should use our time, talents, gifts, resources, and abilities to bring every soul possible to Jesus Christ. **Time is short.**

Chapter Eight

A Call to Action

As you read through the four gospels (John, Luke, Matthew, and Mark) in the New Testament, you will notice in each of them, how Jesus sent disciples out into the world to “act” on His behalf.

Without “action” nothing is accomplished. Jesus’ very ministry was based on “action.” From healing the sick to feeding over five thousand people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, Jesus’ life and ministry was a ministry of “action.”

Jesus did not stay at home, asking God to bring the world to Him. He did not wait for someone to knock on His door. He took “action” and began traveling throughout the land, preaching and teaching wherever He went.

In the twenty first century, it is far too easy for us to get so caught up in our own lives that we forget the real purpose and reason we are here. We get up, go to work, race through our day, come home, eat dinner, and plop ourselves in front of the television or computer, etc. to be entertained. Where is the service to our Lord? Where is the service to others?

Christians, (anyone who believes in Jesus Christ and calls Him their Lord and Savior), are called to serve Him and to serve others.

It is a blessing and a privilege to know of the salvation through Jesus Christ. However, it is a mistake to believe that the responsibility to share the Good News of Jesus Christ rests solely upon the shoulders of God’s chosen leaders. The Lord talks about this several times in scripture.

“A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. Yes, just as you can identify a tree by it’s fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.” Matthew 7:17-20

In Luke 13:6-9: *“Then Jesus told this story: A man planted a fig tree in his garden and came again and again to see if there was any fruit on it, but he was always disappointed. Finally, he said to his gardener, I’ve waited three years, and there hasn’t been a single fig! Cut it down. It’s just taking up space in the garden.”*

“The gardener answered, Sir, give it one more chance. Leave it another year, and I’ll give it special attention and plenty of fertilizer. If we get figs next year, fine. If not, then you can cut it down.”

There are so many ways and opportunities to serve the Lord and others in our everyday lives, but most of us overlook them. We may not intentionally overlook them, but we are generally so focused on ourselves and our own needs, we simply don’t see what is right in front of us.

As I have shared with you in earlier chapters, I was this way for most of my life. Very self focused, money focused, success focused, and worldly focused. Needless to say, it didn’t bring me the happiness or joy I was seeking. I was bearing no fruit for the Lord or anyone else.

There is a reason God turns our biggest weaknesses into our greatest strengths in life. It is so we can then become a blessing in someone else’s life by teaching them what we have learned through our own experiences. We are all called to be witnesses of Jesus Christ and to serve others.

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hold on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds.”

Matthew 16:24-27

Clearly, it is not enough to simply believe. As believers, we are called to bear fruit. We are called to “action.”

What happens if we don’t take action (bear fruit) for Christ’s sake?

“In the morning, as Jesus was returning to Jerusalem, he was hungry, and he noticed a fig tree beside the road. He went over to see if there were any figs, but there were only leaves. Then he said to it, “May you never bear fruit again!” And immediately the fig tree withered up.” Matthew 21:18-19

As we just learned in Matthew 7:20, through the words of Jesus Christ: *“Yes, just as you can identify a tree by it’s fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.”* But let’s look a little deeper. The very next verse says, *“Not everyone who calls out to me, Lord! Lord! Will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually **do** the will of my Father in heaven will enter.”* Matthew 7:21

Jesus tells us very plainly in scripture that we must not only live a good life ourselves, we must also bear fruit. We must share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others. We must take action!

I don’t know about you, but I don’t want to be cut down and thrown into the fire like a fig tree that hasn’t produced any fruit.

But let's be honest. Many people find it very difficult to strike up a conversation with others about Jesus Christ. I can testify to the fact that evangelism does not come easy for me. I can strike up a conversation with almost anyone, anywhere, but for some reason I have always found it to be difficult to bring up the subject of our Lord and Savior with strangers. And I was born and raised in a Christian environment.

Some people are natural evangelists. My youngest son is that way. As of this writing, he is only eight years old, yet he can strike up a conversation with anyone about Jesus Christ.

Now, please don't get me wrong here. I am in no way ashamed of being a Christian. I am very humbled and honored to be called a servant of the Lord. There is no higher honor on this planet. I am incredibly grateful that Jesus Christ is a loving, forgiving Lord.

And yet, even after the Lord and Savior of the world appeared to me, and has worked miracle after miracle in my life, I still sometimes find it difficult to verbally share these experiences with others. As I'm sure you may have noticed by now, I'm not a professional author either.

Believe me, I have been divinely guided, directed, and led with both of my books. I could never have done this on my own, nor would I have attempted to do so without the Lord's help.

Considering how difficult it has been for me, being chosen as a witness and a servant by the Lord Himself, to share these events and messages with others, I know how difficult it is for many others to "take action."

Just as I mentioned about myself in the very first words in this book, many of us are afraid of what others will think of us if we openly talk about God or Jesus Christ. Even though we know Jesus Christ is the Lord and Savior of the world, when it comes

to sharing that with others, we begin to imagine that we are opening ourselves up to judgment and ridicule from others. I understand exactly how hard this is for many people.

