

TITLE: Jesus Our Deliverer

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JESUS OUR DELIVERER

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Preface:

*“... The **Deliverer** will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; for this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins.”*

Romans 11:26-27

I like to state at the very beginning that bondage comes in many forms. There are many things in life that bring us into bondage to keep us from enjoying the true freedom that our Creator God desires to give us. So often we have allowed ourselves to be deceived into thinking and doing things that result in some type of bondage either with our body, or our soul or with our spirit. This is why we need a deliverer who can reach down into our lives and break the chords and ropes that bind us and set us free into a personal, eternal life with Jesus Christ.

God has made a covenant with mankind that through the line of David He would send forth a Deliverer who would come and break the chains of sin and death. I have seen in my own life how easy it is to become bound by a variety of things that this world offers. At first these things seemed subtle and not even painful. But as time went by, they took a hold of me to the place where one can become oppressed and even possessed. Satan who is the ruler of this world leads his armies against the people of this world to try to bind them, ensnare them, divide them and if at all possible to kill the people of God's creation.

Before I became a Christian I was bound and oppressed by so many things that the world offer to me. I was going down the same pathway as my mother who was enslaved by alcohol, drugs and many other things. I was following the pathway of bondage and destruction thinking that one day I could just simply turn away and go on a different direction if I wanted to. But it became clear that each day I was slipping further down the hill of destruction.

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Alcohol and drugs were my closest friends; my mother was an alcoholic and my father was a bitter and angry man. My heart was filled with bitterness towards people. After watching my mother try to commit suicide several times by cutting her throat and arms, I knew that there wasn't much hope for me. Seeds were planted by my parents into my heart. I stole money to feed my lust and desires and by the age of 17 I quit school and worked at a lot of part-time jobs scraping money together hoping to buy a cure.

One night I found myself behind a hotel having drunk too much and having taken some drugs, hoping that I could run away from all my problems and anxieties. The reason was, because I had been rejected by family and was searching to find someone who would love and accept me. That night I found myself in a snow bank and it was then that I heard a voice, I believe it came from heaven saying to me, "Are you through throwing your life away"? I knew exactly what was being said to me because for a long time I had many thoughts of committing suicide. But that night I realized that the voice from heaven that was speaking to me was God Himself and if I would just trust in His Son Jesus Christ, He would - "praise the Lord" - deliver me.

It was shortly after this event that I came into contact with the Jesus people who took me across the border into United States where I experienced for the first-time genuine love. A love that was poured into my heart and that totally changed the direction of my life. God was not just somebody living out there in the heavens, but now I was beginning to experience Him in my heart day by day. He was changing me from the inside out and began making me into something that I never dreamt could have ever been possible.

We all need to come to the place of realizing that we live in some form of bondage that ensnares us and keeps us from living a life of freedom that Christ came to give to us. We sometimes think that through our own righteousness we can avoid the pitfalls and

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snare of this world. But in reality, Satan is able to deceive all by his cunning words, tricking us into believing that we are like gods and that we have the power to deliver ourselves if need be. This was the same trick and words that he used on Eve thousands of years earlier in the Garden of Eden. It worked then and it still working well on many, many people today.

One of the main purposes of Jesus coming to this earth was to set the captive free. Since the disobedience of Adam and Eve this world has been held in captivity to Satan and his demons. If one would take a few moments and read the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, you would see how often Jesus performed deliverance ministry on various kinds of people. We are called as an ambassador of Christ to receive personal deliverance, then to go out in Christ strength and power to deliver other people from the bondage of the world and to set them free into Christ's Kingdom. It is amazing that Christ uses our deliverance so that it can become a bridge for others to cross over.

My hope in writing this book is to show that we do not have to live a life of bondage, but that we can through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit call upon God and be set free. Jesus never stops calling out to us, even though we are wandering around in sin and bondage, that if we just call out to Him, He will hear us and He will deliver us. My life has been a testimony of the power of God's deliverance ministry both for me and to those who I have had an opportunity to minister to with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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Introduction:

It has been said that drugs are like a spirit of witchcraft. Various types of chemicals that we put into our bodies opens the door into the strongholds of Satan and his demons that bind us. People are finding themselves bound like never before physically, mentally and spiritually. The world has turned away from the true Deliverer who came and gave His life so that we through His shed blood and through the power of the Holy Spirit could break the chains of sin, darkness and death.

People seem not to be aware of Satan's tactics and how he slowly lulls us into a lifestyle that eventually either destroys us or binds us by serving him. Satan will use any tactic possible to bring one's life into a place of darkness. And once there, he will use our lives to bring destruction and heartaches to us and to those around us.

Because of our scientific mindset, most people do not believe that there can be spiritual problems from an outside source. They choose not to see or hear or think concerning the possibilities of a spiritual realm which can greatly affect how we live each day. And the more we walk down that pathway, the more we become bound, to the point where we find ourselves in a life of slow death and destruction.

Some may ask, how do we get into these different bondages in the first place? The doors of disobedience are through our sin nature. They can come upon us through our actions that we take, from choices that we make. They come through habits that we hold on to and because of lies that we speak and start to believe in. They can also come through actions that others have done to us or by others putting curses on us or on our family from past generations. The sad part is that many people feel that they don't need deliverance because they believe that there is nothing binding them.

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The churches today seem to have no resistance towards the attacks of Satan. Families are becoming divided; children are becoming bound not only to the power of drugs, but to many other kinds of activities that also lead to a life of bondage and death. The youth of today are being swallowed up by things they have no hope of getting free from, causing them to do the ultimate destructive thing by taking their own lives through suicide.

I am now over 63 years of age and have travelled the world and I see one common denominator everywhere I go and that is how Satan wants to bind people in the world and in the church. He wants to divide us away from our families and church where he can move in like a wolf, to maim us and kill us as a person, to have us lose all hope in ourselves and in the power of Christ Jesus.

When Christ left the earth, He commissioned the disciples to go out and teach, to speak the Word of God, to deliver the brokenhearted, to heal the sick and to set free those who are oppressed and possessed by demonic spirits and bound by Satan. (Mark 16:17-18). The problem with today's churches are that we have moved away from God's power to our own self power and self-will, living more for our will then for God's will. We become weak and are asleep when it comes to the power that we can have through Jesus Christ and His shed blood. We do not realize that we have the power of the Holy Spirit who desires to infill us and give us the strength to defeat our enemies (Eph. 5:18; 6:10-11).

What will it take to open our eyes? People, we need to start seeing into the spiritual realm and take note concerning what our enemy is doing. The devil is encircling the people of the world, releasing destruction throughout the world. People, we must see that this is only the beginning where mankind will turn on itself not realizing that they are being led by the prince of this world. (1 Cor 2:6)

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The Bible gives us several Scriptures that point out the kind of deception that has been and will continue to be poured out on people in the last days which is coming upon the earth as a wave that will wash over everyone if it can, leading us into destruction and death.

Samuel warns the people with these words, *“for rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry”* 1 Sam 15:23. King Manasseh of Judah did this, *“and he caused his children to pass through the fire and the valley of the son of Hinnom: he also observed times, and use enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger”* 2 Chr 33:6. The prophet Nathan states this concerning the city of Nineveh, *“because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcraft, that sell nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts”* Nah 3:4. Paul also warns the Galatian church what will happen and what does happen if they continue to walk in the flesh and not in spirit: *“now the works of the flesh are manifested, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, sedition, heresies, murders, drunkenness, reveling in such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in times past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God”* Gal 5:19-21. If we open our eyes, we will see that these are not things that take place in the past as part of history, but in reality, they are all around us today in our modern world and we need to begin to see that as Christ disciples we too have been called to go out and to set these kinds of people free from the snares and traps of Satan. They can be delivered by entering through Christ’s shed blood into the kingdom of heaven.

Many feel in our day and age that these kinds of things do not exist because science they say has proved that there is no such thing. The problem with this way of thinking for the disciple of Christ is that He exhorts His disciples to do the same kind of

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ministry that He has done. We need to come to the place of accepting the Scriptures as truth and that these kinds of events of demonic activity do come upon people, communities, cities and even countries. The only thing that can break the strongholds is praying in and through the name of Jesus Christ and proclaiming His Lordship and Kingship through His shed blood.

Before we move any further we should define some words first that would be helpful for our study:

Bondage - To be in slavery or enforced servitude; to become tied or enslaved to anything. As a discipleship principle, we need to know that Satan desires to hold people in bondage to his will and he uses a variety of things like drinking, smoking, gambling, and sexual lust to keep us in bondage and depression.

Deliver - To deliver into the hands of, also to betray. With Christ, He delivers us from our enemies. We were bound by sin and Christ our Deliverer, came to set us free from the strongholds of Satan.

Deliverer – one who comes to save or to set free, to release from the enemy. Jesus is our deliverer Who has come to set us free from sin and death. We were in bondage by Satan and this world, and Christ came to the earth to shed His blood so that we could be set free from an eternal damnation.

Christ - Means, “Messiah or Anointed One”. Christ has come as our Messiah to redeem us and to save us from the curse of death and destruction.

Jesus - In Hebrew and Greek the word means Saviour; Jesus is the Greek, the Hebrew the name is Joshua. For us as disciples, it is like we were drowning in a lake of sin, and when we call upon His name He saves us from our sins. Jesus came into this world as a servant, but will come back a second time as King of kings. He is the Son of God and the Son of man. Jesus is also the

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head of His worldwide church. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John give us the testimony of the ministry of the life of Jesus.

Christ Jesus - A name for the Son of God. Christ means, “Messiah or Anointed One”. Jesus means “Saviour”; the New Testament often uses the title, Lord Jesus Christ or Christ Jesus our Lord (Phil 3:20). It is key to understand these names and how they directly affect our walk with God here on earth. It is because of the names that we are given power and authority as His disciples to carry out His will and to be a servant and minister for Him and to others.

We also need to remember and personalize the following verse from Scripture that was prophesied and spoken by King David into our hearts, “*And he said: The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; the God of my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge; my Saviour, you save me from violence. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies.*” 2 Samuel 22:2-4 NKJB

Again, in Psalm 18 verse 2-3, “*The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*”

Jesus Christ has come and He is still here to set anyone who calls upon His name, free.

Personal Testimony of Deliverance:

Three things that I want to point out concerning my walk of Deliverance.

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1. SALVATION WEEKEND

May 24, in Canada was often the beginning of the summer party season. The year was 1971 and at the age of 17 I was heavily bound up in the things of the world. I decided to hitchhike to Windsor Ontario where I heard that a big weakened party was going to take place. I got to the St. Thomas/London 401 interchange. I waited to begin hitchhiking because I noticed on the other side of the overpass were two men also hitchhiking. The traffic was going by them first and then coming to me second. The next thing I saw was a VW bug picking them up and within a moment it was picking me up also. Here we were the two owners of the cars in the front seat and the three hitchhikers in the backseat. The two young men that were picked up were clean-cut and what I would call “goody two shoes”, but then there was me the skinny long-haired hippie with my long goatee and long black mohair coat.

It wasn't long before the other two hitchhikers began to talk about Jesus Christ to the people in the front seat. They shared with them their need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Because of my little bit of background with Sunday school, I was able to speak the right words at the right time making it look like I knew what they were talking about, when in reality I had no idea at all.

After about an hour we were dropped off again at a place along the 401. Next thing I knew these two guys were praying that God would provide them with a ride. Out of respect I bowed my head, but when I looked up after the prayer, a car had already stopped to pick us up. I remember thinking to myself that this was a real cool way to hitchhike and that I should remember to do this in the future!

Again, these two young men continued to witness their faith to whoever would listen. They were so excited about what

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Jesus had done in their lives. They could not stop talking about Him. Soon we were in Windsor and we all got out of the car and they headed to the bridge while I headed towards the tunnel area of the city. But after saying our goodbyes and going two different directions, we all ended up in the same restaurant! They told me it wasn't a coincidence, and that God's hand must be in this and that I should come with them to the United States for the weekend. I said I didn't have a lot to do anyway so I thought that I might as well go with them and see what was going on. They called their relatives on a payphone and explained to them about me, what I looked like and if they could bring me along. After some discussion, their relatives said yes.

