

ARE OUR TIMES
the End Times?
 Examining the world through the lens of prophecy.



JANUARY — MARCH 2026

THE Apostolic Faith

EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH — JUDE 3

VIEWPOINT
 BY SOLA ADESOPE
 SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL

THE GOSPEL THAT CIRCLES THE GLOBE

OUR CLASSICS

BY MARY CARVER

MIRACLES ON THE ROAD TO SALVATION

Answers to prayer in Mary's home left an indelible impression on her heart.

My family moved from Oregon to a homestead in California when I was about a year old. Shortly after we moved, I developed a bad case of eczema.

Originally published in the March 1987 edition of this magazine.



God's Intervention

God proved His power in crisis after crisis—from healing eczema, to sparing lives in a rabid bobcat attack, to restoring a baby with smallpox—drawing Mary's family closer to Him.

At that time, my parents were operating a small post office in our home. A paper was sent there from the Apostolic Faith Church in Portland, Oregon. My mother read it and learned that those people believed in divine healing. She wrote to them, requesting prayer for me, and was sent an anointed handkerchief which had been prayed over according to the example of Paul in Acts 19:12.

When the handkerchief came, my mother placed it on my body in faith and prayed that the Lord would heal me. For many nights she had needed to sit up and hold me in order to prevent me from scratching, but that night she put me down, and I slept all night. The Lord had healed me. After that, we continued to receive the church papers and newsletters regularly.

Life on the homestead wasn't easy. One spring, while my father and brothers were clearing some land and burning sagebrush, the boys saw a



bobcat come across the field. It ran into one of the bonfires, and it came out fighting mad! The boys ran, but the cat was faster. It knocked down my brother, Ralph, and was clawing him. Papa heard the boys screaming, and he came running. Before he could get out his knife, the cat jumped on him too, sinking its claws into his leg and biting him. My father did kill the cat, but I still remember the terror we felt when we saw that animal and my injured father and brother.

They were taken to the nearest hospital, and it was found that the bobcat was rabid. As a result, my father became very ill. My mother remembered that God had answered prayer

for me, and she sent another request for prayer to Portland. She told me: "Pray for Papa. He is not saved, and he may not live." I remember the burden I felt because he wasn't ready to meet Jesus.

Three months later, my father came home from the hospital—very thin and on crutches, but he was home! When he thought about how near death he had been, he asked the Lord to talk to his heart again. He promised

A Child's Prayer

"Pray for Papa. He is not saved, and he may not live."
 Even as a child, the burden for her father's soul pressed heavily on Mary. That prayer became a turning point in her family's story.

he would pray if a preacher would come to hold meetings in the little schoolhouse nearby. God heard that promise. It wasn't long until a preacher came, and my father paid his vow and gave his heart to the Lord. What a change it made in our home!



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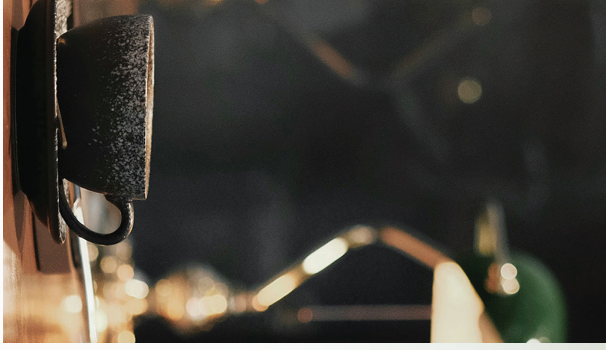
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Lasting Joy

“Through the years, there has been joy in living for Jesus.”

Despite hardships, Mary's heart was full of gratitude and joy.

She was so sick and tiny that we didn't think she would live. In fact, the doctor didn't think it was necessary for him to come to our house again. He said he would sign the death certificate when she died. Once more a request was sent to Portland for prayer, and the Lord healed her!

The next two summers, we were able to travel to Portland for part of the camp meeting, and the third year we stayed longer. That year I was saved and sanctified, and the following year I received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. From then on, our years revolved around camp meetings. As soon as one camp was over, we began saving our money and planning for the next year.

Through the years, there has been joy in living for Jesus. There is deep gratitude in my heart for the way the Lord guided our family in the way of truth. God has been so good to us!



Mary Carver was the wife of Reverend Loyce Carver, the leader of the Apostolic Faith work worldwide from 1965 until 1993. She served God faithfully and went on to her reward in 2000 at the age of 84½-five.

A STATEMENT OF BIBLE DOCTRINE

We believe in the divine inspiration of the Bible, and endorse all the teachings contained in it. Following is a summary of our basic doctrines.

THE DIVINE TRINITY consists of three Persons: God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Ghost, perfectly united as one. **Matthew 3:16-17; 1 John 5:7.**

REPENTANCE is a godly sorrow for and a renouncing of all sin. **Isaiah 55:7; Matthew 4:17.**

JUSTIFICATION (or salvation) is the act of God's grace through which we receive forgiveness for sins and stand before God as though we had never sinned. **Romans 5:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17.**

ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION, the act of God's grace whereby we are made holy, is the second definite work and is subsequent to justification. **John 17:15-21; Hebrews 13:12.**

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST is the endowment of power upon the sanctified life, and is evidenced by speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. **John 14:16-17; 26; Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-4.**

DIVINE HEALING of sickness is provided through the atonement. **James 5:14-16; 1 Peter 2:24.**

THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS will be as literal and visible as His going away (**Acts 1:9-10**) and will consist of two appearances. First, He comes to catch away His waiting Bride. **Matthew 24:40-44; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17.** Second, He comes to execute judgment upon the ungodly. **2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Jude 14-15.**

THE TRIBULATION will occur between Christ's coming for His Bride and His return in judgment. **Isaiah 26:20-21; Revelation 9 and 16.**

You may obtain additional information about these doctrines and learn about our other publications in both English and foreign languages by writing to the Apostolic Faith Church at 5414 SE Duke Street, Portland, Oregon 97206, U.S.A., or visiting our website at www.apostolicfaith.org. Before these magazines are sent out, they are always prayed over for the healing of the sick and the salvation of souls.

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CHRIST'S MILLENNIAL REIGN is the 1000 years of peaceful reign by Jesus on earth. **Isaiah 11 and 35; Revelation 20:1-6.**

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT is the final judgment when all the wicked dead will stand before God. **Revelation 20:11-15.**

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH will replace the present heaven and earth, which will be destroyed after the Great White Throne Judgment. **2 Peter 3:12-13; Revelation 21:1-3.**

ETERNAL HEAVEN AND ETERNAL HELL are literal places of final and eternal destiny. **Matthew 25:41-46; Luke 16:22-28.**

MARRIAGE is a covenant between one man and one woman that is binding before God for life. Neither person has a right to marry again while the first companion lives. **Mark 10:6-12; Romans 7:1-3.**

RESTITUTION is necessary, wherein wrongs against others are righted. **Ezekiel 33:15; Matthew 5:23-24.**

WATER BAPTISM is by one immersion "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." **Matthew 3:16; 28:19.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER is an institution ordained by Jesus so that we might remember His death until He returns. **Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:23, 26.**

FOOT WASHING is practiced according to the example and commandment Jesus gave. **John 13:14-15.**

Wanting to get back to the faith of his childhood, he moved our family to Vanuena, California, to be near a church there. He was hungry for more of God, and when he heard about sanctification, he yielded to the Lord and was sanctified. Then he heard about the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and began to seek for that experience.

After the Sunday morning services, those who were hungry for the baptism of the Holy Ghost would stay and pray for it. One of the Sunday school teachers would take us children downstairs and tell Bible stories while we waited. One Sunday she asked if we would like to pray and give our lives to Jesus. As she prayed for us, the Lord put conviction on my heart. I cried, truly

**Grandma's Report**

When she returned from camp meeting in Portland, Mary's grandmother could hardly contain her joy.

"It is wonderful! The greatest thing I have ever heard!"

Her testimony inspired the whole family to want the same experience.

sorry for the things I had done wrong. Even though I was just a child, I knew when the Lord forgave me and I was really saved. I was so happy!

I went upstairs to tell Papa what had happened. He was kneeling at the altar, and I still remember the feel of his big arms around me when he told

me how glad he was that I was saved. I enjoyed being a Christian, but because I was so young, I didn't understand then how to continue in the faith. Yet, the Lord never ceased to talk to my heart. My father received the baptism of the Holy Ghost in that church, but the congregation as a whole rejected it, so my parents began visiting other churches. Through reading the papers from the Apostolic Faith Church, he realized that they taught three definite experiences: justification, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

My grandmother on my mother's side decided to attend a camp meeting in Portland to see what those people were like. When she came home, she said, "It is wonderful! The greatest thing I have ever heard!" Her account made us all want to go. Soon after that, my father

became quite ill with a rheumatic condition. When he was better, the family decided to move, with the hope that another climate would help him. My parents held an auction and sold everything: cows, horses, saddles, harnesses, and household furnishings, and we moved to Klamath Falls, Oregon. We arrived on a Sunday afternoon, at a time when the Apostolic Faith Church in that town was holding tent meetings. I'll never forget the first meeting we were in. It really thrilled me.