There is a solution. It is powerful, compelling, yet easy.

Place this book into someone else's hand. Yes it can be that easy! Simply “**give**” others a copy of this book.

Let the book and my words testify to the world that Jesus Christ is the chosen Son of God, and is Lord and Savior of the world. Through this book, I proclaim that Jesus Christ lives, He is calling the world to repentance, and **time is short!** This is the calling our Lord has asked of me. And I need your help.

I often think about the terrorist attacks on 9/11/01 in America, and of how only a handful of evil people changed the course of the entire world forever.

If a mere handful of evil individuals can change the course of human history throughout the world, what can an army of believers accomplish by simply sharing this message with others?

Do you understand the power you hold in your hands?

You don't have to be a polished, professional missionary or Bible scholar to serve God. You only need to take very simple, very easy action. Simply place a copy of this book into someone else's hands and encourage them to read it. Share the message. Give to others.

Imagine what would happen if each one of us made it our goal to bring every possible soul on earth to Jesus Christ before it is too late?

What would happen if each and every believer made it a priority to place a copy of this book into just one person's hand each week? That's only four books per month.

Simple, easy, yet powerful enough to multiply exponentially.

Remember the seven messages in chapter two?

1 - Time is short.

2 - Jesus loves you and wants to forgive you.

3 - Forgive those who have harmed you.

4 - Pray. Seek God's guidance.

5 - Give generously to others.

6 - Get out of debt.

7 - Help prepare the world for Christ's return.

What do all of these messages have in common?

They are all "A Call to Action."

I need your help. The Lord needs your help. Through me, He is calling you to action. It is time to live for God. It is time to prepare the world for the most glorious event in history: the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Again, I encourage you to read the four gospels in the New Testament: John, Luke, Matthew and Mark. As you do, please pay attention to the many parables (stories) Jesus told to His followers. Specifically, I want to share with you the parable of the four soils.

"A farmer went out to plant his seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath, where it was stepped on, and the birds ate it. Other seed fell among rocks. It began to grow, but the plant soon wilted and died for lack of moisture. Other seed fell among thorns that grew up with it and choked out the tender plants. Still other seed fell on fertile soil. This seed grew and produced a crop that was a hundred times as

much as had been planted!” When he had said this, he called out, *Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”*
Luke 8:5-8

So what does this parable mean? What does it teach us?

“This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is God’s word. The seeds that fell on the footpath represent those who hear the message, only to have the devil come and take it away from their hearts and prevent them from believing and being saved. The seeds on the rocky soil represent those who hear the message and receive it with joy. But since they don’t have deep roots, they believe for awhile, then fall away when they face temptation. The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity. And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God’s word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest.”
Luke 8:11-15

Verses 16-18 go on to say: *“No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. A lamp is placed on a stand, where it’s light can be seen by all who enter the house. For all that is secret will eventually be brought into the open, and everything that is concealed will be brought to light and made known to all.”*

“So pay attention to how you hear. To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what little they think they understand will be taken away from them.” Luke 8:16-18

The Lord has shown me that there will be those who dismiss this book and the messages contained herein as garbage. There will be those who read it, understand, and then forget it quickly. There will be those who read it, understand, begin to share with

others, and then soon stop as the temptations, pressures and stress of everyday life take over. Then there will be those who read it, understand it, gain a strong testimony of Jesus Christ, and begin living their lives for Him. These are the ones who will plant seeds. These are the ones who will produce fruit.

How much difference can one person make in the world?

By giving just four others a copy of this book, each month. In one year you will have directly touched 48 lives. But even more importantly, because there will be those among that 48 who do the same, you will have indirectly touched as many as 264 lives.

What would happen if you doubled your effort, and placed two books each week into someone else's hands? In just one year, you would directly touch 96 lives. And indirectly, because of your efforts, you will have touched as many as 528 lives.

If you keep doing the same for two years, you will have directly touched 192 lives. But what about indirectly? Do the numbers simply double? No. Look at what happens.

Because of the power of compounding, after two years you will have indirectly blessed as many as 2208. That is almost four times as many lives being blessed indirectly by your efforts. After three years, the number of lives indirectly touched by your efforts becomes as high as 5040. More than double the two year result. Compounded effort is a powerful thing. Never under estimate the power of one, compounded.

Do you understand now why I asked the question, if a mere handful of evil individuals can change the course of human history throughout the world, what can an army of believers accomplish by simply sharing this message with others?

How many lives do you want to bless?

It all starts by taking action (planting seeds).

Please do as much as you can. I am not asking you to go broke buying books and giving them away. The point is to take action, plant seeds. Do whatever you can, in whatever way you choose, and the Lord will compound, magnify, and bless your efforts.

Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest. Ecclesiastes 11:4

Don't wait for your own life to be perfect. We grow in God by being a blessing in someone else's life, giving to others, planting seeds. Without seeds planted, there can be no harvest.