After about an hour we arrived at their house in Detroit in the northern part of the city. The house was a bungalow type and after I got in they showed me a bedroom where I could sleep. It was later in the day and during the meal they asked me if I would like to go to a Christian camp the next day. They told me it would be fun and there would be lots of other teenagers there. After a meal with them, I decided to take a shower and go to bed. After getting all cleaned up, I went into the bedroom and saw this beautiful bed where the sheets were all ironed and wrinkled free. I pulled the one side back and slipped into the sheets, like I was slipping into a glove. What an amazing feeling to have clean sheets, a warm house and a room all to myself.

The next morning, we got up early for breakfast where there was lots of food. They all seemed to be so happy and excited. After we prayed over the meal we ate some delicious food. At the end of breakfast, the lady of the house put a \$20.00 US bill on the table, saying that I would need this for our day out at the camp. I was so shocked that they would give me something even when they didn't know me or know anything about me. They just wanted to bless me and hoped that I would have a good time.

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The day was full of all kinds of different activities and games that we could do, but towards the end of the day one of the last big events was the grease pool. It must have been 20 feet high completely covered in grease and at the top was a ribbon that you had to grab and if you were the first, you would get some type of prize. Well the game was on and after a period of time I won the competition, but now I was all covered in grease so I decided the best thing to do was to run off the end of the dock and jump into the water. But for some reason I forgot that I had glasses on and within a few seconds they were gone, somewhere at the bottom of the lake.

That evening we arrived at home, a number of the youth came to the house and we sat around the living room talking about the day and about their faith in Jesus Christ. Again because of my Sunday school experience I was able to carry on with some of the religious words that I needed to make it look like I knew what they were talking about. But after a period of time they decided to pray. They took turns praying, but there seemed to be one prayer that stuck out in my mind. It was by a young man who prayed that his alcoholic father would get saved and come to know Jesus as his personal Saviour.

After the evening, had come to a conclusion, the family asked if they could take me to various services the next day. I thought this would be cool and I tried to find some of my cleaner clothing that I could wear.

The next morning after breakfast we were on our way to church and the first thing I went to was a Sunday school class for youth. Again I heard more about the Bible and they were still taking time to pray about various things in their lives. After this came the morning service. I was ushered up to the front, about two rows back and was given a bulletin. I saw what the service was going to be like and I learned that I was in a Baptist church and the

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pastor was named Murphy, the reason I remember this because it rhymes with Humphries.

While I was waiting for the service to start, a young lady came up to me who I had learned earlier was the pastor's daughter. She said that the Lord had spoken to her about giving me her Bible. I said thank you and she went back to her seat and I began to look through the Bible. I saw how it was so marked up and underlined with notes on the side of the text. Within moments something began to overcome me, I couldn't believe that something that was so personal to another person would be given to me. I could see how much she loved this book and now she freely gave it away with no strings attached. My father taught me that "no one ever gives anything away free and that there is always some string attached someplace," but I was so deeply moved by this gift, I got up out of the service and I went outside and began to weep bitterly. It was like rivers of tears flowing out of my heart that had been pent-up inside for years. I experienced true love for the first time in my life by receiving a gift that this girl so obviously cared about. I gained control of my emotions and went back into the church. I sat inside looking over and over the pages of this book and the words that were underlined. It seemed like I was in my own little world as I looked through this special gift.

That afternoon we went to a jail to put on a church service for the inmates. In one way you could say I fit in quite well with my long hair and hippie looking demeanor. But it wasn't long before my heart was being touched again this time seeing white and black people sitting in the same row with their hands lifted up and praising God together. You need to know that I grew up during the time when there were a lot of riots in Detroit between black white people. Now seeing them together worshipping God showed me that there had to be a real God because only God could bring these two groups together that hated each other so much over the years. I could see that these men were hungry for God and because

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of what Jesus had done in their lives they were now brothers in Christ Jesus, ready to help and serve each other where they could.

After having something to eat, we headed back to church again for a youth service that was held before the evening service started. Again, what stood out to me were their prayers, especially praying for one teen's alcoholic and abusive father at home. This was the same person that we were praying for the night before.

Then came the evening service. That night they had a missionary from some country who I do not remember. What I do remember is that he played an accordion. Now you have to remember I came from the rock music scene like Jimmy Hendrix, Led Zeppelin and other groups and to me listening to an accordion was like someone taking fingernails and scraping them along a blackboard. After the music was over and the preaching and testimony was given, the pastor got up and began to share about receiving Jesus Christ into one's heart. He had not yet finished his talk when a man from the back came running up through the aisle and fell down at the altar. I knew in my heart that this was the alcoholic man we had been praying for and that was enough for me. I got up and went forward too. Here we were two men broken in our hearts, and for the first time we experienced genuine love from Jesus Christ. We both prayed the sinner's prayer and asked Christ to forgive and help us in our new walk with Him. When we got up from the altar and gave each other a hug, we knew that Christ had flooded into our hearts with love, grace and mercy. It was a new day. We died to ourselves and were now living for Jesus Christ.

The next day I was so excited about what had happened to me and how my heart was changed from anger and bitterness towards a call to serve Jesus Christ. That morning we went to a Christian bookstore and with the money that was given to me I bought about 75 pounds of Gospel tracts. For you see I had lived in St. Thomas all my life and never heard anyone speak to me about

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Jesus Christ in such a way. I now felt it was important that I take this “Good News” back to St. Thomas and tell others about this great news that had changed my heart.

I gave away the few clothes that I had. Then I packed my backpack full of the tracts and began to head back to Canada. I remember when I got to the border the security asked me what was in the bag and I said 75 pounds of Christian tracts. I said would you like to see them and he said, no thank you, I believe you, go ahead. I could’ve had anything in that bag and because I said the words “Christian tracts” he did not want to touch it.

It wasn’t long after getting home that I went up and down the main street of St. Thomas, Ontario handing out Gospel tracts and trying to tell people the best I could why they needed Jesus Christ in their heart. I sometimes wonder now whether some of these people became Christians because they were so afraid of me with my long hair and big “Go T”. Maybe they thought it would be easier to pray a sinner’s prayer and go on their way than to talk to me. You could probably say my method of evangelism was very strong and aggressive, but I really wanted the people to have what I had and that only Christ Jesus can give.

Another thing that occurred during this time was that I began to witness to my neighbours and found out that some of them were also Christians and going to church. Now you need to understand that the first time I heard about Jesus Christ I took Him into my heart as Lord and Saviour and my life began to change dramatically. The thing that bothered me about my neighbours was they saw how I lived, they knew about my parents and that they were divorced and I lived in a house all by myself all these years. That I got involved in all kinds of terrible things and not once did they share with me their faith about Jesus Christ. I was angry inside and wondered how anyone could not share Jesus when they received from Him such a great gift of eternal life and forgiveness.

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2. INFILLING WEEKEND

During those first few weeks in St. Thomas I knew that something had changed inside me. I was not part of any church and I had only the Bible that the pastor's daughter gave me and the various tracts I brought home from United States. I decided to at least read what I was giving out. I also took time to read the Bible that was all marked up. In my ignorance when I began to pray to God, all I knew was that He heard and talked with me through the name of Jesus Christ. I knew He was now living in my heart and I was told that He wanted to direct my life to help me to become a new person in Him.

It wasn't very long after this that I felt I needed to go back down to the United States to try to find out more about God and His Bible. I got there on the weekend and visited with the pastor's daughter and her boyfriend. He asked if I want to come to some meetings where young people were planning to gather. It was on the University campus grounds. I said, "sure let's go."

On the campus, there was an auditorium that everybody was meeting in. After hanging up my coat and I followed others into this large room where I heard a lot of weird noise coming out where we were going. The doors were open and it seemed like everybody was sitting in circles. There was a main hall and in the center of this room people were sitting in a circular form going from the center out. Some were sitting on chairs and others were sitting on the floor. There was much enthusiasm and excitement in the air and I remember walking towards the archway of the door thinking to myself that I wanted to have what they had. I wanted to have that joy that seemed to be running over with all these young people. Some may have said it was nothing but chaos, but to me it represented the beauty and fullness of God Almighty.

So as I walked in the door as soon as I went under the archway the best way that I can explain it I was baptized in the

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power of the Holy Spirit and fire. I look back now and everybody I know was speaking in a heavenly language, sounding like a beautiful choir before the Lord and at that moment God gave me a heavenly language to join in right with them without missing a beat. It was so wonderful and it was like I was released from everything that had bound me in the past. I sensed a new hope and power within. I moved from being a long-haired hippy to becoming now a “Jesus Freak”.

After a few days, I headed back to St. Thomas but now excitement wasn't just on the outside it was coming out from the inside from my heart, from a reservoir full of love. I desired to tell as many people as possible about this Lord who not only forgives you but also fills your heart with His Holy Spirit. Of course, it was a life most people didn't want to hear about but at least this time I didn't feel alone.

3. CLEANSING AND DELIVERANCE WEEKEND:

This weekend took place not too long after Irene and I got married. Before we got married I had taken time to explain to her the bad things I had done in the past. I knew Irene had lived in a fairly good Christian home and had gone to Bible school and it had given her life completely over to serving the Lord Jesus Christ. You can say she was, in every way the complete opposite of me and I wanted her to know that. But after I told my story she only asked one question. She asked if God had forgiven me. I replied saying that I believed he had. Then she said, “who am I not to forgive you also?” That day Irene taught me through her words and actions what the love and grace of God was all about.

But after we got married I was still struggling with a number of issues. Most of them I was able to stop in the physical realm but I was still being harassed and bombarded in my mind and in my spirit. So, Irene and I decided that we would go to London, Ontario and stay overnight in a hotel and use the time for praying and

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fasting because I needed to come to the place that if I was going to totally serve Him with all my heart I needed to be set free from the garbage of the past.

So, we checked into our room and spent some time talking and then went into prayer. We were both kneeling down beside the bed in the room talking to God and crying out to Him that He would deliver me from these cords and ropes and chains that bound me, many of them from when I was a child and then into my early teen years. Things that you once you open the door to they become a habit. Then as you do it over and over again it becomes like a second nature in your life.

It seems to me that it was around 10 o'clock or even later at night when God gave me a vision. I believe this was the first time it happened to me in my young walk as a new believer in Christ Jesus. What I saw was a large blackboard the kind you see in a school and on it written all my past sins. There were so many words that the whole blackboard itself seemed to be covered in writing. But as I looked at it I began to see coming over the top of the blackboard all across the whole top which look like a red liquid and it didn't take me long to realize that this was blood and it represented the blood of Jesus Christ which was shed for me. As I continue to look, the blood kept flowing over the whole blackboard until it reached down to the very bottom where you would keep the brush and chalk on the ledge. It was at that point I heard God saying to me do you see anything else on the board and I said, Lord, the only thing I see is a board covered with blood and it was at that moment when God gave me the understanding that all my sins have been now covered by blood and I was forgiven. Just like I couldn't see them He also could not see them anymore. At that moment, I knew I had been set free from my past, from all the guilt and that I didn't have to look back anymore. I could walk forward in Jesus Christ knowing I was covered by His blood and that I was truly forgiven and delivered from my past.

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As Irene and I continued to pray He brought to my mind this passage of Scripture in Matthew chapter 16 verse 19, “*And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*” It seemed like at that very moment that God was speaking this verse directly into my heart and was now showing me that I now had authority to deal with the things in my life. At first I was not sure what this verse meant, but as we kept on praying, He showed me that not only could I be delivered, but He was going to use me in a deliverance type ministry to help others also. He gave me power and authority where I would do battle for Him in the kingdom of heaven to liberate people through Jesus Christ who become entrapped like I was to the snares of the devil.

This had become a part of the word from God into my heart and it has helped me over the last 44 years all over the world. I personally know and understand clearly that God is a God that when we call upon His name and ask to be set free, He will deliver us because of His love, grace and mercy. He truly sets our feet on a firm foundation of life eternal in Him.