Our trials were not yet over, but God was with us. Soon after we arrived in Klamath Falls, our family contracted smallpox. My youngest sister was born a month prematurely, and she broke out with smallpox, too.

Major goals across the district include continuing evangelistic efforts, training

Despite these challenges, positive developments are taking place in the region. At our only church in Japan, a new pastor was recently appointed after that role had been vacant for a few years following the retirement of their longtime pastor. In addition, the Kawasaki church building was beautifully renovated and re-dedicated in 2024. In South Korea, our saints are engaged in translating curriculum, tracts, and other literature for the church members there. In the Philippines, a new Fellowship Hall was recently renovated at the headquarters church where camp meetings are held.



▲ The South Korea camp meeting chair.

EAST ASIA: We have about thirty churches located in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines, with a combined total of about 1,000 members. In Japan, less than 2% of the population are Christian, making evangelization difficult. A different challenge exists in the Philippines, where Catholicism is predominant. In addition, economic conditions there cause many members to leave the country to find work. Economic conditions in South Korea are good, but an extreme cultural work ethic hinders many from attending church.

Discipleship. Major obstacles in this region include prevailing lawlessness and violent religious persecution against Christians, especially in Nigeria. In addition, the economic situation has left many members living in impoverished conditions or leaving rural areas in search of work. This puts a strain on the churches they leave behind. Yet, the work continues to grow as young people are leveraging technology for “e-evangelism.” There is also hope to expand to eight more countries in this region to find creative means of outreach in places where Christian outreach is prohibited, and to address economic concerns in areas affected by poverty.

AFRICA

CHURCHES AND GROUPS: 115



▲ Sunday school at Malawi camp meeting.

SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AFRICA: Our 770 churches and groups, spanning twenty-four countries in this district, have seen great success in evangelistic outreach efforts. New branches have been established and more resources are being offered online.

Our members there have been able to build churches, campgrounds, and schools in various locations, and further construction will occur as resources allow. They hope to eventually expand to every country within the region. In addition, leaders here have oversight of the work in Pakistan. One obstacle to achieving these goals is a lack of funding. To address economic needs, our leaders are attempting to generate sustainable income sources through a business development trust. Another challenge has been numerous administrative delays and legal

AFRICA

CHURCHES AND GROUPS: 2537



▲ Few existing at Nigeria camp meeting.

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA: We have 164 churches in the twelve French-speaking countries of this district, and 932 churches in the six English-speaking countries, with the majorities of those (842) in Nigeria.

Combined weekly attendance at these churches is usually over 100,000. Camp meetings are held in seven countries, plus nine across Nigeria alone, with the largest gathering attended by over 20,000 at the headquarters in Faith City. Expansion of the campground there has been underway for over twenty years, with major progress in recent years. The semi-completed tabernacle was used in 2024 at the 80th anniversary of the work there. Outside of Nigeria, a new church was recently built

SOUTH AMERICA

CHURCHES AND GROUPS: 12



▲ A service in Maracaibo, Chile.

Of the thirteen countries that comprise South America, we have churches in Brazil, Chile, and Peru. Since most of these congregations are located far from each other, combined online meetings are held to support and encourage the saints.

The primary goals in South America are:

- Equip more congregations with tools for online services.
- Hold regular combined online meetings in Peru and Brazil.
- Grow the Sunday school work in Brazil and embark on an outreach effort in Sao Paulo in 2026.
- Increase evangelism efforts in Chile.
- In Peru, improve the infrastructure of our Sunday school building in Iquitos and expand the work in the Lambayeque region.
- Continue efforts to start a work in Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

Hold an annual Pan-South America online service. Camp meetings in South America had to be suspended several years ago, but an annual weekend of special meetings in Chile is set to commence in 2026. There is also hope to eventually build camp meeting facilities on our headquarters church

EUROPE

CHURCHES AND GROUPS: 41



▲ The Western Europe headquarters district.

remarkable growth in this district, which is comprised of six churches and ten groups, as well as three Bible study centers. Most of the churches are in the United Kingdom, but we also have groups meeting in France, Germany, Spain, and Ireland. Plans are also in place to expand to Belgium, Northern Ireland, and Italy. The work is well established in this region, with youth camps, camp meetings, and other retreats being well attended and with many spiritual victories won. Recently, the Western Europe headquarters in the Bexley neighborhood of London, England, was remodeled to include an expanded platform area, new offices, multipurpose rooms, a kitchen, an elevator, and a grand organ. The updated building was dedicated in September of 2025, and two new UK churches were also dedicated in recent years.

Key challenges include that many of our congregations have outgrown their current rented buildings or are yet to secure a permanent place of worship, and there are language and cultural barriers throughout the region. A new camp meeting site may also soon be needed as the current location cannot accommodate all who wish to attend. The saints in Western Europe are focused on encouraging more spiritual development, especially among youth and young families,

and expanding use of digital tools for evangelism.



▲ A worship camp meeting service.

SCANDINAVIA: Our work in Scandinavia began in 1912, making it one of the oldest areas of our work. Yet, Christianity has been in decline in this part of the world for decades, making evangelism very difficult. Old-timers in the Scandinavian work have passed on, and much of society there now seems uninterested in the Gospel.

However, the light continues to shine out. Today we have two churches in Norway and one in Denmark. Camp meeting is held each year at a tented site in Norway, and people from throughout Scandinavia attend, as well as delegates from other parts of the world. The headquarters church in Sevaner publishes and distributes a monthly newsletter in Norwegian and also broadcasts devotional messages on local radio stations. They are praying that the Lord will ignite the youngest age groups to take a stand for the gospel.



▲ A service in Arevalo, Romania.

ROMANIA: Our work in Romania has seen remarkable growth since it began in 2000 with a single Sunday school. Today we have twenty-two churches there and the saints enjoy an annual camp meeting. More recently, it has been exciting to see new congregations established in

KEY VERSE

“Beloved, when I gave you all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you to write unto the saints.” — Jude 1:3

FROM THE WORD

BY SOLA ADESOPE

CONTENT FOR THE FAITH

The Epistle of Jude gives clear instruction on a topic vital to all Christians.

the importance of earnestly contending for the faith is a topic that is dear to our church and to our hearts. Jude 1:3 reads: “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”

While contending for the faith is our topic, this message could be titled, “Earnestly Contend for the Apostolic Faith” because this verse refers to the faith of the Apostles of Jesus Christ. This is where the name of our church came from, and Jude 1:3 is also our motto. Its words are inscribed on the cornerstone of the headquarters church in Portland along with the words: “Founded 1906, Built 1983,” and have appeared on the magazine we have published since our founding.

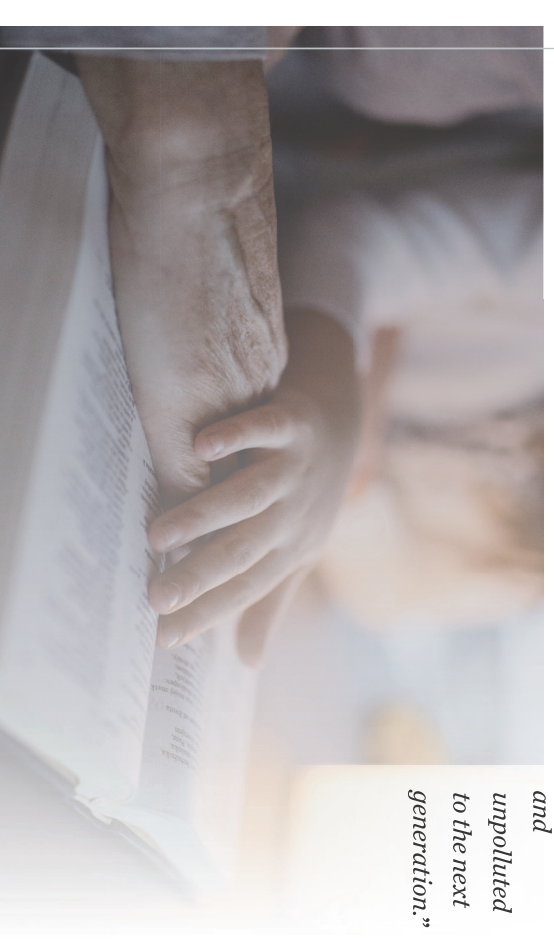
Like every book of the bible, the Epistle of Jude has some key themes. In verse 3, Jude reminded believers of the need to contend for the faith. In verses 4-19, he warned against false teachers and apostasy. In verses 20-22, he challenged believers to build up themselves in the most holy faith, to be prayerful and compassionate, and to keep themselves in the love of God. Finally, in verses

Four Key Questions

- What is “the faith”?** The faith is the core teachings, principles, and doctrines of the Word of God—the faith of the Apostles.
- Why must we contend for it?** This faith is under attack from the enemy of our souls, so we must protect and fight for it diligently.
- How do we contend?** By remembering, believing, and passing on the sound doctrines of the Bible.
- What are the rewards?** God will keep us and present us faultless before His presence with exceeding joy.