For those who read this and conclude that this is all some grand scheme just to sell books, let me assure it is not. The purpose here is to serve the Lord. This is not about money. This is about serving God, serving Jesus Christ, serving and giving generously to others. Planting seeds for an abundant harvest.

Ninety percent of all profits generated from book sales are dedicated to the Lord. It is His money, and will be used to further His work all over the world including helping victims of future disasters. Believe me, there are going to be many more disasters throughout the world as God tries to get us all to wake up, repent, and live for Him.

It is an absolute testament of God's love for His children that we have not already been destroyed.

When you look at the world today and see all the senseless killing, violence, and torture that is going on...

When you look at the many forms of idolatry in the world today: battles for control, money, power. People's hunger for

new cars, homes, jobs, the latest and best toys, and so many other worldly pursuits...

When you look at the lack of love and compassion for others, and see much of the world focused solely upon themselves...

When you see the pride in the hearts of so many, the lack of humility, and the focus on so much that is evil and sinful...

When you look at the very entertainment that fills our lives on a daily basis...

Is it any wonder that God is not pleased with His world?

Is it any wonder that time is short?

Message #1 - Time is Short!

Is it any wonder that He is giving us one last opportunity to repent, accept Him, and turn our lives to Him?

Is it any wonder He is preparing for battle?

Is it any wonder why He has chosen now, this time in history, to deliver these messages to the world?

Is it any wonder that Jesus Christ appeared to me with a red shield on His chest and a heavy heart?

There is one final passage of scripture He wants you to read.

“The Lord says, I was ready to respond, but no one asked for help. I was ready to be found, but no one was looking for me. I said, ‘Here I am, Here I am!’ to a nation that did not call on my name.”

“All day long I opened my arms to rebellious people. But they follow their own evil paths and their crooked schemes. All day long they insult me to my face by worshiping idols in their sacred gardens. They burn incense on pagan alters. At night they go out among the graves, worshiping the dead.”

“Yet they say to each other, ‘Don’t come too close or you will defile me! I am holier than you!’ These people are a stench in my nostrils, an acrid smell that never goes away.”

Isaiah 65:1-5

Now I ask you, is this not the world we are living in today?

“Look, my decree is written out in front of me: I will not stand silent; I will repay them in full! Yes, I will repay them - both for their own sins and those sins of their ancestors, says the Lord”

“For they also burned incense on the mountains and insulted me on the hills. I will pay them back in full!”

“But I will not destroy them all, says the Lord. For just as good grapes are found among a cluster of bad ones (and someone will say, ‘Don’t throw them away - some of those grapes are good!’) so I will not destroy all of Israel. For I still have true servants there.”

“I will preserve a remnant of the people of Israel and of Judah to possess my land. Those I choose will inherit it, and my servants will live there. The plain of Sharon will again be filled with flocks for my people who have searched for me, and the valley of Achor will be a place to pasture herds.”

“But because the rest of you have forsaken the Lord and have forgotten his Temple, and because you have prepared feasts to honor the god of Fate and have offered mixed wine with the god of Destiny, now I will ‘destine’ you for the sword. All of you will bow down before the executioner. For when I called,

you did not answer. When I spoke, you did not listen. You deliberately sinned - before my very eyes - and chose to do what you know I despise.”

“Therefore, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: My servants will eat, but you will starve. My servants will drink, but you will be thirsty. My servants will rejoice, but you will be sad and ashamed. My servants will sing for joy, but you will cry in sorrow and despair.”

“Your name will be a curse word among my people, for the Sovereign Lord will destroy you and will call his true servants by another name.”

“All who invoke a blessing or take an oath will do so by the God of truth. For I will put aside my anger and forget the evil of earlier days.”

“Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and no one will even think about the old ones anymore. Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation! And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness. Her people will be a source of joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and delight in my people. And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard in it no more.”

“No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only the cursed will die that young!”

“In those days people will live in the houses they build and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. Unlike the past, invaders will not take their houses and confiscate their vineyards. For my people will live as long as trees, and my chosen ones will have time to enjoy their hard-won gains.”

“They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are people blessed by the Lord, and their children, too, will be blessed. I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers!”

“The wolf and the lamb will feed together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. But the snakes will eat dust. In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the Lord, have spoken.” Isaiah 65: 6-25

As we come to the end of this book, I humbly pray, with all my heart and soul, that you will accept these messages from the Lord. I pray that you will accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior.

I pray you will recognize that time is short. I pray that you will forgive others, repent of your sins, and ask God to forgive you.

I pray that you will seek the Lord in prayer, seek His guidance and direction in your everyday life. I pray that you will begin to serve the Lord and give generously to others.

I pray that you will get out of debt, and that you will help prepare the world for Christ’s glorious return. I pray that you will become a true servant of the Lord, and that all He has promised His true servants will be lavished upon you.

May God Bless you with the Holy Spirit.

I pray this in the Holy name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

To book a speaking engagement with the author, please call 405-237-3888 during regular business hours or complete the "Contact Us" form on www.LynnDSpencer.com

You are also invited to share in a morning devotional with host Lynn D. Spencer each day, Monday through Friday.

Register for free at: www.Prospertoday.com