The next 12 points shows us a larger dimension on how the power of the Word of God is able to give us deliverance and to become a channel that Jesus Christ can minister through to deliver other people from the bondages of this world, no matter what they may be. If we have breath, there is still time, if we just call upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, He will deliver us. But the key to unlocking the door is believing in Him as the Son of God and to have faith in Him knowing that He is able to do and to keep what He has committed to us through His death on the cross.

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Chapter 1

The Power of the Word of God

*“And they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distress. He sent His **word** and healed them and **delivered** them from their destruction”. Ps 107:19-20*

The Bible is a holy book, made up of truth and testimonies, given to us by God Himself so that it can be a light unto our feet, a light that can light our path. From the day of creation to the present, it has helped people break free from the bondage of Satan. Satan has come to bind, destroy and kill anyone who falls into his snares and traps.

The word gives testimony after testimony how God through His Word sets people and people groups free from the cords, ropes and chains of this world. Satan is a deceiver and loves to fill our heads with lies and half-truths seeking to devour us. What God has done is sent a way to all mankind so that we can be delivered from eternal death.

Our journey here is but a short time. It is a proving ground where we are shown God’s personal mercy and grace. The Bible tells us that our journey here on earth is a time that is given to us so that we can decide whether or not to give our lives to Christ. A time where we die to self and undergo changes that makes us into a new creation of God.

The Bible is also a road map that directs us. It is a medicine that heals us, it instructs us on the way we can receive deliverance. It is a book that brings us the true story of salvation.

As I have already stated, the Bible is a book of testimonies of what the Lord has done and how He has delivered different people throughout history. We too can be an encouragement about how God walked with us and delivered us from many challenges,

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just as He delivered them. (Heb 13:8) He will also deliver us because He is the same God today as He was then and nothing has changed concerning His Word. We also need to understand that people need to be delivered from a variety of things. Bondage can come to our physical body, in our emotional thoughts and into our heart where our spirit is and this is where we get entangled with many types of deceptions.

Here are some people throughout the Old & New Testaments where God tells them to break away not in their strength and ability but in His strength and ability. Notice that the way they did this was by calling upon the name of the Lord, often through meditating and waiting to hear from the Lord. After they heard, they took time to sacrifice and give praise and honour to His name. Each one had to be delivered from something physical and emotional so that they could become a vessel of God's blessing to others.

Abraham: to be taken from the land of his birth to become a foreigner in another country called Canaan. He often struggled with the call of God in the direction that God was leading him in and he often struggled with fear and anxiety of what others may have thought or done to him. He not only began a physical journey but discovered that he was on a spiritual journey where God deepened his faith and made him father of a great nation that would be a blessing to the whole world.

Joseph: to be taken from the land of his birth and become a prisoner in the land of Egypt. He had to deal emotionally with being the favorite son, to being accused by his master of evil things. To being a person who had dreams concerning the future. And then becoming a key person that God would use to deliver Egypt from famine and to bring his father and brothers to Egypt where God would build a nation.

Moses: to be taken from his father and mother and be put in the hands of the daughter of Pharaoh. He was born in a time

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when Pharaoh was killing baby boys. God delivered his life where he could grow up and become part of Pharaoh's family. But then undergo challenges where he was banished out into a desert for many years were in the right timing of God he spoke to him through a burning bush and called him to go back to Egypt to deliver the people of Israel.

Samuel: to be given away by his mother into the hands of Eli the priest. He entered into a priest's home and at a young age having been separated from his family, God began to speak to him and called out to him where his life journey would become one of being an anointed prophet and priest who would one day anoint David to be the King of Israel.

David: to be taken from being a shepherd boy, to becoming an outlawed soldier and then to being a king of the country. He was one that was called out of the shepherd's field by Samuel to be anointed as a future king of Israel but then spent many years as a fugitive and in many ways, an enemy of King Saul. We read of his struggles in the Psalms for he poured out his heart to God and asked his Lord to deliver him from the many challenges that he faced both in his own family and in the country of Israel itself.

Daniel: to be taken from the Promised Land to becoming a slave to the King of Babylon. He was a young man and was taken from his home to face a new city with all the temptations that the world could offer to him. God had blessed him with much knowledge and wisdom and through that he was able to stand in situations that could have killed him but because of his faith in God, God delivered him.

Peter: to be taken from his trade as a fisherman to becoming an apostle of the Church of Jesus Christ. He was a man that struggled with pride often speaking before he thought through what he was saying. God humbled him and took him through various trials and even allowed him to be imprisoned but each event that he faced even though cruel, he knew that God was a

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great deliverer and that He kept His word and his covenants with his children.

Paul: to be taken from the arena of being a Pharisee of the Pharisees and the persecutor of the church to becoming an ambassador for Jesus Christ. He was there when Stephen was stoned and emotionally and mentally he thought he was doing God's will but he had an encounter with Jesus Christ and he began to see things in a new light. Yes, he did take three years to go out into the unknown and smaller parts of the country of Israel where he had to come before the Lord. Why to get delivered of the things that he thought were truth at one time, but now God was opening up his eyes to see the true truth of Jesus Christ and His kingdom.

Each one of these people had to undergo the transition and change. Breaking free from the old way of life moving from the bondage of tradition and cultures and religions to a deeper faith in God Almighty. These are just a few testimonies, but I can tell you that throughout history there has been millions upon millions of people who have been delivered from bondages into eternal life, because of the power which is behind the Word of God itself and then having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as one's Lord and Saviour.

The Bible is truly trustworthy; it is a strong foundation that we can build our lives upon. The first verse of the Bible shows the truth of the living God Who is the creator of man and not a destroyer. Plus, we see quickly in Chapter 3 of Genesis that it is Satan who deceives and brings about bondage and death to all who will listen and follow him.

Jesus was speaking to the Jews trying to show them how they can receive from Him and the Word of God true freedom. He said to them, *"Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, if you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered Him, we are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in*

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bondage to anyone. How can you say, you will be made free? Jesus answered them, most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And the slave does not abide in the house forever, but the son abides forever. Therefore, if the Son make you free, you shall be free indeed.” (John 8:31-36) Jesus wanted the disciples to know that their freedom did not come through being a descendent of Abraham but came through having a personal relationship through faith in Jesus Christ. Abraham had not broken the curse of sin and destruction, but he did show to them a way that through faith in the Lord God, they too could be made righteous not because of who we are as descendants, but because of who He is as God.

Jesus wanted everyone to know that He was the only one that could set people free. He was given all authority and power both in heaven and on earth so that through Him they could become righteous and deliver us from all bondages and sin. There was no other way but through Him, He is the only one that can deliver people from their bondage into an everlasting life.

Our key verse points out at least 3 things that we need to understand:

One, we must cry out or call out to the Lord for help.

Secondly, He will save us or help us in our times of trouble and distress.

Thirdly, He has sent His Word to **heal** us and **deliver** us from destruction.

One may then ask who is this Word? It is not only the Bible but John gives to us the identity of who this word or person is. He tells that it is none other than Jesus Christ Himself, who was there from the very beginning of all creation. (John 1:1-18)

This would be the first step of building a strong foundation of deliverance for one’s life. God is taking us on a journey so that

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we can become a powerful servant of His connected by a spiritual birth into His body the church. Paul states that, “*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” Rom 10:17

Finally, Paul tells Timothy, “*And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work*”. (2 Tim 3:15-17) Paul wanted Timothy to know the power of the Word and what it can do in and through one’s life. Everything in Timothy’s life was going to have to be built upon the Word of God and it would be by the Word of God that people could receive deliverance through Christ’s righteousness making us a child of God.

Conclusion:

Here is what the Psalmist says, “*Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word.*” (Ps 119:169) So often what keeps people bound is their lack of understanding when it comes to the Word of God. We need to be reading the Word of God and getting it into our hearts and minds. We need to trust the Word of God as truly God’s living Word, a powerful word that can set us free.

Jesus speaks to this in the Gospel of John chapter 8, “*if you abide in My word and you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. ... Therefore the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.*” John 8:31-32, 36 NKJB. We must make a choice. No one can make it for us. It is up to us in our own hearts to say whether or not we believe in the Word and that the Word is the living Word of God. By believing that we then know that through Jesus Christ it is possible to be delivered from whatever we may face here on earth. But it’s a choice that we have to make and step out in faith in. It is up to us

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and that means we need to get into the Word of God so that the Word of God can get into us and set us free.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

I pray that You would help me today to see Your written Word as divine truth and that Your Word has the power and authority to deliver me from things that I have become ensnared to. I pray that You would put a burden on my heart to read Your Word and to pray through your Word, and to memorize Your word so that it can be the secure anchor that holds me close to Your heart. Jesus, I just don't want to say I believe in Your Word, but I ask that You would help me live Your Word as a testimony not only to the people that live around me but even to the demonic hosts that are battling against me each day. Cover me and fill me with the truth of Your Word and that I have a heart of faith that will stand firm according to Your Word that You have given to us to follow while we are here on earth.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 2

The power of Prophecy

“Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying: Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, who have been since the world began, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us, to perform the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember His holy covenant, the oath which He swore to our father Abraham: to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life”.
Luke 1:67-75

Often prophecy speaks about the future things that are not yet seen, things that might not be possible at the time. The people of Israel often found themselves going to difficult times as they journeyed both as individuals and as a nation. But during the time of struggles God would raise up a spokesperson, one who would speak on His behalf - a prophet that was in touch with the heart and will of God.

Throughout history, God had people that would communicate to others through the hope of future events. As people, we need to understand that God not only created us but loves us with great compassion. He desires us to walk with Him personally but after we decided to go away from God's will for our lives and turn our backs on Him, we became people of disobedience. We started a chain of events in our lives that led to the destruction of body, mind and spirit.

The word sin simply means to go in another direction, to follow our will and desires. We want to become like God Himself. We want to be our own creators and this leads us down a spiritual

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pathway of sin and eventually to death. It seems that we became hard of hearing when it came to hearing the voice of God. God sent many messengers to speak forth His word and told us of a coming judgment that will take place when we are disobedient to Him. The Bible records many accounts of both the positive and negative results when it comes to living a life after His will.

Many of His prophets were put to death because people would not hear the words and truth of God. These prophets not only spoke to the people concerning the present-day events, but also warned them about what was coming. From Abraham to John, the author of the book of Revelation spoke about One who would come. He would be the Messiah, the one who set His people free, who would break the chains and ropes of demonization here on earth. He would bring hope to things that seemed hopeless. He would bring life to those that were dead. He would heal the brokenhearted. He would first come to be a servant to live amongst us and show us by example how to be like Him. To teach us truth about what real life is all about. He would challenge us to get our eyes off this earthly kingdom and onto His heavenly kingdom.

Over thousands of years and by many different prophets, the Messiah life was proclaimed to all who would listen. He would be conceived, born of an earthly mother. It was prophesied to mankind even what His name would be and how He would live here on earth. We were even given information concerning His death and resurrection, plus how He would one day come back again as King of kings and Lord of lords.

The Bible is a tapestry of threads that paint an amazing story of the Messiah who would redeem His people, and bring salvation to the brokenhearted. That He would do for us all that would be necessary so that we could be justified once again before the Father. It was not going to be done by our strength and power but through His strength and power. He would be our Emmanuel, God who would live personally in our hearts.

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When there was no hope, He would give us hope in the future. It was prophesied that He would fill us with His Holy Spirit who would become our Teacher and Comforter, one who would empower us and guide us as we walk our lives out here on earth.

The prophet foretold of a coming child who would give Himself as a ransom for all but also proclaimed that He would come as King to defeat sin and death and to break us free from all bondages of this world.

Just as the Bible tells us how a Messiah would come to set His people free we are also told of God's great love for us and that He would send us a Redeemer who would deliver those who would just call upon His name. In fact, the Bible tells us that God knew us before we were even conceived and that He knows the number of hair on our head. We are not unknown to God. He knows our past, present and future and He calls out to us with hope that we would step out in faith and give our lives to Him personally. That we would confess our sins and stop walking in disobedience and turn to a life of obedience in Him.