“Thank God, the faith once delivered to the Apostles has been delivered to us, and by the grace of God, we will also deliver it undiluted and unpolluted to the next generation.”

around Jesus prevented them from teaching Him, they broke through the roof and let the sick man’s bed down at the feet of Jesus. When Jesus saw their faith, he healed the man both physically and spiritually. Believing faith is powerful! Through it, you can bring your friends to Jesus. You can bring yourself, your problems, your families. In believing faith, release them at the feet of Jesus. He will do something for them. However, what we are focusing on is even more powerful than believing faith. It includes believing faith, but it also encompasses the core teachings, principles, and doctrines of the Word of God. We are to contend for the faith—the faith of the Apostles. Even when healing or physical deliverance did not come, they were willing to give their lives for the faith.



The faith we are contending for is not a new faith. It is not a new age faith or a contemporary faith. It is not a set of beliefs that aligns with modern philosophies and ideas. Jude said it is the faith that

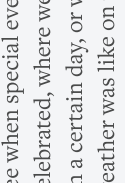


Ongoing — daily, continual offering.



All-inclusive — every area surrendered.

No limits — nothing held back.



What a Living Sacrifice Looks Like

Consider Abraham, who gave us one of the most profound

of victory. At the end of Paul's life, he said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have

kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

What are the rewards of earnestly contending? Verses 24 and 25 of Jude tell us, "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and

honor, and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." What a wonderful reward for contending for the faith! The Lord will present His Church before the presence of His glory. The Bible says it will be a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing. It will be holy!

Contending for the faith is a way of victory. At the end of Paul's life, he said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

When we keep the faith, a crown of righteousness will be given to us as well. That crown is waiting for us!

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FOCUS VERSE: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and he delighteth in his way." – Psalm 37:23

January 1, 2026

SAMPLE DEVOTIONAL

Our Daily Planner

last year. These planners are meant to help arrange one's day, week, and even year. It is good to have a plan, yet, in the end, it is God who plans a Christian's day. He is looking at a bigger picture than just our lives—God has a plan for the whole world as well as for each individual in it. We do not always know what He has planned next, but what a wonderful and confident feeling it puts in our hearts to know that God is in control. When something goes differently than what we were counting on, we can trust that He avoided something harmful,

or perhaps God wanted us somewhere else for a purpose of His own. God could be directing us to someone who needs to hear the Good News that Jesus saves! Make your plans for today or next week, but always with the knowledge that they are subject to change if God so chooses. He has the very best plan for every day, and as the focus verse promises, we will be delighted in our way when we are following God's path for us.

has already decided on something else for our day, and it will be far better in the end than what we were expecting. We want our lives to accommodate God's plans, and not to stubbornly insist on our own. When we are submitted to God, He can change our direction in a moment, and that is a good thing! If circumstances make us miss an event that we had wanted to be at, we can trust that we did not really miss anything at all. We might have even avoided something harmful,

several years ago, one of the gifts I found beneath our Christmas tree was a daily planner for the new year. My husband always wraps one for me that I use as a kind of journal. It helps us remember when we need to have the furnace checked, get the fireplace chimney cleaned, make dental appointments, etc. When the year has passed, it is helpful and interesting to be able to look back and see when special events were celebrated, where we were on a certain day, or what the weather was like on this day

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WORLD REPORT

GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND GROWTH

A review of recent developments, obstacles to overcome, and goals for each region of our work.

ACROSS CONTINENTS AND CULTURES around the world, Apostolic Faith congregations continue to see the hand of God work in unique ways in their local communities. With a unified commitment to the Gospel and a reliance on God's help, workers in every region are pressing forward to reach more people with the message of hope through Jesus.

Following is an overview of our global work, including current challenges, areas of growth, and goals for the future. May the Lord continue to send laborers into His harvest, strengthen existing ministries, open new frontiers, and guide us as we earnestly contend for the faith.

NORTH AMERICA CHURCHES AND GROUPS: 73



An outdoor service in Hawaii.

WEST AND MIDWEST UNITED STATES: One of the most encouraging recent developments in this district is the growth of Sunday school and youth programs in several congregations. We hope to continue building on that and reach young people who are hungry for the truth.

A door of opportunity has re-opened in Honolulu, Hawaii, where our former small church closed in 2008. About three years ago, one of our ministers moved there with his family, and they have been inviting people to

join them for simple church services. They have seen eight people receive salvation since their move to Hawaii, and about twenty-five now attend the weekly gatherings.

An opportunity has recently opened in Barrow, Alaska, centered around descendants of Paul parkokak, an Inupiat Eskimo who

was born in 1891 in a remote village in northern Alaska. In Brother Paul's youth, he came to Washington to learn English and was saved at our Seattle church in 1913. He became an Apostolic Faith minister and lived in that area for several years, but then returned to his Alaskan home. He prayed earnestly for revival among his native people until his passing in 1980. Last year, some of Brother Paul's grandchildren showed interest in reconstituting their grandfather's church. In April of 2025, ministers traveled to Barrow and shared tracts and magazines that featured Brother Paul's testimony. Many of his relatives wept when they received them, and the ministers were invited back to hold church services. We are praying for a spiritual harvest in this land where

Brother Paul sowed the seed of the Gospel many decades ago. Though Christianity has been in decline in the United States for some time and many are resistant to the faith, there are also encouraging signs of God working. We are especially asking God to raise up new ministers and pastors in this region.



Washington DC special meetings.

SOUTHERN AND EASTERN UNITED STATES: In the last several years, new groups and churches have been added in six cities across this district. A variety of outreach and discipleship efforts have shown success, including kids' days, Vacation Bible Schools, food distribution, visitations to hospitals and institutions, and more. In addition, a Youth Steering Committee has been helpful

The Rewards of Contending

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and

honor, and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." — JUDE 24-25

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have

kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" — 2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8

JUDE IN SUMMARY

REMINDER (1:3) Contend for the faith.

WARNING (1:4-19) False teachers, apostasy.

CHALLENGE (1:20-22) Build up, pray, love.

ASSURANCE (1:24-25) God will keep you.

Will you contend for the faith in the days ahead? If you have not embraced this faith, today is your opportunity. If you are saved, why not contend and be sanctified? If you are sanctified, why not contend and be filled with the Holy Spirit? The Rapture of the Church will soon take place. Until that great day, the Lord will bless us exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we can ask or think as we purpose to keep contending for the faith that was once delivered to the saints.

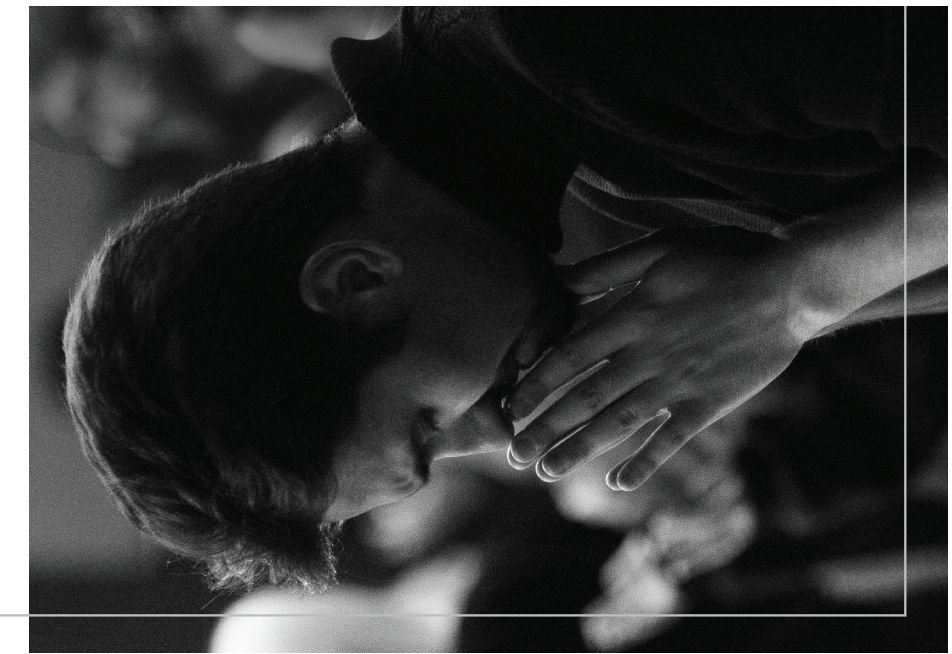


Solo Adesope is the Superintendent General of the Apostolic Faith Church.

THE BLESSING OF CONSECRATION

BY RENE CASSELL

Dedicating our lives to God opens the door to receiving from Him.



An account in Exodus 32 highlights a great spiritual lesson regarding consecration. In that chapter, Moses was distressed because he had just discovered that the Children of Israel had sinned by making a golden calf and worshipping it. Moses asked those who were still on the Lord's side to come to him, and when the tribe of Levi came, he told them: "Consecrate yourselves to day to the Lord, even every man upon his son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day" (verse 29). The word *consecrate* means "to make or declare something as sacred; to dedicate formally to a divine purpose." In other words, Moses was telling the Levites, "Dedicate yourselves and your families entirely to God, set yourselves apart for Him, and then He will bestow upon you blessings."

With God, consecration is a gateway to blessing. If we want His blessing, consecration is required. And if we consecrate ourselves to God, we are assured of His blessing. At times, we may have doubts or fears about what will happen if we yield a specific area of our lives to God. When we understand that consecration opens the door for His blessing, we realize that we have nothing to be afraid of: We never lose by offering ourselves to God.

In Romans 12:1, the Apostle Paul gave a description of what our consecration to God should look like. He said, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Each of our lives is meant to be a "living sacrifice." That indicates a complete surrender—nothing held back. When we meet God's standard for consecration, His blessing is sure to follow. Let's consider some specifics about what this means in a practical sense.

No limits

At times, people try to set boundaries for God, as if to tell Him, "You can go this far, but not that far." I was once guilty of doing that myself. When I was first saved, I had reservations about consecrating my life fully to God, so I tried to set limits on what He could call me to do.

In 1978, I went to Portland camp meeting with the sole purpose of being filled with the Holy Spirit. At that time, I was preoccupied with many things—working fulltime, serving as mayor of my town, being active in church work, and so on. I felt that if I could just get to the tabernacle and set myself to seek God there, I could receive the baptism. However, one day as I was praying at the altars, God showed me a



I WAS BORN INTO A CHRISTIAN HOME IN NIGERIA. AS

a young person, I prayed to the Lord for salvation, and He saved my soul. Later, He gave me the other foundational Christian experiences and has guided me ever since. During my walk with God, Psalm 121 has been very special to me. The last verse says, "The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time

forth, and even for evermore." During my university days, I had an experience that will always cause me to praise God for His protection promised in this verse. I was attending university in a remote village where the people still believed in rituals and idol worship. One Sunday morning on my way to church, I had to walk through an isolated area to cut across to the bus stop. I was by myself,

had continued, my life would have been taken because it is forbidden to interrupt such things. When I returned to the hostel, I was frightened but relieved. Some locals who heard of my experience said I was lucky to know it was escaped. I know it was the Lord who protected me with His promise. He preserved my going out and coming in. May His name be praised! —Tolu Ogunleye

"Some locals who heard of my experience said I was lucky to have escaped. I know it was the Lord who protected me with His promise."

AT OUR CHURCH IN OCEANSIDE, WE DISCOVERED THAT OUR CHIMNEY WAS UNSTABLE. WE

called a contractor and told him to take the chimney down, that

we no longer needed it. He said he would need to put up scaffolding, and though we didn't have his bid yet, we understood that the project would cost a lot of money. This was

a concern. However, before the contractor was able to start the work, a strong wind came up overnight and took down the stack. We were thankful this happened during the

night—none of the women who garden were harmed, and the daycare next door was unaffected. God saved us from calamity. May He be praised. — Alfred Ikotun



ALFRED IKOTUN

Oceanside, New York

TOLU OGUNLEYE

Stavanger, Norway

Evidence

ELIZABETH MIXER

Chehalis, Washington

JANICE CALHOUN

Portland, Oregon

PERSONAL TESTIMONIES OF THE POWER OF GOD



"I don't think I was at the altar for more than ten minutes when the Lord just poured His Spirit upon me, baptizing me."

IN 2019, I WAS IN A BACKSLIDDED

CONDITION WHEN I CAME TO THE PORTLAND CAMP MEETING. I had

planned to get saved while there, and I am so thankful God did that for me. On July 10, 2019, God also sanctified me. Since then, I have gone through a lot of ups and downs spiritually.

I have had a lot of doubts, but God has been so good to assure me and keep me. During this year's camp meeting, I felt that I needed the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I prayed on Friday, knowing that we were leaving on Sunday and there wasn't much time left to receive it. I didn't

as I prayed, but I just kept praising Him. I knew that even when I didn't feel God's presence, He was there, and His blessings would come down. I didn't get my baptism on Friday night, but I kept praying. I couldn't stop thinking about how I needed it. On Sunday morning, God

heart, saying, "I'm going to baptize you today." I don't think I was at the altar for more than ten minutes when the Lord just poured His Spirit upon me, baptizing me. I am so thankful for everything God has done for me. I want to serve Him for the rest of my life. — Elizabeth Mixer

feel God's Spirit much



IT'S SO GOOD TO BE A CHRISTIAN.

My mom got saved in her twenties and started coming to this church along with myself and my sisters when I was about ten years old. I gave my heart to the

Lord when I was a child and consecrated my life. I've had a wonderful life and I'm so thankful that I'm saved, sanctified, baptized with the Holy Spirit, and on my way

to Heaven. The Lord

tells us that when we do cross over to Heaven, He'll be right there to help us make that journey too.

Last year, I walked through the "valley of the shadow of death."

I was diagnosed with cancer that caused double vision and other symptoms, as well as side effects from the treatments. But I felt just like that picture of the

footprints in the sand, where you see two sets

of prints and then all of a sudden just one set. I felt like the Lord and I were walking together, and then all of a sudden He was carrying me. I felt His presence in the middle of tremendous stress. It was like He was saying, "I've got your back. I'm with you, you're going to make it."

I feel such a debt to the Lord, and such a

debt to everyone who prayed for me and supported me. I was bestowed with food for about six months. My doctor asked, "Where do you know these people from who are so nice to you?" I said, "They're my people." Many times during this journey, I was able to talk about the Lord. I thank Him for everything He has done for me. — Janice Calhoun

"I felt His presence in the middle of tremendous stress. It was like He was saying, 'I've got your back. I'm with you, you're going to make it.'"



THE CALL TO CONSECRATION

"Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD . . . that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day." — *Exodus 32:29*

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." — *Romans 12:1*



A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

Consecrating our lives to God means becoming a living sacrifice.

It is not a one-time offering, but a continual surrender.

Consecration is all-inclusive. God will bless whatever we give to Him. To receive His full blessing requires full consecration.

Consecration is a gateway to God's blessing. It opens the door for God to work freely in our lives. There is no need to fear consecrating because God's intention is to bless.

➔ A Turning Point

"I told God yes, but not with my whole heart. Still, my blessing did not come. It was not until I finally said, from my heart, 'Yes, I will do whatever You call me to do.'" The Holy Spirit came in and filled me to overflowing.

Though I had not told anyone about God's call on my life, two days later I received a call from my district superintendent, Sister Dolly Walker. I preached my first sermon the next Sunday. I soon found out that when God calls us to do something, He gives us power to do it. His commands are His enableings. We cannot count on our own strength, wisdom, or understanding to answer God's call, but we can count on God. He will supply all we need. We must not attempt to tie God's hands. God knows better than we do what He is doing in our lives. When we offer ourselves to Him with no limits, He can work through us in any way He wants.

All-inclusive

Another common misunderstanding is that we can give God some areas of our lives but not others. The prayer of our hearts should be, "Not just myself, but my time, my plans, again, and that day I told God yes, but not

with my whole heart. Still, my blessing did not come. It was not until October 12 when I finally said it from my heart: "Yes, I will do whatever You call me to do." The Holy Spirit came in and filled me to overflowing. Though I had not told anyone about God's call on my life, two days later I received a call from my district superintendent, Sister Dolly Walker. I preached my first sermon the next Sunday. I soon found out that when God calls us to do something, He gives us power to do it. His commands are His enableings. We cannot count on our own strength, wisdom, or understanding to answer God's call, but we can count on God. He will supply all we need. We must not attempt to tie God's hands. God knows better than we do what He is doing in our lives. When we offer ourselves to Him with no limits, He can work through us in any way He wants.



What's Next on the Prophetic Timeline?

- A global leader will rise to power
- A peace covenant will be confirmed
- A brief period of peace will be followed by tribulation
- Christ will return with His saints to reign

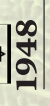
Every prophecy points forward with perfect precision.