It has been prophesied that we do not need to live a life of death and destruction but that we can have a life of freedom but that one needs to be willing to die to ourselves and to live for Christ Jesus. Here are just a few prophetic words that the Bible gives to us as human beings:

Jesus tells us concerning even the hair on our head, *“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And that not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. But the very hairs on your head are all numbered.”* Matt 10:28-30

Again, Jesus tells us that God knows our heart, *“And He said to them, you are those who justify yourself before men, but*

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God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.” Luke 16:15

Paul tells the Corinthian church that they can become God’s temple, *“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not of your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s. 1 Cor 6:19-20*

God tells Abraham that He was going to become the Father of blessings to all peoples. This is what the LORD said to Abram, *“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Genesis 12:2-3*

The key is, will we receive these prophetic words into our hearts? Because we are told that it is the Word that will set us free.

Conclusion:

John points out to his readers that Jesus Christ as our deliver is God Himself. He states, *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. In the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:1-4, 14*

Why is prophecy then so powerful? Why are the words that God has spoken in the past concerning people so powerful in breaking the chains of our present day that we find ourselves so often tied up by the things of this world?

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There are two main reasons. One is that He is the Word and that His words never change. When He speaks His word out to the people it becomes a binding covenant between Himself and those who are willing to enter into a personal commitment with Him. We see that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us but also we see that in him was life and light for all mankind. His life purpose was to shine forth into dark places helping mankind see so that they may change from their wicked ways and follow after Him. But the problem with so many of the people of this world as the Scripture states, is that they do not comprehend what the Messiah came to do. We allow Satan to keep us in darkness and ignorance and this is what binds us and destroys us.

If we become attached and bound to the prophetic word of the Bible, we will find ourselves being loosened from the strongholds and snares of Satan and his adversaries. The power of prophecy brought Jesus to this world and the power of prophecy has the ability to set us free from this world.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I thank you Lord for opening up my eyes to the prophetic words in the Old Testament and of the New Testament and that these words are anointed with power and authority. They show us why You came to this earth as the Son of God and why You were willing to take stripes upon your back and be nailed to a cruel cross at Calvary. I thank You that in times of old You've moved upon people by Your Spirit to write down the truth of who You are and what your purpose would be here to on earth. I pray that Your prophetic words will be released in a powerful way and where I can stand full and free before You covered in Your righteousness.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 3

The Power of a Name

“Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you all. This is the stone which was rejected by your builders, but has become the chief cornerstone. Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:10-12

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Phil 2:9-11

Throughout Scripture we see on many occasions people’s names were given to them specifically to represent something about God or something about themselves. Today many people are just given names that either connect them to some previous family member, a past hero or just because they like the sound of it. There are still others that give names because of what they mean. Names can have built within them hope that the child will fulfill the meaning at some time in his life.

Jesus Himself was given many names or titles that represent who He is to mankind. We already shared some of these above but there are many more that are given throughout the Bible. At their root, many of these names have the idea of a deliverer. One who comes on behalf of God the Father bringing to us the needed understanding about what Christ has come to this earth to do.

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We also see throughout Scriptures that people's names were changed so that it would clearly reflect to others who they were. We sing of old hymns that talk about the "power in the name of Jesus". We are also told in Scripture that every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess Christ as Lord.

Deliverance ministry comes to people by speaking forth the name of Jesus Christ. This is the reason why we pray over the sick or ask God to deliver the captive that has been bound by Satan. We do not speak our names but we speak His name. Because His name is where all power and authority lies. No matter how badly you are bound by the curses of Satan you can be set free through the precious blood and name of Jesus Christ.

To the following is a list of these names that Christ is called by. Quickly you will see that at the very root of many of these names is the idea of someone who has come to set people free. There are more than 160 names and titles Christ is known by; most of them are descriptive of who Christ is and how he ministers to us here on earth. Some of Christ's names are: Redeemer, Prophet, Son of God, Holy One, King, Stone, Rose of Sharon, Emmanuel, Counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Jehovah, Messiah, Judge, Jesus, Son of Righteousness, Son of David, Son of Man, Master, Saviour, Word, Light, Lamb of God, Bread of Life, I Am, Door, Good Shepherd, Resurrection, Vine, Way, Truth, Life, Prince, Lord, Deliverer, Second Adam, Chief Corner Stone, Mediator, God, Daystar, Eternal Life, Advocate, Alpha and Omega, Almighty, Lion of the Tribe of Judah, Root of David, Lord of Lords, King of Kings.

Conclusion:

The key to releasing the power of these names is that we take the time to speak them over our lives through prayer and praise. When we do this, the cords and ropes that have snared begin to break. We must speak them out and use them in our lives

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not only for ourselves but in our prayer closet as we pray for others that through the name of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we ourselves may be set free and that our family members may be set free. Plus, those that are around us may also come into the freedom of eternal life, but we need to remember that only Jesus Christ Himself can offer this freedom and deliverance.

We must ask God to open our eyes and ears to see and hear the uniqueness and power that we have through His names. It a choice that must commit to if we hope to be delivered. God is deeply in love with His creation and wants us to live a life of freedom in Him.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I thank You for the power of Your name and that through Your name every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess You as their Lord and King. I pray that You would help me to humble myself before You and become engrafted into Your vine where I can abide with You under the power of Your name. I ask that Your Will Lord be done. As I pray and wait upon You, please help me focus my mind and heart on Your great names and know that Your names have a foundation in deliverance. That if I just trust in Your names and call out to You with Your names, You would heal and deliver me from the wickedness that so often surrounds me and many times lies deep within my own heart. I call upon Your name this day and confess before You and open up before You my heart so that through Your name Jesus You would wash me, cleanse me and set me free.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 4

The Power of King Jesus

*“The **LORD** is King forever and ever; the nations have perished out of his land” Ps 10:16*

*“But the **LORD** is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, and the nations will not be able to endure His indignation.” Jer 10:10*

“Out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS”. Rev 19:15-16

The King is one who carries all authority over the people that he presides as their leader. Historically many kingships that govern different countries around the world have been more in the lines of dictatorship instead of a sovereign ruler who loves and cares for his people and desires to help them wherever possible.

In a colonial empire, you can have various types of leadership. You can have Lords of the Manor. You can have Prince and Princess and you can have King and Queens. Much of our North American society do not understand this type of leadership structure. But the point of this chapter is to show that these various offices come with power and authority. This is important for anyone who is struggling with bondage to know that all people have a right to appeal to the King who is the Creator of all the universe.

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The concept of Lordship means, in Hebrew the name Adonai. This is used 360 times in the Bible. It means Lord, master, sir, owner, noble, aristocrat. (Rom 1:4, Col 1:3)

The concept of kingship means rules, sovereign; one who oversees, having the power and authority over the people of his lands or kingdom. Many countries have a king as their leader; in a spiritual sense, when we accept Christ as our personal Saviour, He becomes king over every aspect of our lives. When Christ returns, He will come as King of king. (See Psalms Chapter 21 & 24.)

We are told in Scriptures that Jesus Christ is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords but we often forget that Satan himself is the prince of this air or of this ground here on earth. He was cast out of heaven with many other angels who rebelled against God Almighty and now they are on this earth trying to bring about destruction, division and death to all mankind.

Our King has come to bring harmony and unity to pull the body of believers together as an Army, which will one day defeat and destroy Satan and his demonic host. But until that point of time, Satan and his cronies are trying to wreak havoc here on earth by getting people to convince themselves that what they are getting involved in will not hurt them or have any lasting effect on them.

What mankind does not understand is that when we walk into the traps and snares of Satan, we become bound up and spiral down to a place of destructiveness both for themselves and for others around us. Satan is attempting to win all he can here on earth and throughout history to join him in his spiritual kingdom of eternal damnation.

Man, is given a choice throughout his life here on earth to decide whom he will serve. The book of Revelation pictures for us a great battle that boils down to one thing. Will we serve the King of all creation and be part of His kingdom? Or are we going to

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serve the beast and the antichrist where he will lead us to severe bondage, destruction and death. Moses exhorts the people, “*But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it. See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announced to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you crossed over the Jordan to go in and possess. I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, but I have set before you life and death, blessings and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendents may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.*” (Deut 30:14-20) We are given a choice and that is something that we must speak forth from our heart if we hope to break free from the ropes and cords that bind and entangle us to the things of this world.

David was made King over all Israel by God through the prophet Samuel, “... *The LORD your God said to you, you shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over My people Israel. Therefore, all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the LORD by Samuel.*” (1 Chr 11:2-3) Again, we need to understand that David became king over all Israel not just by the people but by the Lord God Almighty Himself. Jehovah gave David some of His power and authority to rule over God’s chosen children.

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King Solomon tells the people they must choose this day whom they were going to serve. He states, *“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I would hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and heal their land.”* (2 Chr 7:14) To be able to stay out of bondage, we must be obedient in all that we are to our Lord Jesus Christ. When we do, this there is healing and deliverance not only for us but also for those around us and for the lands that we live in.

The kings of the old were put in place as the people’s representative and they knew that all their power and authority came from the Most High King of heaven and earth (Ps 10:16; 24:7; 74:12). Even though Satan is the prince of this air, his main tactic is to try to destroy people through lies. Trying to get them to believe in something that is untruthful and deceptive. This is what he did to Adam and Eve in the garden and he tried to do it with Jesus Christ in the wilderness. Plus, he continues to use this technique to try to get mankind to turn their back against the King of Kings and to follow him. This is why he is known as the great deceiver.

When Jesus came to earth, He came as a servant to serve the people and to give them an example of who He was and to become a light for a pathway so that we can see our way out of Satan’s life of darkness.

Conclusion:

The challenge that we face today comes out of our misunderstanding of who we are as a created being and who He is as the one who is created us. Again, listen to what Moses had to say to the people, *“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments*

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of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good? Indeed, heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it.” Deut 10:12-14

The reason for this point is to let people know we have an eternal King over the whole universe who has the power and authority to set those who were in bondage free. We as people need to realize that we have an advocate who speaks on our behalf Who is also King of kings. All we must do is to appeal to Him and to call upon His name and be willing to turn from our wicked ways.

There are two more Scriptures that are relevant to this conversation on how our King Jesus Christ relates to us what we as people are to do if we hope to be delivered and set free. Paul tells the Romans in chapter 12:1-2 this, *“I beseech you therefore, brother and, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be transformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

Then we are told in the book of Hebrews chapter 12:1-2 these words, *“therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”*

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I desire to come before You in a new way and ask You Lord that my eyes will be open and clearly see You as my King. That my life

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would reflect and show forth that I serve a living King whose kingdom is in heaven. Jesus, because You are my King, You are able through your power and authority to speak a word into my heart that will deliver me from the snares of this world's kingdom. I ask that You open my eyes to see daily into Your heavenly kingdom and that Your light shine on my pathway that I would not walk according to my will but that I would walk according to Your will.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 5

The Power of a Testimony

*“And many of the Samaritans of the city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who **testified**, He told me all that I ever did. So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.”*

John 4:39-42

The testimony has many powerful parts to it that one can say has two sides, like a coin. One side blesses and encourages those who hear it and give strength into their lives. The other side is a testimony that helps the person's heart who is giving the testimony to be encouraged and strengthened to move into a deeper relationship with their God.

This is why many organizations encourage people that once they give their heart to Jesus Christ, they should do at least two things. One to be baptized. This is because it is a testimony of how you died to self and now live for Christ. Secondly to be in a place where you can give testimonies either one-on-one to people you meet or during church services. The reason for this is because it builds greater faith in the one who is speaking. Plus, it encourages others who may be going through a similar event that you have just testified about and how God set you free and delivered you from something that you have been struggling with.

The Gospel of John records a literal event that took place between Jesus and the woman at a well. At first it was just a conversation with a woman who had come to draw water for her

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needs. She was a Samaritan and Samaritans normally didn't talk to Jews and Jews didn't talk to Samaritans. But here Jesus was at a well that was outside of the town and the disciples had gone in to get food. While He was waiting, He spoke to the Samaritan woman asking her for something to drink.