The Fig Tree and Israel

In Scripture, the fig tree represents the nation of Israel. After centuries of desolation, its branches have begun to bud once more:



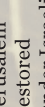
1867
The Jewish people begin returning to the Promised Land.



1948
Israel reborn as a nation in a single day.



1967
The city of Jerusalem restored under Israeli control.



2018
Seventy years later to the day, Jerusalem recognized as Israel's capital.

Each of these moments shows the fig tree putting forth her leaves—reminding us that the season Jesus spoke of is drawing near.

God's people will return to their homeland. The prophet Jeremiah wrote, "And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase" (Jeremiah 23:3). The Jewish people returned to the Promised Land of Canaan following the Babylonian exile. However, in 70 A.D., the Roman Empire attacked their capital of Jerusalem, destroying the Temple and most of the city. The population was scattered to other nations and remained without a homeland for nearly 1,800 years. Then in 1867, the empire ruling the region passed a law allowing foreigners to purchase property. Jewish people began doing so, and this was the beginning of the return of the Children of Israel to the Promised Land. *Israel will become a nation.* The prophet Isaiah foretold an incredible event by asking, "Who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children" (Isaiah 66:8). This prophecy was fulfilled on May 14, 1948, when the Jewish Agency, led by David Ben-Gurion, proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel. On the same day, President Truman recognized Israel as a sovereign nation.

The rebirth of Israel in a single day was nothing less than a miracle. The moment the declaration was made, the armies of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen attacked the new nation, trying to destroy it. The battle was seven armies against one, but God gave Israel the victory, and she remains a nation to this day. *Jerusalem will be restored as the capital.* God chose Jerusalem to be the center of worship for His people, declaring, "In this house [the Temple], and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever" (2 Chronicles 33:7). However, in 1948, the Arab coalition captured the portion of the city containing the Temple Mount, and Jordan was given oversight of it. This changed in June of 1967 when Israel made a surprise and preemptive but defensive military strike on the

combined forces of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. Though outnumbered two-to-one in troops and three-to-one in aircraft and tanks, Israel prevailed. Not only that, the nation regained full control of Jerusalem. Then on May 14, 2018, the United States became the first nation to formally recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel by moving its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, exactly seventy years after Israel had miraculously become a nation.

The third Temple will be built. Daniel 9:27 states in part, "... and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease..." This indicates that during the Tribulation period, the Temple sanctuary will be in existence.

As of today, the third Temple has not been built. However, the priests have been trained, the instruments have been prepared,² and the red heifer needed for purification purposes has been obtained. The fig tree is putting forth her leaves just as Jesus said. The end-time clock is counting down.

How will end-time events unfold?

Several passages in the Bible outline the sequence of events that will take place in the last days, including Daniel 9:24-27, Matthew 24, and Revelation 6-19. From these and other Scriptures, we understand that a world leader, identified as the Antichrist, will rise to power through the means of peaceful diplomacy. Then, according to Daniel 9:27, he will confirm a covenant with Israel. The word translated *confirm* in that verse means "to make stronger."

This suggests that when the Antichrist comes to power, there will already be an agreement in place, which he will strengthen. Currently in the Middle East, there is an effort to normalize



RELIGION

Largely Roman Catholic blended with Vodou practices, but evangelical Christianity has grown steadily in recent decades.



RISILIENCE

Despite poverty and political instability, Haitians are known for their strong community life, music, art, and faith.



POPULATION & LANGUAGE

With nearly 12 million people, it is the largest Creole-speaking nation in the world.



ECONOMY

Poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with most people living on less than \$3 a day.



CURRENT CRISIS

Armed gangs have overtaken large parts of the country, displacing thousands. Many live in hiding or face severe food shortages.

Haiti at a Glance

Eventually I became a Sunday school superintendent at the church where I attended. One day, I was very ill. A group of people from the church came to spend the night praying for me. While they were praying, I fell asleep and had a dream that the pastor of the church came and offered me a plate of sweet potatoes. As he did, he said, "Brother Rolland, the Lord has sent this to you. Take it and eat it." I ate what was on the plate. Then the pastor said, "Your work is done, but God has something extra for you to do." He showed me a plate with a sweet potato on it that was bigger than any I had ever seen. He said, "The Lord says that you will eat around it, but you will never finish it." When I awoke, I shared my dream with those who had been praying. One of them said,

"The Lord has some bigger responsibility for you." A few months later, I became the pastor of the small church that the elderly Christian man who first witnessed to my family attended.

After becoming a pastor, our financial situation suffered, and I began seeking God's help in prayer. In 1980, He opened

From Idols to Christ

Rolland's family once worshipped idols and visited the cemetery to pray to ancestral spirits. But when the Gospel came to their home, they left everything behind to follow Christ.

dad built a little house on that land without my grandmother's knowledge. Then we fled our home during the night and moved to the new location. After we were in the new house, my parents gave their hearts to Christ.

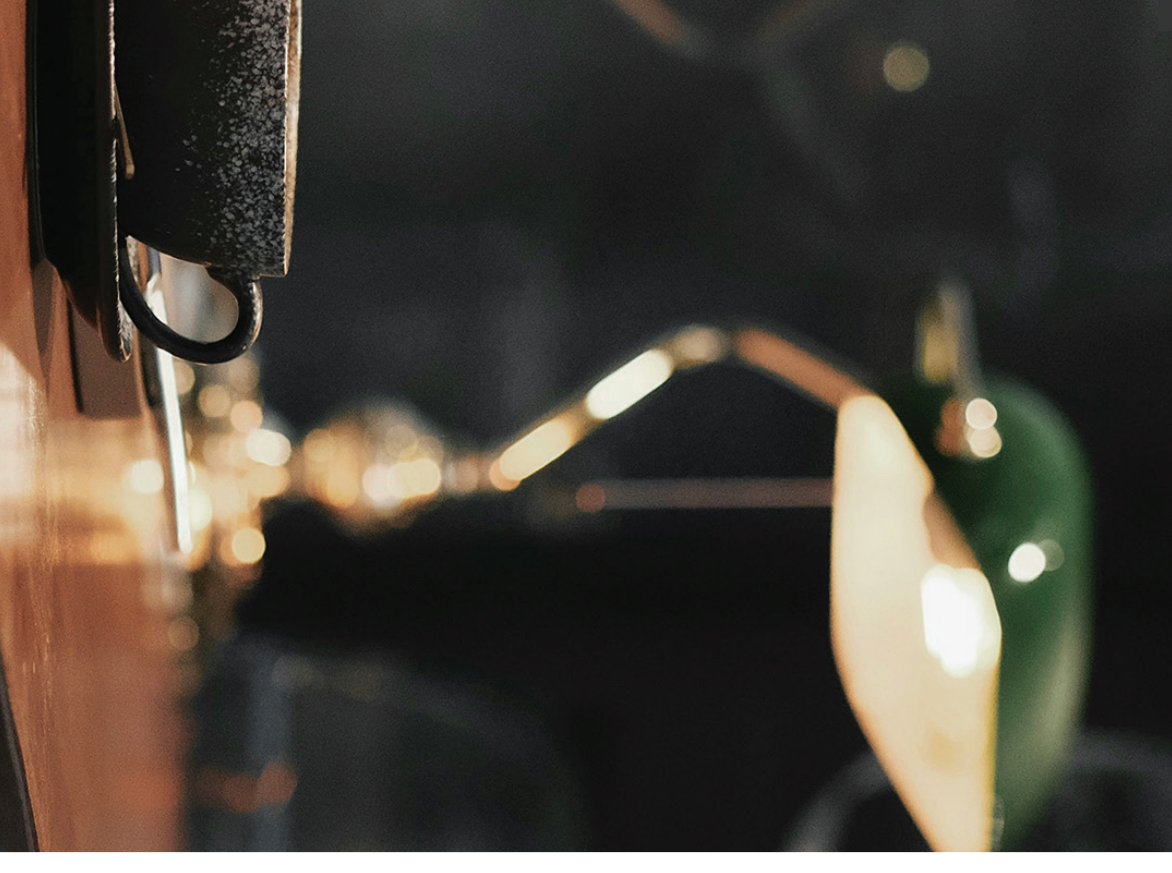
When I was fourteen years old, God helped me realize that I needed to accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior. He saved me, and from then on, He kept His hand on me for guidance, keeping me from doing wrong things as I grew up. Truly, God protected and loved me. Later, I was water baptized and also received the experiences of sanctification and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

When I finished school, I became a tailor. Then in 1973, I married my wife, Rosita, and the Lord blessed us with seven children.

A NEW DAILY DEVOTIONAL SERIES

The new series offers brief lessons from God's Word with practical application.

WESS



We are excited to be launching a second **Daily Devotional** series on January 1, 2026. The lessons are a simple way to help believers stay focused on the truths of God's Word throughout the week. Each one begins with a focus verse from Scripture, followed by a short illustration that relates a basic principle for Christian living.

Topics will have real-life application in areas such as planning for the future, staying in tune with God's Spirit, protecting our faith, finding ways to serve God, and more. And on special occasions like Easter and Christmas, the topic will be related to the themes of that holiday.

This **Daily Devotional** series will be published in addition to our current *Daybreak* series, allowing the option to use either one, or both. The lessons in this second series are shorter and simpler than *Daybreak*, making them suitable for young or old, or for families to read together. It is also shareable on all platforms, so you can easily forward them to a friend or family member who might need encouragement.

The **Daily Devotional** is a great way to start or end your day—in God's Word. We pray these brief lessons from the Bible will inspire and encourage you in your walk with the Lord, one day at a time!

The Blessing of Consecration

- The blessing comes when we hold nothing back.
- When we consecrate ourselves fully, God will work through us in ways that are beyond what we could ask or imagine.
- The blessing is both now and in Heaven. In this life, we see God's provision, power, and presence in the life to come, we receive eternal joy.
- The blessing is always greater than the sacrifice.
- We cannot out-give God. We never lose by offering ourselves to Him.

wants to diminish what we have given to God. He will tell us, "You need to lighten up a little. You don't need to go to church so often. You don't need to read your Bible every day—you need more rest. It's okay if you don't pray today, you are busy." He can go on and on. He is like a fowl of the air pecking away at our offering to God. He may also try to plant doubts in our minds about whether or not God will even bless our consecration. He will say we won't miss out on anything by offering God a bit less. We have to actively resist the enemy's lies.

Abraham guarded his offering until the end of the day. As the sun went down, he was still keeping a vigil, and his effort was not in vain. God honored his sacrifice, and just as surely, God will honor ours as we continue to keep it before Him.

The blessing

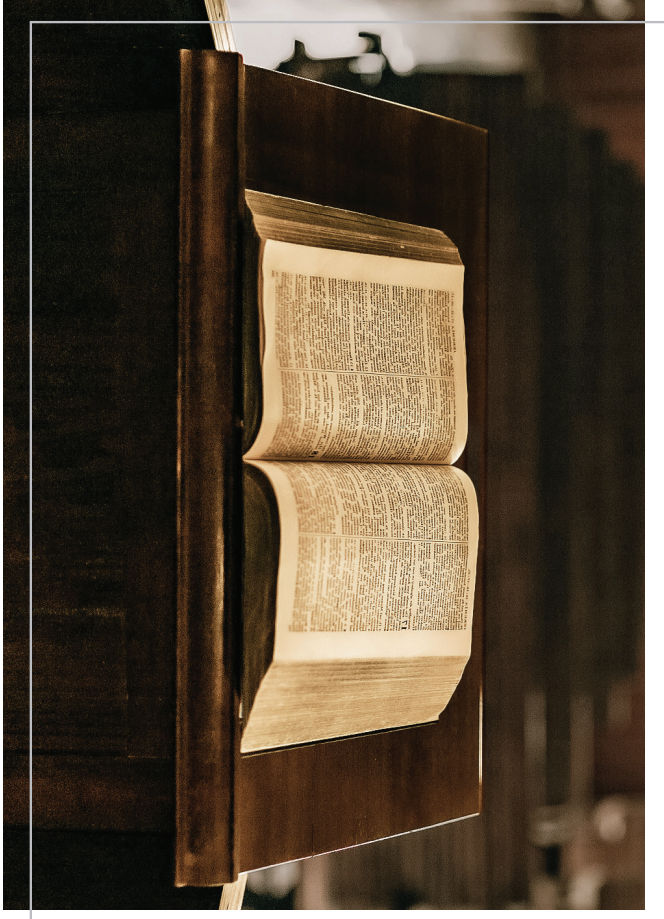
Mark 10:28-30 records a conversation between Peter and Jesus about the reward for making sacrifices for the Gospel. It says, "Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee. And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say

unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life."

From this we understand that whatever we may give to God, it will be very small compared to what He gives us. In Peter's case, we know that the disciples were exceptionally blessed. They witnessed many miracles by Jesus—blind eyes opened, lame feet walking, lepers cleansed, food multiplied, storms calmed, demons cast out. Then, at the end of their journeys, the reward of eternal life awaited.

We cannot out-give God and we cannot out-give God. I'll share an example of what I mean. As

pastors, one of our responsibilities is to pray for the sick, and requests for prayer sometimes come at inconvenient times. Once, I got a call at 3:00 in the morning in the midst of a snowstorm. My natural inclination was that I did not want to get out of bed at that hour, especially not to



venture into a storm. However, it was a brother saying that his mom was sick to the point of death. When we arrived, his dad was there weeping. His mom was not responding. We anointed her with oil and prayed over her, and within a half-hour, she was sitting up, talking, and praising the Lord! What a blessing I received that day. I went home rejoicing. I had seen the handwork of God with my own eyes.

There is nothing better than praying alongside someone who receives a needed answer from Heaven. Yet, the greatest blessing is still to come when we stand before God and hear, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Truly, nothing we offer God could compare to what He gives us.

Moses' words from Exodus still resonate today: "Consecrate yourselves to day to the Lord... that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day." We want to consecrate all we have to God so we can receive all He has for us. We have everything to gain and nothing to lose, and the blessings are out of this world!



Reverend Rene Cassell served as the Apostolic Faith District Superintendent of Canada from 1988 to 2013. He currently serves as a natural inclination was that I did not want to get out of bed at that hour, especially not to

Canada Board Member and minister at the church in Bide Arm, Newfoundland.

Examining the world through the lens of prophecy.

ARE OUR TIMES THE END TIMES?

BY ERIK CALHOUN

FROM THE WORD



We Live in the Middle of a Sentence

Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1-2,

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to . . . proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God.”

Jesus stopped reading at that comma—the pause between mercy offered and judgment yet to come. That pause is where we live today, in the age of grace, while the invitation to salvation still stands.

How do we know we are living in the last days?

Near the close of His ministry on earth, Jesus was asked by His disciples, “What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?” (Matthew 24:3). After listing several signs to watch for, He said, “Now learn a parable of the fig tree. When its branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh; so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors” (Matthew 24:32-33). In several Old Testament Scriptures, the fig tree was used symbolically to represent the Jewish nation, thus indicating that Jesus was telling His disciples to watch Israel to discern the times. Certainly, many prophecies concerning that nation are tied to end-time events. Looking at some of these events gives insight into where we are in the timeline of history.

In Luke 4:16-21, we read that in the early days of Jesus’ ministry on earth, He entered the synagogue in Nazareth on the Sabbath and stood up to read. The Scripture portion for that day was Isaiah 61:1-2, a prophecy about the Messiah. When Jesus was handed the scroll of Isaiah, He read, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound. To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” Stopping mid-sentence, Jesus sat down and then said to the astonishment of the onlookers, “This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears” (Luke 4:21). Jesus had come to earth to fulfill the first half of the prophecy; the “acceptable year of the Lord,” by setting people free. It was not yet time to fulfill the second half: “the day of vengeance of our God.” That day in Nazareth, God’s final judgments were yet in the future, as they are today.

We are living in the middle of that sentence—between “the acceptable year of the Lord” and “the day of vengeance of our God.” In the dispensation of grace in which we live, the door of forgiveness, salvation, and restoration is still open. This will not always be the case. There will come a day when that door will close, and a day of judgment will begin.

We are in the final days, or maybe hours, of the dispensation of grace. We must take advantage of this time while the opportunity is still available.

How do we know Jesus is coming again?

It is revealed in Scripture. For every prophecy in the Bible concerning the Lord’s first coming nearly 2,000 years ago, there are eight referring to His Second Coming. It is mentioned in at least seventeen Old Testament books, and in twenty-three of the twenty-seven New Testament books. Jesus Himself spoke of His return twenty-one times. In His final days on earth, He told His disciples, “In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 14:2-3).

Many people have questions regarding Christ’s return and the events surrounding it, but God did not intend for this important period in time to be shrouded in uncertainty. The prophecies in His Word tell us all we need to know. Let’s look at some common questions regarding the end times and the answers given in the Scriptures.

“God has ordained a certain number of days for humanity to turn to Him, and each passing day is counting down to Jesus’ return.”

Today, we are looking for Christ’s Second Coming, which will take place in two parts. First, Jesus will come to catch away His Bride—both the dead in Christ and the living body of believers worldwide. Second, He will return with His saints at the Battle of Armageddon to execute judgment on the ungodly and set up His earthly Kingdom for a millennium.