As the conversation continued, it was apparent Jesus knew the full truth of who this woman was. It's interesting to note that He didn't focus on the woman's shortcomings of sins but pointed her to the place concerning how she could have living water for her life.

It was after this conversation where we see the power of a testimony. When they finished talking, the woman went into the village and told people about what happened at the well, testifying how this man knew everything about her and how He was truly the Messiah. It is interesting to note that even in the village, some believed what she was saying concerning Jesus Christ. Because of her testimony, others chose to come out of the village and meet Jesus. It was because of the power of her testimony linked with Jesus speaking the truth about who He was that caused the village to believe in Him.

Then they asked Jesus to stay for several days where He taught and revealed the Scriptures to them. Again, the Scripture shows us the power of a testimony, *"from the city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified."* (John 4:39) The people continued and they themselves give a testimony in verse 42, *"and they were saying to the woman, it is no longer because of what you said that we believe, we have heard for ourselves and know that this one is indeed the Saviour of the world."*

I believe because of the power of this woman's testimony in Jesus Christ and the struggles that she had been facing all her life and had been bound to, she was set free. She testified about

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Jesus and went into the community and did something that was most likely difficult, but testified anyhow about Jesus Christ.

We as disciples of Christ should never underestimate the power of a testimony. We often think that what we have to say is not very meaningful to the person who heard us. This is a lie from Satan. When done in faith in Christ Jesus, all testimonies are powerful.

We are told that our words can be like “living water” because they come from our heart. I know in my own life that every time I have shared my testimony, it always reminds me of what my Lord Jesus Christ did in my life. I then become so excited about what He has done and continues to do in me and others. Our testimony reminds us about Jesus and helps others to see Jesus Christ as the great bondage breaker and deliverer of our souls.

Conclusion:

When we speak words of faith of what God has done in our lives it releases within us the power of the Holy Spirit to break those cords and ropes that have been binding us. Speaking words of faith opens the door for more of the Holy Spirit to come in and release us from the power of sin and darkness. Keeping things locked up inside our hearts will not open the door of deliverance. We must first confess our sin and believe that He is able to do all things in our lives. Then we must go out and confess to others because in so doing this it brings us into the family of Christ. We no longer walk alone but we walk together with the other members of the body of Christ. Through that we receive strength and power to continue with Jesus as a pilgrim of His here on earth.

I believe it's important to share your testimony of what Christ is doing in your life as much as possible with others. And as you season your testimony with Scripture and prayer, you will see

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that as you speak it, it will encourage others to draw closer to Jesus Christ. And secondly, it may be the channel that God will use to help someone else to be delivered from the bondages of Satan.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I thank You for what You have done not only in my life but in other people's lives. People that have given their testimonies and their lives to serving you 100% no matter what the cost may have been. I pray that You would open up my heart and my mouth to speak forth Your good news to whoever I came in contact with, that I would not withhold my testimony from others, but Lord I know You have given me a testimony that has been empowered by Your authority and that You desire to use it to speak into other people's lives. I pray that You forgive me when I have withheld my testimony of You because of some type of fear or sometimes because of self-interest. I ask now that You would remind me daily and that I would see people around me in a different way and that I have Your words of life in my heart and that You want me to use those words of life, to help set others free into Your wonderful kingdom. I commit myself afresh this day into Your hands now and thank You for coming into my life and giving me a testimony that even the angels in heaven are rejoicing over.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 6

The Power of the Holy Spirit

“... This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.”

Zech 4:6

Unfortunately, in our day and age many people do not understand the power of the Holy Spirit. This is so not only in the world but also in churches. Many times, people come to the church to be helped and be set free. They tried to do this in a religious way, keeping all the rules and regulations of the church. But they did not realize that this religious walk would not set them free from the things that they're struggling with deep within their heart.

We need to remember what Paul said to the Galatian Church that it was God who sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts (Gal 4:6). We must have faith and trust that the words we are reading and hearing in our minds need to be planted into our heart by the Holy Spirit because as they do they have the power to break the chains and cords that bind us to so many things of this world. He goes on to tell us that because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, God becomes our Abba Father. Then He clarifies what this means by saying, *“Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”* (Gal 4:7)

We can only be set free by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our testimony of a water baptism shows others that we have been willing to die to ourselves and follow Christ. But so often we have not been trained and taught as a disciple of Christ that we must die to ourselves on the inside, which opens the door for the Holy Spirit to fill more areas of our life for His glory.

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Salvation is the step that brings Christ into our heart but then there is a process of sanctification: were we walk together with the Holy Spirit who is our Teacher and Counselor? He comes into our heart to guide and lead us in a walk of grace and righteousness. We are told by the Scriptures that we are to be led by the Spirit and for this to take place, Paul tells the Ephesian church we also need to be filled by the Spirit daily (Eph 5:18).

The problem that we face so often is that we think we can overcome things in our own power and strength. This is not true. Satan bound and entangled us in many things of this world and now has gotten us to believe in all kinds of lies and half-truths. What is needed is for our hearts to come to Christ in obedience, to confess our sin, and then give our lives fully over to the Holy Spirit.

Jesus gave an account to the people where He ministered and told them a story. He talked about a man who was made clean on the inside and was emptied, but nothing was put back in. Jesus said that a man's heart was washed and cleaned and he was delivered and set free from a demon. We were told that the demon went out from that person, but that after a short period of time the demon decided to come back and check on the person and found the place was empty, so he went and got seven more demons and together they went in and possessed the man and the second time around was much worse than the first time. (Matt 12:43-45).

If we hope to remain delivered and set free from the bondages that we have been bound with whether it was drugs, alcohol, gambling or sexual perversion, (to name a few), we must understand that deliverance will only take place by the power of the Holy Spirit and through the memorizing of God's Word plus, a daily walk with Jesus Christ in prayer.

The challenges that we face today is that the modern world believes more strongly in the power of prescription drugs and

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intellectualism of science but this kind of attitude and way of thinking can only lead us into a life of destruction where Satan has deceived and bound us into believing that through our education and our own ability we can will things into being. This is one of the biggest lies that not only do we have in the world but also in the church. We deny the power of the Holy Spirit and try to do things in our own righteousness not realizing that this is a form of bondage in itself.

We need to pray daily that the Holy Spirit will fill us, that He will give us wisdom, and help us understand how to walk for the Lord each day as we serve Him. This is His purpose and it is why He is here on the earth moving “to and fro” bringing conviction but also bringing disciples to a place of deliverance and freedom.

Conclusion:

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is there for us. He was sent by the Father to infill and empower us for service. In my teen years, I was bound by many of the things that I wrote above. In my 17th year I gave my heart to Jesus and began to read his word and pray, but I was still struggling with much of the same things that I had before I became a Christian. It wasn't until I heard the teaching that I needed to be filled with the Holy Spirit and saw God miraculously fill my life with His presence that these chains of bondage finally broke loose where I was set free and delivered through the power and blood of Jesus Christ.

As a pastor, I have seen many people try a variety of different things to get set free from the struggles that they daily face in their lives not realizing that all they needed to do was surrender themselves completely to the power of the Holy Spirit which comes through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We are told that He paid for all - and I mean all - on the cross of Calvary and what we need to do is bring all our garbage and cares of this world and leave them at the foot of the cross and to leave them there.

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This is only made possible by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to fill us and to give us strength to walk away from the different kinds of bondage that we face in our lives

The key is to put our whole trust in Jesus Christ and believe He is able to deliver us from anything that has been binding us. He came to this world to die on the cross so that we may have grace, mercy and forgiveness of sin. He didn't just leave us at that point where we now try to walk our own ability, but He sent the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost to in-fire the people with an anointing that broke the chains and cords of tradition and religion and released the fullness of God into their hearts.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

I want to thank You for sending forth the power of Your Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost which allows us to walk not in our authority but in Your authority. I thank You for sealing my heart with the seal of the Spirit who comes to us as a fulfillment of Your promises. I also thank You for opening up the door where I can come to You each day and ask You to fill me with Your Spirit so that I don't walk according to my will but according to Your will. Your Holy Spirit is what births forth a fountain of living water and life into my heart. Now I pray that the Holy Spirit would allow me to be a vessel of prayer on behalf of Jesus Christ where I could pour out that which He poured into me to others. I thank You Holy Spirit that if I ask of You, You will freely come in and deliver me of anything that has bound me, and even pulls on my life to try to lead me away from You. I ask that You take my prayer this day and set me free by the blood of Jesus Christ. I truly want to become Your vessel, one that has been washed and cleansed in the blood of Christ, one that has been delivered from the snares of Satan. I want to become Your vessel of good news so that others may come to a place of deliverance in their own lives.

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Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 7

The Power of the Great Commission

“And He said to them, go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: in My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Mark 16:15-18

There is great power when the disciple of Christ serves and steps out in faith with Christ. If we look at the teachings that Jesus gave to the disciples, - and continues to do this day - it is to give His authority and power to them. Why? so that they may go out and proclaim the good news. This point links us closely to the previous point of giving our testimony to others. Many Christians think that they must be preachers and teachers and have that type of calling on their lives before they can do the great commission. But at the end of Christ's life and after all the teaching that He has given to the peoples, the key thing that He wanted them to remember and do was to go out and proclaim His good news about Himself and the Kingdom of Heaven to others.

So often when we talk about the great commission we take the one from Matthew chapter 28 versus 19 and 20 and truly this is a very powerful Scripture, but historians tell us that the book of Mark was probably one of the first books of the Gospels to be written. We need to remember that these are the words that Jesus was giving to His disciples, not just for the 12, but for all the ones who followed Him as their Lord and Saviour. The reason why I want to point this out is because it not only tells us to go out and preach the good news and baptize every believer, but also shows that the disciple is also to be involved in healing and deliverance ministries.

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The question becomes this: are these parts of the great commission for today? Is God still giving His authority to do this amongst the people or was it only given for establishing the early church? I believe that God is sovereign in all things and we do what we do according to His will and timing but on the other hand there is a place where we need to step out in faith and take His power and authority to set the captive free.

I believe that today the church in many ways has given up on deliverance ministry and has received and committed only one part of the great commission that Jesus has proclaimed for us to do. Ministry is never easy and we face many challenges. However, we need to remember this is not a game. We are not called to do the great commission in our strength and ability. He is calling us to go forth in faith and to do this type of ministry in His strength and ability. The great commission is allowing the Word and the Holy Spirit to flow through us to touch other people's lives around us, in our homes, our communities and across our country. The Lord even calls others to go to the outer most parts of the world.

The true good news that we are to proclaim is that Jesus Christ came to shed His blood and died on the cross so that we can be delivered from death and destruction, that we can be delivered from the chains and cords that so easily ensnare us. (Heb 12:1) When will we believe that Christ can set people free? We should be pressing in and praying and seeking the face of God for our children and neighbours that they do not need to continue to live in bondage all their life but that they can be set free through Christ.

Again, let us take time to look at the second part of the great commission where it says, "*in My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.*"

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Now the question that we must ask ourselves is whether we believe that this is true for us today.

It is interesting to hear some Christians talk about this but so often we share it as part of our missionary testimony of what God has done in other parts of the world, especially in Third World countries. We assume because of their ignorance they end up falling into these various kinds of bondage but we think that once they have a better education and understand things in a clearer light, they will not have these problems anymore. What we don't understand is that Satan is still using all the various tactics that he has in his weaponry to destroy and hinder people's lives.

The reason we do not talk much about this in our North American society is because we have fear that people might think we're crazy or that they may say that we are being overly spiritual. We must come to the place not only in our personal lives, but also in the church that we have been called, to fulfill all aspects of this great commission. This means there are thousands of people who need to be delivered whether it's physical, emotional or spiritual. As the time draws closer to the second coming of Christ, we will see more people being oppressed, possessed and bound by Satan's strongholds.

Satan got us to believe in a lie. He stripped away the power and authority that Christ gave us to go out into the highways and byways and compel the people to come in to His kingdom, to come in and receive healing and be delivered from the bondage that the world has ensnared us in.

Conclusion:

We as disciples must accept that we have been commissioned to go out, proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to be empowered by His Holy Spirit and to bring healing and deliverance to those who have become captive to the strongholds of Satan.

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We cannot do it in our own ability and strength. That's why we need to seek the Lord in prayer and discover what His will is for the various situations that we come across. There will be times where only a short prayer is all we will have time for because the event that we are facing needs to be dealt with immediately. We see this in the ministry that Peter had when he walked to the temple and there was a lame man begging there. He told the man that silver and gold he does not have but what he does have in Jesus Christ he was going to give to him and he called him to rise up and walk. (Acts 3:1-10)

There was another time that the disciples were out where a demon possessed woman was harassing them. At first, they did nothing and seemed more focused on proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ. Within a few moments, Paul looked at the woman and rebuked the evil spirit that was in her. Immediately she was made whole. This created a problem that rose up in the city among the people, because they had been making money off this woman. Realizing they were going to lose their income, they spoke out against the disciples and persecuted them for what they were doing. (Acts 16:16-24)

I want to warn you that if you move in this kind of full Gospel Ministry within your church or within your community you will experience persecution both from within the church and from the community. Satan doesn't mind if you preach and teach but what really causes him to pour out his wrath upon the followers of Jesus Christ is when we walk and start delivering people from bondage and from eternal death. Therefore, we need to have fellow disciples praying for this kind of ministry that God has called us to do and that we have a church that surrounds us with a hedge of prayer so that we may go out and completely fulfill the great commission.

There is so much out there right now that is destroying our youth. If the elders and followers of Christ don't rise up and fulfill the great commission, people will continue to fill our hospitals and

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rehabilitation centers. Worst of all, they will die in our homes and on the streets of our cities.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus Christ,

I thank You that Your last words here on earth were words of instruction, that they weren't words just for our own personal walk with You but that You had a bigger vision in mind. That bigger vision was that we were to go out baptizing and teaching people about You and Your Kingdom. I pray that You would help me see not to do this in my own strength and ability but that You are sending me out with Your power and authority to do Your will when it comes to the sick and the oppressed. I want to be your servant so that wherever I go I can take the gifts that You poured into my heart to help others that I may come across each day in my life. I pray that You would open up my eyes to the Windows of Heaven to see the full picture of what this great commission means to me and a lost world. I ask that You help me obey and live out my life according to your commands and will for my life.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 8

The Power of the Church

*“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my **church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you **bind** on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you **loose** on earth will be loosed in heaven.”* Matt 16:18

*“... Christ also loved the **church** and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of the water by the word, that He might preserve her to Himself a glorious **church**, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”*
Eph 5:27

Part of the ministry of the church is not only to bring people to Jesus Christ but to connect them into the body of believers. This will help them understand what their spiritual gifts are and how they can minister not only within the body but in the community where they live.

Christ birthed forth the church through the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. They were to gather together not only to have communion, baptisms, times of worship and praise, but also to teach and instruct the believers in their faith in Jesus Christ. The purpose of the church was not to be a social club but a place where people could be ministered to and help in their journey with the Lord Jesus Christ.

The church was a body of believers who would take on a new lifestyle, a new identity. The Scripture teaches us it would be people who would come together, no longer living for themselves, but living for Jesus Christ.

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Christ is to be the head of the church and as the head, He will give the church instruction and help them to be equipped so that they could fulfill the great commission and that they would be ministers to one another both in their local church and in their community. What happens so often is that we have not seen the bigger picture of what the church is all about worldwide. We get caught up in our own little paradigm forgetting that through Christ Jesus we are all equal and part of one body.

If we look at the beginning of the early church in the book of Acts, we see the disciples kept busy doing a variety of things. Everything from helping the poor and widows to going house to house and breaking bread. They also gave their possessions to minister to the needs of others that were in the body of Christ. They taught and equipped and prayed over people so that they could be delivered from bondage that sometimes got passed down through generations.

The church body was supposed to be a ministry center where the believers could come together and pray. In fact, the early church was known as the “house of prayer”. The focus of the church was to be praying not only to God, but to God on behalf of themselves and others. We may forget that salvation is a miracle and when it takes place, the Bible tells us that the angels in heaven are rejoicing over this beautiful event. (Luke 15:10)

The reason why there is so much power in the church is because it is a place with a variety of gifts that are needed for ministry to be found. We need each other to help each other not in our strength but in God’s strength and wisdom. He knows the intents of our hearts. He knows all truth and He can see clearly what it is that we need to be set free from and who He will call to help us walk through what one could call a “deliverance ministry”.

Today the church is a place where we receive some exhortation and encouragement. But often it is not a place where we spend time praying and gathering together to seek God for

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wisdom and understanding for what His plan is for the individual lives of the body. The church is to be a place of coming together but we need to realize that the sermon and the worship and praise that we do are just a part of what the church has been birthed into existence to fulfill.

It has been said many times that believers are the hands and feet of Christ here on earth, but we also need to see that we are much more than the hands and feet. Each organ of our physical body is there so that we may have life. Christ tells His followers that He did not come just to give life but to give it more abundantly. (John 10:10) We are not just here to exist and to take up space but as a disciple of Christ we are here to be ministers, each one of us fulfilling our calling in his body who in turn needs to reach out to a lost world.

Conclusion:

Jesus is able to cleanse and wash those people who become part of His glorious church. Again, it shows that He is able and has the power and authority to do all things in our lives and that He can deliver us from all hindrances and bondage if we have the faith to trust Him and to let Him do His complete work in our lives.

The key to deliverance ministry is to realize that we are not a bunch of individuals but a community of believers under the headship of Jesus Christ serving each other. When the church comes together in harmony and unity there is great power from our head Jesus Christ and that's why we are at that point able to do all things. Paul's tells us that I can do all things in Christ Jesus who strengthens me. (Phil 4:13)

Many times, God has used me over the years to be involved in deliverance ministry of people from a variety of different things. I've called on other mature members of the church to fast and pray so that as we meet with the person who is going through a time of sickness or bondage, that we would be in the right spirit to pray

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over them. (Matt 17:19-21) The Bible tells us were two or three gather together in My name it should be done in their midst. (Matt 18:20)

Deliverance ministry is gathering together in His name. It is sometimes one on one, but often we come together as a body of believers and lift up one another before our heavenly Father to call upon His name's power in His authority to deliver and set the captive free.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

I thank You Lord for putting me in a body of believers who have a variety of gifts that can help me walk my life here on earth according to Your will. I thank You that through the power of the Holy Spirit, You gifted the church with leadership and ministry gifts and they are there not only to help the people within the church but also for the community outside the church. I ask that You use Your church to bind together an army to deliver people from the strongholds of this world. I thank You that the gates of hell cannot prevail against a church and I thank You that You are the head of the church and that You watch over us and know our hearts and what we need each day to succeed as we journey here on earth. I also thank You that You bring other people into our lives to help us and bear testimony to us how they have been set free and that the same God that has set them free will set us free also. Thank You that Your church is a house of deliverance, a ministry and a place of refuge that all may come to. I pray that You help me submit myself to a local church that You can use to help deliver me from the bondage of sin that I so often face.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 9

The Power of being an Ambassador

*“Now then, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God were pleading through us; we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.” 2 Cor 5:20*

*“For which I am an **ambassador** in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Eph 6:20*

There is another area that we need to understand concerning our purpose here on earth. When we become a believer in Jesus Christ we become part of His Eternal Kingdom in heaven. We do not represent this world anymore, but we are representatives of His kingdom. The Bible tells us that we become Christ’s ambassadors who speak and minister on behalf of Jesus Christ. We are called and sent out by Him to go wherever He leads us, being a representative of His kingdom here on earth.

There is power in being an ambassador for Jesus Christ. Just like a policeman by himself has little power or ability to do anything as he walks the streets, but because he’s been sent out on behalf of the city, he’s been given the power to do whatever needs to be done to break the strongholds of corruption where he lives. As an ambassador of Christ, we are sent out with His authority and power to become a testimony and proclaimer of the Gospel of Christ to an evil and sadistic world.

Many of us know what the Word ambassador means but we don’t understand in reality what an ambassador does. The dictionary defines the word ambassador as a mediator, intercessor, peacemaker, diplomat, representative; a political representative who speaks or acts on behalf of a nation. We do not comprehend the power of an embassy in a foreign country. We do not understand that we are speaking on behalf of someone else. We too

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as ambassadors of Christ have diplomatic immunity from the country that we may be living in. Satan may have the power over the things of this world but we are sent forth as ambassadors to establish embassies where people can flee to and find safety from the murderous regimes that they were living in.

Ambassador has special diplomatic papers; he also has the ability to carry a diplomatic pouch which contains information that is important to the kingdom or country that he represents. We too as disciples of Christ have diplomatic papers which we call the Bible. It carries all the truth about the kingdom we serve. We also have diplomatic credentials because our names are written in the Lamb's book of life and we are part of His heavenly kingdom.

The power of being an Ambassador is not in ourselves but is given to us by our King who is the head and Lord of the heavenly Kingdom. We do not need to be fearful of the kingdoms of this world but as an ambassador we are called upon to take a stand for what is right when it comes to our heavenly Kingdom. So often we submit to the kingdoms of this world but in the early church they were not willing to bow to the kings of this world or to the false gods of this world. They were willing to be martyred knowing that this was a small price to pay for our Lord Jesus Christ.

One day as ambassadors of Christ, our King will call us back to His kingdom where we shall live for all eternity. Our treasures and rewards are not here on earth but they are waiting for us in the kingdom of heaven. When we get there, we will have new names, new clothing and we will be rewarded for our faithful service to our King.

Conclusion:

It is important that we remember that we are called to be ambassadors of Christ. This is not a choice in the sense that we

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have the freedom to choose to be an ambassador or not. The reality is when we give our life to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, it is at that moment we also become His ambassadors. Paul called himself an ambassador in chains. (Eph 6:20) We have been chosen to become His servants. Because of the great love that He has shown to us and for His willingness to die on the cross on our behalf, we freely choose to serve Him. This means being an ambassador on behalf of His kingdom.

Being an Ambassador for Christ also gives us a very special privilege of having a personal relationship with Him and when there is a need in our own life, or family or someone around us in our community, we can go to them with the power and authority that Christ has given us as an ambassador to help them to be set free and delivered them from the bondage they are mired in.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

I first want to thank You for calling me into Your wonderful kingdom of heaven and for giving me eternal life. I also want to thank You for giving me the opportunity to become one of Your ambassadors here on earth. I ask that You forgive me for not understanding what it means to be an ambassador of Yours. Because of that great position You gave to all your disciples, I pray that we would understand that calling. Lord You already blessed us with everlasting life which means that we will dwell in Your Kingdom forever, but until that time and because of Your great love, You want us to go out as Your ambassadors and to go out to the highways and byways representing your Kingdom to a lost world. I ask You to forgive me where I have not gone forth as your ambassador, not realizing the fullness of the power of your Gospel and how your good news needs to be proclaimed to all especially in the last days where you have challenged us to go throughout the whole earth so that everyone would have an opportunity to hear of your great love, mercy, grace and redemption. I pray that my eyes

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and heart be open to the fullness of what it means to be your ambassador here on earth.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 10

The Power of Prayer

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this and with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.” Eph 6:18

I often ask people if they believe that saying that we find in many Christian homes that “prayer changes things”. We say we do, but often our actions show that we don’t. We live lives of fear and anxiety, not knowing what we should do and not sure how to pray. After being in the ministry for 36 years, I can tell you emphatically that there is “power in prayer” and that “prayer does change things”.

Paul wrote a letter to the Ephesian church telling them some key principles of what it meant to be a church for Jesus Christ. There were three major themes that stand out in the book. One is that we are to sit with the Lord, secondly we are to walk in the Lord and then thirdly we are to stand for the Lord. Paul talks about this in chapter 6, about the importance of taking a stand for the Lord and to realize that the enemy does not have the power to push us over unless we let him.