“Bible prophecy is precise history written in advance by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.”

“Bible prophecy is precise history written in advance by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.”



◀ The Savaire La Coupe church in Mirabelais was dedicated in 2012.

the spiritual needs in Haiti. I wrote a letter to the leader of the Apostolic Faith work in Portland, Oregon, asking him to establish churches there. He wrote back that the leaders of the church would pray about it, and if it was God’s will, it would be done. Then he passed away. When his successor made a trip to St. Maarten, I brought the needs in Haiti to his attention, and he agreed to help me carry the Gospel work there.

We started the Apostolic Faith work in Haiti in 1995 and dedicated our first church there in 2003. Our second church was dedicated in 2010 and our third in February of 2012. The Lord blessed and continued to prosper the work, and in time we grew to about thirty churches. Meanwhile, God has had His hand over me personally, sparing my life many times. In January of 2003, as I was working on our first church building, the brakes went out on a truck I was driving. I was at the top of a hill, so I began looking for the best place to die, but the Lord told me to shift into first gear. I did what the Lord said, and the truck stopped in the middle of the hill.

In recent years, the political situation in Haiti has declined drastically as armed gangs have gained more and more control of the country. Consequently, for around six years we have not been able to contact the leaders and believers in about twelve of our churches, which are in the eastern side of Haiti. It has been impossible to travel and take everything they can get, and kill people. So the people in the cities, including those from our churches, of Port-au-Prince, which made our where many of them are or how they are surviving. Many are existing in the bush and starving. Please pray for Haiti and God’s people there.

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.” Acts 3:19

“I tell you, Nay; but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” Luke 13:3

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

CONFESS

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23

ACKNOWLEDGE

“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him . . . for he will abundantly pardon.” Isaiah 55:7

BELIEVE

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

If you are a new Christian, contact us and request the tract entitled “Starting Out.”

FORSAKE

“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him . . . for he will abundantly pardon.” Isaiah 55:7

When the armed gangs came into an area, they burn houses and property, take everything they can get, and kill people. So the people in the cities, including those from our churches, of Port-au-Prince, which made our where many of them are or how they are surviving. Many are existing in the bush and starving. Please pray for Haiti and God’s people there.

My hometown is Mirabelais, and we had just completed the construction of our headquarters church there.

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OUTREACH MINISTRY IN HAITI

- 1995 Apostolic Faith work begins in Haiti.
- 2003 First church dedicated in Mirabelais.
- 2010 Second church dedicated in Aquin.
- 2012 Third church dedicated in Laslie.
- 2010s Steady growth to about thirty churches across the country.
- Today Believers remain scattered but steadfast; prayer and support for Haiti continue.

Work hindered by political unrest and gang violence, with leaders unable to reach several congregations.

Believers remain scattered but steadfast; prayer and support for Haiti continue.

A Call to Pray for Haiti

The challenges facing Haiti today are immense—political instability, violence from armed gangs, poverty, and hunger. Many believers have been displaced, and in some areas churches have been cut off from contact for years.

While we were living in St. Maarten, the Lord continued to speak to my heart about

The Feasts and the Future

The seven Jewish feasts are part of God’s prophetic calendar.

FULFILLED: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost.

AWAITING FULFILLMENT: Trumpets, Atonement, Tabernacles.

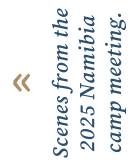
God’s timeline is deliberate—and nearing completion.



“It seemed like a dream, but God’s protection was real.”

God’s Protection in the Air

In June 1995, Zac boarded a small plane with about eighty passengers for a short flight to Lagos. As the aircraft attempted to land, the pilot lost control, and it overran the runway. Panic broke out as people rushed to the front of the plane, but Zac cried out, “Jesus!” and felt the Spirit of God urging him to remain calm. Moments later, the plane crashed into a ditch and caught fire. Sixteen passengers died, but Zac escaped without even a broken bone.



Scenes from the 2025 Namibia Christmas camp meeting.



the church literature, and the teachings registered in my heart. I was willing to start over and do my first works again, and God renewed the experience of salvation in my heart. I asked Him to sanctify me, and He let me know without a doubt that I was sanctified. He actually showed me that He had already sanctified me a couple of years before—when I had prayed to be holy after the party that turned into a riot. Back then, I had not known that asking to be holy was the same as asking to be sanctified, but it is, and that is what God had done. Once

the question of sanctification was settled, I was able to not long until God baptized me with His Holy Spirit. That empowerment saw me through high school successfully with a clean record.

Looking back, I really thank God for the way He humbled me. Before that time, I was reading the teachings of several different evangelists, and I might have ended up joining any of their churches. In His goodness, God helped me to understand the sound doctrines of the Bible, without which I never would have lasted as a Christian. The sound doctrines are what have kept me in the faith for over fifty years. They are the reason the Apostolic Faith Church has stood the test of time for more than one hundred years—not just holding steady, but growing! This Gospel is wonderful and I thank God for it.

It pays to serve Jesus

In 1973, I proceeded to a university located in the city of Zaria. A small Apostolic Faith branch was just starting near the school, and the same brother from my hometown traveled hundreds of kilometers and completing a year of compulsory government service, God called our family to serve at the church in Zaria, so we returned there. At the time it felt as if the decision was an offering to the Lord, but He had a blessing in store for us. It pays to serve Jesus! In a miraculous way, I received a scholarship to complete a PhD program at Cardiff University in England. During the three-year program, I traveled to attend church services at our Peckham church in London. I have never regretted making a decision for God.

Over the years, I have experienced God’s protection many times, but one incident

stands out. In June of 1995, I needed to take a flight to Lagos. It was a short flight and we were in a small aircraft with about eighty people on board. As we were landing, the pilot lost control of the plane and we overran the runway. Everyone knew we were in imminent danger. Immediately I called out, “Jesus!” and the Spirit of God just urged me to keep calm. People began rushing forward to get to an exit, but I did not rush. Some of those people who ran to the front were killed when the plane crashed into a ditch and then caught on fire. I waited until I was directed to an exit, and then jumped from the plane and ran to safety. Sixteen people died in the accident, but I did not even have a broken bone! I could hardly believe what had happened; it seemed like a dream. But the crash was real, and God’s protection was just as real.

A new country

In the late 1990s, our family was happily serving God together in Zaria. Our children were all in school, we were helping a few new churches become established, and I was working at the university and running my own business. It seemed everything was going so well. Then, God told me, “Get ready for relocation.” He also put a song in my heart: “To the regions beyond I must go.” This call from God was difficult because it was the first time He asked me to make a commitment before revealing when or where He was leading. He was calling me to make a proactive consecration! He was teaching me to pray, “Anywhere He leads me, I will go.”

Soon, there was a need for assistance at our church in Namibia, and I was asked to go there for a year. It seemed too difficult to step away from my responsibilities in Zaria, but God let me know that He wanted me to go. He opened doors in such a way that there was even a job waiting for me there. After wrestling with the decision, I finally surrendered to His will. In that moment, the peace of God flooded my heart—it felt like when I was first saved. I was so happy! There was no doubt that was the right decision.

My plan was to stay in Namibia for two years and



The 2024 Christmas concert at the Namibia headquarters church in Windhoek.

“It seemed everything was going so well. Then, God told me, ‘Get ready for relocation.’ He also put a song in my heart: ‘To the regions beyond I must go.’ This call from God was difficult because it was the first time He asked me to make a commitment before revealing when or where He was leading.”

then return home to my family. In fact, the week I left, the foundation was laid for our new house in Nigeria. However, God had a different plan. I arrived in Namibia in 2002 and was leading a program called Christian Aid Volunteers, an initiative God gave us to explore. Through the program, students would come to study in Namibia and also support the church there.



WITNESS

A HEART FOR HAITI

BY ROLLAND DELER

The founder of the Apostolic Faith work on the Caribbean island of Haiti tells his story.

When I was a child growing up in Haiti, my parents were idol worshippers.

One night my dad took me to the cemetery where his father was buried. At the gravesite, he prayed to my grandfather, asking him to guide and protect me. Then he gave me a lit candle to place on the grave. We returned home before dawn so that no one would know that we had been out.

Later, the Lord sent an elderly Christian man to our house to share the Gospel with us. My mom was at the market, but the man spoke with my dad as I listened. My dad said that he would wait until his wife returned to make a decision. When she came home, they both agreed that they wanted to come into the Gospel. However, my parents had a concern. Their house was built on my grandmother’s land, and she was an idol worshiper. In Haiti, children are expected to follow the path their parents take. This could have been a major obstacle for them, but the Lord laid it on the elderly man’s heart to give my parents a portion of his land. Within just a few days, my



relations between Israel and the surrounding nations through agreements called the *Abrahamic Accords*. Each agreement is a declaration emphasizing peace, and states in part, “We believe that the best way to address challenges is through cooperation and dialogue, and that developing friendly relations among States advances the interests of lasting peace in the Middle East and around the world. We pursue a vision of peace, security, and prosperity in the Middle East and around the world.”¹ These declarations could be the next step in preparing the way for the Antichrist. The confirmation of the covenant will mark the onset of the seven-year period commonly known as the Tribulation. John the Revelator foretold that during the initial phase of the Tribulation, when the second seal is opened, “power was given to him that sat thereon to

“When all seems lost, the Revelation of Christ will take place.”

take peace from the earth” (Revelation 6:4), suggesting a time of peace, perhaps worldwide. Additionally, the Apostle Paul wrote that “when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them” (1 Thessalonians 5:3), likely referring to the Tribulation. That period, also known as “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jeremiah 30:7), will be marked by unthinkable destruction on earth dominated by war, famine, natural catastrophes, and death.

Jesus said of this period in history, “And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved” (Matthew 24:22). Just prior to the start of during the initial stages of the Tribulation, Israel will build the third Temple and reinstate the sacrificial system. However, at the mid-point, the Antichrist will break the covenant, cause the Temple sacrifices to cease, and require the world to worship him.

During the first half of the Tribulation, with the Antichrist governing, Israel will have had a false sense of peace and security. The second half of this time period, known as the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21), will culminate with the kings of the world launching an attack

on Jerusalem that leads to the Battle of Armageddon. When all seems lost at this battle, a remnant of the remaining Jewish people will cry out to God, and the Revelation of Christ will take place. Jesus will return to earth with His glorified saints to defeat the Antichrist and world powers, and the surviving Jews will at last acknowledge Him as the true Messiah (Revelation 19:21-21; Zechariah 14:1-4).

What is our hope?

Some people worry about who the Antichrist is and whether he is already on the earth and rising to power. However, we don’t need to be concerned with that. Those of us who have repented of our sins and maintained our allegiance to Christ will be captured before God’s judgments are poured out on the Antichrist’s evil reign.

In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul wrote of a glorious event awaiting us. He said, “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord” (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

We have hope that this event, the Rapture of the Church, will take place before the Tribulation begins. One of many reasons is found in the Book of Revelation, which records a vision given to the Apostle John while he was in exile. He was shown an overview of earth’s history from the time of the Early Church and told to write down what he saw. In chapters 2 and 3, he referenced the Church seven times. Then, in chapter 4, he “looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven; and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither; and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter” (verse 1). From that point onward, as the events of the Tribulation unfolded before his eyes, John did not mention the Church.

By observing that nearly all the prophetic signs pointing to the Tribulation have been fulfilled, we can be certain that the return of Christ is

OUR BLESSED HOPE

16 “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”
—1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-17

imminent. At any moment, we could hear the sound of the Trumpet and be caught up to meet Jesus in the air. That is an event we do not want to miss! Are you ready?



Reverend Erik Calhoun is the youth pastor at the headquarters Apostolic Faith Church in Portland, Oregon.

¹ Frank Kirk, “Consequences of the Ottoman Land and sea American and Privileged Possession in Palestine, 1858-1918,” *Societies: Social Inequalities and Marginalization: Marginal Regions in the 21st Century* and *Regional Chronal Elements*, Vol. Stanio Palk (Switzerland: Springer Cham, 2012), pages 101-119.

² Temple Institute, “About Us,” Temple Institute, accessed October 2, 2025, www.templeinstitute.org.

³ Pivri Avner, “Israeli News,” *Israel National News*, March 28, 2024, www.israelnationalnews.com.

⁴ United States Department of State, *The Abraham Accords Declaration*, Washington DC, www.state.gov.



Zac with his wife, Comfort. >>

A I was growing up, my family only attended church occasionally.

We mainly went during holidays like Christmas, New Year's, and Easter. My mother loved God, but she had not found real salvation. My father was polygamous, so there was competition in the family. Because of that, my mother felt her need for a savior and had a personal interest in God. She would tell me to go to revival services, and that planted a love for church in my heart, though I was too young to understand what the Gospel was about.

In our community in Nigeria, many people worshipped idols and practiced spiritualism. As I grew older, I began to fear evil spirits and realized my need for protection from them. I knew that was beyond my abilities; it would take supernatural power to give me security and peace of mind. All my peers were seeking power from dark sources, but my mother told me, "No, you must pray." Still, I really didn't know how to overcome my fear of evil spirits.

“ANYWHERE HE LEADS ME, I WILL GO”

BY ZAC OYEDOKUN



WITNESS

Zac's lifelong journey with Jesus began when he found the peace he longed for as a troubled teen.



Key Scriptures

PSALM 91:4—“He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust.”

Genesis 15:1—“I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.”

2 Timothy 4:7-8—“... I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness.”

Sound Doctrine Matters

“In His goodness, God helped me to understand the sound doctrines of the Bible, without which I never would have lasted as a Christian.”

Fear vs. Freedom
BEFORE SALVATION: Anxiety about evil spirits, insecurity, searching for protection.
AFTER SALVATION: Peace of mind, security in Jesus, no more fear.

“God told me, ‘Don’t worry.’ That really put my mind at ease . . . He gave me the promise, ‘I am your exceeding great reward.’”

When I was about eight, an American missionary came to my school to teach a religious studies class. She went the extra mile to teach not only the letter of the course, but the spirit of the course. Often when she taught, she would be so moved that she would cry. We students actually made fun of her for that, but her tears registered as conviction in my heart. I remember her telling us, “You need to give your life to Jesus.” She also said that if we had Jesus, we would have no reason for fear, and that was exactly what I needed to hear.

No more fear

I decided to give my teacher's message a chance, to see if Jesus could take away my fear and insecurity. One day I prayed and gave my life to God. Afterward, I found I was different. My speech and conversation were better, and I started paying attention in class. All of a sudden, I realized my fear and insecurity were gone! I was so happy. Then I



(Left) Zac with children from the Windhoek church. (Right) A 2017 youth service in Namibia.



“God is wonderful! His plans for us are always best.”

To my surprise, two fellow ministers allowed their sons to join the program. Then my son also decided to join, so he came to live with me. Then another of my children also applied and was granted admission. Soon, all of my children had joined me in Namibia! My wife had been visiting frequently and started looking for employment. Once she was hired, she was able to relocate as well. Rather than me returning to my family, God had put us all together in Namibia. Over twenty years later, we are all still here serving God.

Not worried

By remaining in Namibia, I had to walk away from my pension at the university I had worked for in Zaria. Initially, that troubled me. It seemed like a great loss because I had been working toward that pension for twenty-five years. But while praying about it, God told me, “Don’t worry.” That really

put my mind at ease, and I was able to decide not to return for the pension but to stay where God wanted me to be. He gave me the promise, “I am your exceeding great reward.” Now, every time it comes to mind, I feel very happy because it reminds me that God told me I have nothing to worry about! That is worth much more than a pension.

Our congregations in Namibia are mostly immigrants and refugees, so there are many challenges among us. Even so, the people have generous hearts and God has been our Provider. He proved Himself again recently while I was at camp meeting in Portland, Oregon. During the camp, a message came from home saying that the audio mixer at our church had stopped working. We needed that equipment for the online services that some of our congregations depend on, so I was concerned. After praying about the matter,

Shortly after that incident, my grandmother passed away, and then my grandfather invited my parents to attend a Portland camp meeting service. My dad, who had been saved as a boy but had backslid, agreed to go out of respect for his father. After the service, he went to the altar and prayed, and God saved him. He went home that night and placed his wet handkerchief on my mom's lap and told her, “I’m saved.” She wasn't very happy about that and said, “You go your way and I'll go mine.”



Evidence

PERSONAL TESTIMONIES OF THE POWER OF GOD

my dad went to though I don't know what impact it had. When I was about ten years old, tragedy struck our family. While on vacation at the beach, my sister drowned right in front of me. My brother Rob was also pulled from the ocean more

dead than alive, but he survived. This was a traumatic experience, but it did not turn me against God, because I saw God's love for us demonstrated in our home.

“God saved me, and the song ‘Trust and Obey’ came to my heart. That sentiment has held me through the years. God doesn't ask any more of us really than to trust and obey Him.”

While I was still young, I asked God to come into my heart. It was camp meeting time, and on one hot evening, I looked for a place to be alone. I don't remember if I was bashful about praying or if I just wanted to get away from the noise of the campground. I went to my dad's 1956 Pontiac, got inside and knelt on the seats covered in plastic, and prayed. God saved me, and the song “Trust and Obey” came to my heart. That sentiment has held me through the years. God doesn't ask any more of us really than to trust and obey Him. I am thankful for this Gospel and everything He has done for me.

— Rich Barrett