Paul often tells the various churches that they are to be in prayer at all times (1 Thes 3:10; 5:17). To be watchful and have our eyes open so that we can see by the Spirit and hear by the Spirit what our enemy is trying to do to us. We need an attitude of perseverance which means when trouble does come our way, we don’t give up but we dig deeper in the Lord, to take a stronger stand for him.

We are not only to be in prayer but to be in prayer and supplication. The word supplication means the action of asking for something earnestly and/or humbly. A deep commitment to seeking after the Lord, to entreat God in prayer and attitude. In

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supplication, the disciple enters the Holy of Holies, stripped of all encumbrances, humbly coming before the Lord, offering himself as a gift to God, trusting by faith that He will intercede and answer prayer.

There are two other things that I wish to speak about concerning prayer. The first is found in Matthew 16:19 concerning this whole area of binding and loosening. Jesus said, *“And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”* Jesus is telling Peter that He was about to build His church and that through the Church would come authority from the kingdom of heaven. Again, He was speaking concerning the spiritual battles that would take place because he tells Peter that because of this authority that even the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (Matt 16:18) In many ways we could say that God was giving us authority to take back that which the enemy had stolen.

He has given us authority that those things that we were going to be doing here on earth in the name of Jesus Christ would also be carried out in heaven and that those things that are being commanded in heaven will also be done here on earth. We as people do not need to continue to live a life of bondage but through Christ Jesus we can be delivered.

The second thing I want to point out comes just at the death of Jesus Christ concerning the curtain in the temple. This curtain was the one thing that kept everybody out of the Holy of Holies with the exception of once a year when the high priest could enter in and sprinkled blood on the mercy seat of God. Mark recorded these words, *“Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom;”*. (Matt 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45)

The reason why this is so important for us to understand which we have already stated before, is that the high priest could

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only enter into the Holy of Holies once a year. Now Christ was exemplifying for us, that because of His righteousness and shed blood, He too had now entered into the Holy of Holies as our High Priest, sprinkling His blood on the mercy seat of God on our behalf. All who believe in Him can now enter into the Holy of Holies with our heavenly Father. But we need to remember that this can only take place if we have been covered by the righteous blood of Jesus Christ, which can only take place by confessing our sins and being willing to be obedient to His perfect will for our lives. The Scriptures tells us we have become washed in the blood of the Lamb (1 John 1:7; Rev 1:5).

Conclusion:

Prayer is the key foundation stone to everything that a disciple does or doesn't do. To make it more understandable, we should be looking at prayer as simply communicating with God. This is like a husband and wife who communicate to make their marriage strong or two friends who communicate to make their friendship strong and lasting. We must spend as much time as possible communicating with God and allowing His will to be done in and through our lives. Often the concept of "meditation" was used by King David. I believe as readers we need to understand what he was saying, because he knew that this would be a time not only where he would reflect about God but to speak to God, knowing that God would also speak to him.

Prayer is powerful because it connects us to the very throne room of God our Father and this is where we communicate with one another to get help for those things that we have been struggling with or battling over sometimes for many years. The challenges that we often face are there to bring us into a deeper walk with the Lord Jesus Christ. We need to remember that He's preparing us for our walk here on earth for what we will be doing, but also getting us ready for our eternal life with Him in heaven. We have the blessing of walking personally with Him each day as much or as little as we desire. He is always there 24 / 7. The Bible

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tells us that He never leaves us nor forsakes us (Heb 13:5) but we need to understand how unique this personal relationship with God our Creator really is.

His goal is to set us free, to give us peace and hope and to draw us closer into His very heart. James tells us that as we draw near to Him, He will come or draw closer to us (Jam 4:8). Again, this is an amazing concept that shows us why prayer is so important and why through prayer we can experience the power and authority of God flowing in and through our lives.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

I want to ask first of all that You would forgive me for not believing in the power of prayer. I know that prayer changes things both here and in heaven. I ask that You give me understanding that You would open up my eyes to see more clearly that prayer combined with the Word of God and the power of your Holy Spirit can truly set people free. I ask that You help me to see the value and importance of prayer not only in my life, but in my family members, my community, my country and in the world, I live in. I pray You will draw me into a walk that is more specific and clear where I would seek your face daily through supplication and prayer not only for my life but for others. I also ask that You open my spiritual eyes to see that it is through the power of prayer when things changed, people get healed and set free from Satan and his demonic host. It is because of the lack of prayer that so many of the disciples who walked here on earth are lame and crippled and ended up having a life where Satan and his army binds them and in many cases, destroyed them. I ask with faith that if there's any wicked thing, chain, rope or cord that is binding me that through your precious blood of Jesus You would set me free. Lord Jesus You said that if we call upon Your name and seek Your face and confess our sins, that you would hear us from heaven and deliver us and heal us from all those things that have oppressed us

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in our lives. I lay myself on Your altar as a living sacrifice to you this day.

Your servant,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 11

The Power of the Full Armor

*“Put on the whole **armour** of God, that you may be able to stand against the vials of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual host of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole **armour** of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take up the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God;” Eph 6:11-17*

Once we become delivered in Jesus Christ Paul, exhorts us to put on the full armour of God, because we face an enemy who desires to attack us daily. Paul reminds us that we are in a spiritual warfare and we do not fight against flesh and blood but we fight against principalities and powers in high places. This enemy that Paul describes is there to bring us into a spiritual bondage and that the only way that we can remain free is by putting on the full armour of God.

The armour is there to clothe us for a spiritual war and it is also there to protect us from the things that Satan tries to inflict on us almost every day of our lives.

Each piece of the armour is there for a divine purpose to protect the various members of our body from the onslaughts of the devil. As we look at these various pieces, we begin to see the divine purpose of what Paul is trying to teach the disciple of Christ and the army of Christ. War is often not done by an individual

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person but when we enter into battle it is usually with a group of soldiers who have been prepared, equipped and trained for war.

Now let's take a moment to reflect on the various pieces of the equipment and why we are to put them on and use as a soldier of Christ. I'm going to start from the top of the soldier's outfit.

Helmet of salvation: this protects our thoughts in the way we think and help keep the enemy out of our mind and from speaking evil thoughts into our minds. One of the biggest battlegrounds that we face in life is our thought patterns and for many, this is where we need the full deliverance and protection of God.

Breastplate of righteousness: this piece of armour protects our vital organs, but also covers us with the righteousness of Jesus Christ which was made possible through His shed blood on the cross. When the Father looks at us He sees the righteousness of Christ covering our heart.

Belt of truth: this is not like that every day belt that we use to hold up one's pants but it was more like a loin covering that would protect the reproductive area of one's body. We need to bear fruit for Christ's glory but it's very important that it's the right kind of fruit.

Shoes: they are unique because when we put them on it keeps a layer of leather between us and the world. Paul talks about the shoes as being made for the spreading of the gospel of peace of Jesus Christ throughout the world. To put it another way, wherever we go as a disciple we are committed to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ at every place where the soles of our feet tread.

Shield of faith: one of the important parts of the soldier's weaponry is his shield because he can protect a large portion of one's body. The Roman soldiers usually carried a large shield so that when they were in battle they could put the shields together to

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form a wall against the enemy which was hard to penetrate. The shield was also used to protect the soldier from fiery arrows that would be launched from the enemy lines on to the soldiers they were facing. Paul tells us that the shield has the ability to quench the fiery darts of Satan and his demons.

Sword of the Spirit: the soldier's sword is there for both defensive protection and offensive attack against the enemy that we may be facing. The sword is something that we need to keep close to us because just like in Nehemiah's time, people never knew when the enemy might try to attack them while they were working on the wall. But Paul also tells us another important truth about the sword because it's the Word of God. It lets us know the power that is behind the Word of God and that we need to memorize and speak it out against our enemies. If we do this, it will cut away the cords and ropes of our bondage and it will also give us the strength to destroy our enemies.

The armour is there to protect us and to keep us delivered from the bondage of Satan and his demonic host. It is so important that we put on this armour daily before we leave our home or before we start our daily work. We never know when the enemy will try to attack us and how and where he will come from and who he will use to try to bind us and destroy us. We always need to be ready for battle and as a church we need to be ready at all times for war.

Conclusion:

We need to remember as a disciple of Christ that we are involved in a real war and if we are not careful, we will be captured and put in prison and bound by chains. A place of darkness, wickedness and death. Satan shows no mercy to the ones he takes captive's and his goal is to destroy and kill.

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This is why that after we become a believer in Christ it is important that each day we put on the full armour of God and that we understand how to use each piece in battle. Each piece is there to protect us against the evil plans of the devil. To go into battle without any armour or weapons is suicidal but it's amazing how often Christians do this every day, walking blindly into the enemy's territory and over time through subtle deception become captive to his ways here on earth.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

Thank you for opening up my eyes to seeing the importance of the full armour of God not only for me as an individual but also to the church that I'm a part of. Lord I ask that You help and remind me each day to clothe myself with Your full armour because I know I have gone so many times out into this world with no armour on at all. Because I forget to do this the enemy has inflicted me with many things that have brought me down. I ask that You forgive me for not taking this portion of the Word more seriously and that You forgive me for not seeing and understanding clearly that I'm in a spiritual battle, one that can result in life or death. Lord, I ask today that You would clothe me first of all with your armour and that You would deliver me from the wicked and sinful things within my life. Please cover me with your garment of righteousness. I pray that you help me put on each piece of the armour and that as You put it on, I would become aware of the purpose and goal of what the armour is there for.

Your servant and soldier,

My signature and date.

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Chapter 12

The Power of Deliverance

*“Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will **deliver** him; I was set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall be call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will **deliver** him and honour him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation.”*

Ps 91:14-16

*“And the Lord will **deliver** me from every evil work and preserve me for his heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!*

2 Tim 4:18

There are three key things that I believe that God wants us to see concerning this whole idea of deliverance, that through Him one can experience deliverance and have eternal life.

One is the exhortation from Ps 91:14-16. It is interesting to see that God delivers this person, because he knows his name and because of this relationship God extends forth His love to that person. It is important to see that my role when it comes to being delivered is to call upon His name and because of that He will deliver us and satisfy us and give us salvation.

The idea of salvation is like we are drowning in a lake, then Christ sends us out a life preserver that we can put around us. Then He draws us to Himself and redeems us out of that situation that without help could've destroyed us.

Secondly, are the words that Paul speaks to Timothy. (2 Tim 4:18) We see that God has the power to deliver us from all our evil works, but not only can He deliver us He can preserve me in His heavenly kingdom forever. God is not only focused on our

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daily walk with Him here on earth but He also has us in His mind for spending eternity with Him in heaven. We need to grasp and take hold of the vision that He has for us and that is a vision where we are set free from the chains and cords of this life. He alone is our true **Deliverer** and only through Him is it possible to break free from those things that have bound us for many years.

Thirdly, we have the words that Peter gave as a testimony of God's ways of deliverance to the church. He wants us to reflect back in history and seek God's way of deliverance is not only for the individual person but for the people of God as a church.

He states this, *"For God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and **delivered** them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example of those who afterward would live ungodly; and **delivered** righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) - then the Lord knows how to **deliver** the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the last of uncleanness and despise authority."* 2 Pet 2:4-10a KNJB

Here again we can make some key observations. Peter exhorts his readers to realize that God is a righteous judge and because of His righteousness He even cast out of heaven angels who sinned and put them in hell where He delivered them into chains of darkness where one day it will undergo a final judgment.

Then He goes on and tells us how He delivered Noah and his family. We are told that Noah was a righteous man but the world around him was evil and corrupt and because of this God

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had Noah build an ark where he and seven others of his family members plus many species that walked upon the earth could stay during the great flood. God delivered them out of the sinfulness of the world.

Next comes the account of Lot who chose to live in Sodom and Gomorrah. Even though the whole city was wicked and corrupt God delivered a righteous Lot. The Word tells us that he did not realize that he was being oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked that was all around him and his family. And how the wickedness of the city tormented his righteous soul day after day and how he saw the people's lawless deeds all around him, but could not seem to move or break free from the city.

It is also so important we understand that some will be delivered into a place of safety and peace on the Day of judgment, but Scripture says those who living a life of uncleanness and despise the authority of God will be delivered into a place of total destruction and death.

We need to see that God is a deliverer and can deliver us. He desires to deliver us through Christ's righteousness where we become part of His Eternal Kingdom in heaven. But if we choose not to obey and live under His authority that He will deliver us into the pit of hell because of our wicked deeds and our lack of obedience to Him. Because God is a just God, judgments will be true and honest on all people. They will be judged according to their works and according to how they either accepted or rejected Jesus Christ.

The very heart of God is to extend an arm and hand of mercy and grace to us, that if we reach out and grasp hold of Him we truly will be delivered both now and for all eternity. Satan brought on all mankind through Adam and Eve's bondage and death, but God the Father sent forth His Son to shed His blood so that we could be delivered and not be held captive anymore by saving us so that we could become part of the body of Christ, to be

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a joint heir with Jesus for all eternity. You could say His personal goal and mandate was to come to this earth to make a way where the captive could be delivered and set free.

Conclusion:

God did not come to bind us but came to give us a way to be set free. And that in the fullness of time He sent forth His Righteous Son to hang on the cross to pay for all the bondages of things that we find ourselves ensnared to.

Satan is trying to get us to believe that the things that we are struggling with is God's fault, but we need to know what the truth is all these things have come from Satan and that with his army he could draw down to hell as many as he possibly can before that final day of judgment ending with eternal death.

The book of Psalms gives another important insight. It states, "*That my supplications come before you; **deliver** me according to your word.*" (Ps 119:170) As already stated above, supplication is part of praying before the Lord. It is giving Him our struggles and trials and as we come before Him we can see that our deliverance will take place not according to our will but according to the Word of God itself.

Jesus Christ came as the Messiah to bring to us the opportunity to be delivered from sin and death. We need to realize that in this world there are all kinds of things that come in a variety of forms and situations that Satan uses to entrap us and bind us. The harder we try to deliver ourselves, the more the snare wraps tighter around our heart strangles and destroys us.

What we need to do is to "let go and let God". To open the door of our heart and let Him come in and sweep us clean from top to bottom and cleanse us from any evil thought and intent. If we allow God to do this, when the enemy looks at us we do not need to run from him but rather he will flee from us not because of our righteousness but because of the righteous blood of Jesus Christ

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that covers us from head to toe. Remember when the Word of God was spoken when Jesus was being tempted? It set Him free from Satan's attacks and it will also set us free.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus Christ,

I come to You today and ask that You come into my heart and deliver me from the wicked things that entrap me as I live my life here on earth. Lord, like Lot, I have lived in a wicked world where the wickedness of the world that is all around me has tried to destroy me. I ask that You cover me with Your precious blood and forgive me for the wickedness and sins that I've let myself become bound to. I ask that through the power of the Holy Spirit and through Your precious blood that You would break all the cords and ropes that are wrapped around me and set me free. I give all of my life into Your hands and pray that I could become a full servant and vessel for Your glory and for Your Kingdom.

To You be the glory,

My signature and date.

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SUMMARY:

I personally believe and see it from the Word of God that there is nothing here on earth that any man or woman cannot be delivered from. It may take time where we have to commit and dedicate ourselves to going in a different direction and live a life of obedience for Christ Jesus. I see throughout the Gospel that anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord and confessed their sins He set them free. We need to be reminded again that we as disciples have also been commissioned and given authority to go out not in our name and strength, but in His name and strength and deliver those who were captive from the snares and bondages of Satan and his demons.

The Scripture clearly points out to us that our Deliverer came and died on the cross and shed His blood. This sacrifice was needed so that we could be delivered, cleansed and made righteous before our heavenly Father in heaven.

Look at these passages below and see that not only did Jesus delivered those in the past, He also commissioned the disciples to be His vessels and ambassadors of deliverance to this lost world.

*“... When the enemy comes in, like a flood the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him. The **Redeemer** will come to Zion, and to those who turn from transgressions in Jacob, says the LORD. For as for Me, says the LORD, this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, so not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendents, nor from the mouth of your descendents’ descendants, says the LORD, from this time and forevermore. Isa 59:20-21 NKJB*

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*“... The **Deliverer** will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; for this is My covenant with them when I take away their sins.” Rom 11:26 NKJB*

I've written this book with a purpose and hope that people who find themselves in some form of bondage may receive hope that they would trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. His grace and mercy is big enough as King of a heavenly kingdom to deliver us and set us free from the strongholds and bondage of Satan. The key is to have faith and focus our eyes on Jesus and to open up our ears to hear what the Spirit of God is saying to us and then to simply trust that He is able to do and what the Word of God proclaims to us.

If you are in need today of deliverance and you find yourself overcome with some type of bondage in your life, I exhort you to call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to ask Him to forgive you and cover you with His righteousness and to pour into your heart the Holy Spirit who is able to make you at any time a new creation and citizen of Christ's kingdom in heaven.

Here is a closing Scripture for how those of us who are bound can be set free!

*“And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the **name of the LORD shall be saved**. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be **deliverance**, as the LORD has said, among the remnant who the LORD calls.”*

Joel 2:28-32

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There is so much more that one could say concerning this whole area of “**Jesus Our Deliverer**”. It is our hope that through the power of the Holy Spirit we have shed some more light on something that needs to be talked about more in the churches around the world. It is time for the body of Christ to rise up and fulfill its calling by going forth and setting the captive free in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you happen to be one of these people who are living in bondage and need deliverance, I challenge you to pray the following prayer and after you have prayed, it is important that you go and find for yourself a body of believers that you can become part of, who believe in Christ Jesus and will walk with you in the power of God that has been spoken about over these 12 chapters.

May Christ Jesus truly become your King and Lord and that you will experience each day of your life deliverance and freedom in and through Him as you walk as His pilgrimage here on this earth.

Prayer of Deliverance:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I first want to thank You for who You are and I want to recognize that You truly are the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is through Your name, Your precious blood, and by what You did on the cross that I can come to You now in prayer and ask that You set me free. Lord Jesus, You have all knowledge and wisdom of the things that are upon my life from when I was a child, and I ask that through Your name, power and authority that You would break, cut and destroy the demonic work of Satan upon my life. That through Your blood that was shed on the cross and sprinkled on the mercy seat of the Holy of Holies I ask in Your precious name that You would baptize me outwardly with Your grace, righteousness and fill me inwardly with the power of Your Holy Spirit. For today I desire to give my whole life to You and that from this day forward I will stop living according to my will, but live with all my

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heart according to Your will here on earth. I know this is a new day, a day where eternal life has now entered in and that I have been set free by You Jesus. I pray You will help me begin a new journey with You that will bring honour and glory to Your name.

To God be the glory,

My signature and date.

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Appendix

Scripture for Study:

Israel cried ... and the LORD raised up a **deliverer** *Judg*
3:9
the Lord raised them up a **deliverer** *Judg 3:15*
he **delivereth** the poor and his affliction, *Job 36:15*
Rock and my fortress and my **deliverer** *2 Sam 22:2 (Ps*
18:2)
he **delivereth** me from mine enemies: *Ps 18:48*
them that feared him, and **delivereth** them *Ps 34:7*
delivereth them out all their troubles. *Ps 34:17*
the Lord **delivereth** him out of them all *Ps 34:19*
help and my **deliverer**; make no tarry *Ps 40:17 (70:5)*
he **delivereth** us them out at the hands of the *Ps 97:10*
My **deliverer**; my shield and he in whom I trust *Ps 144:2*
but righteousness **delivereth** from death *Prov 10:2; 11:4*
at to witness **delivereth** souls: but the *Prov 14:25*
God send to be ruler and a **deliverer** *Acts 7:35*
There shall come out of Sion the **Deliverer** *Rom 11:26*

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Project L.A.M.B.S. International

Making disciples is the call and mandate of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus urged the disciples to follow Him. He laid down before us the teaching and the walk that we need to follow with Jesus as our supreme example. It is imperative for every believer and the church to know that disciples are not born but they are made. For the church to be strong in the last days, we must be about the business of equipping the saints (disciples) for the work of service.

Dr. James Humphries has been ministering for over 40 years, and has experience in a variety of ministries including church planting, children's ministry, street ministry, youth ministry, camp ministry, pastoral work and directing and teaching in schools all over the world. In addition, he has taken part in traveling and ministering in the USA, Mexico, Ukraine, Myanmar, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Thailand and across most of Canada. He completed his B.R.E. and his M.A. from Briercrest, and his Doctorate of Ministry from Providence Theological Seminary in the spring of 1999.

In January 1996, Dr. James Humphries resigned as pastor of a local church with a vision to reach further abroad with the Word of God and to use it to train labourers for Christ (Matthew 9:36-38). He shared this with Dr. David Smith and Dr. Chuck Nichols of Providence Theological Seminary and they greatly encouraged Dr. James Humphries and his wife Irene to develop what God was laying on their hearts.

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In March 1997, they traveled to Jamaica where they met several pastors who were very concerned about the need for training and disciplining their young people as leaders in their churches. Dr. James Humphries and Irene did not know this would be the starting point to an international ministry of discipleship training around the world known as Project L.A.M.B.S. International.

To date, Project L.A.M.B.S. has ministered in Canada, Myanmar, Ukraine, Africa, Jamaica, Mexico, Israel, Thailand, Japan, Dominican Republic, Naga Land and China. We offer over 30 different courses. Our graduates number over 1000, and are serving worldwide. Out of this group of graduates, we have equipped and trained directors, teachers and pastors who in turn are carrying out II Timothy 2:1-2 to an even larger group of people.

In 2002 it was discovered that Irene had cancer again. God gave Irene another three years and because of that she was still able to travel and teach in many different countries. Shortly after what was to be her last trip, Irene was hospitalized in February, 2005. A few weeks later she went home to be with her Lord and Saviour on March 9.

My second wife Hkaw Win was raised and trained mostly in the land of Myanmar. She has earned B.th, University Degree and a master of Divinity Degree in Myanmar. In April 2007 she finished a second Master's Degree at Providence Theological Seminary in Christian Education. After July 1st, 2007 she headed back to Myanmar to head up the Christian Education Department for the Myitkyina Kachin Baptist Association and oversaw various

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ministries to 62 churches. After her four-year term was completed, she has been traveling and working as an interpreter and doing translations concerning various kinds of discipleship books and materials.

Over the last ten years we have lived in the countries of Myanmar and Thailand preparing a variety of resources in the Burmese (Myanmar) and Kachin Languages. To date we have published over 20 different kinds of books. Our goal is to equip and establish people as Disciples of Christ. Please pray for God's leading and wisdom. Our walk with Christ has taken us down many challenging pathways but we have seen the faithfulness of our Lord and Savior in every area. His grace has been sufficient.

Founder and Director,

Dr. James and Hkaw Win Humphries

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Discipleship / Leadership Booklets

1. My Call with Christ
2. Called to His Purpose
3. Abiding in the Vine
4. Knowledge, Wisdom and Understanding
5. Scripture: The Disciples' Anchor
6. Baptism: The Disciples' Testimony
7. The Disciples' Church
8. Servant Leadership
9. Teacher / Learner, Learner / Teacher
10. Being Wise Builders
11. Shepherds of God's Sheep
12. End Times
13. Relationship Pilgrimage
14. Christ's Disciple
15. Disciple's Prayer Life
16. Communion
17. Ambassadors for Christ
18. Full Armour of God
19. Good News for Challenging and Changing Times
20. Christ our Mediator
21. Jesus our Deliverer
22. Mission and Missionaries
23. Passing the Torch
24. Full Gospel Discipleship
25. Five Fold Ministry
26. Envisioning Change
27. Individualism VS Community
28. Igniting a Mission Fire
29. Igniting Discipleship Equipping
30. Igniting the Gospel
31. Psalm 23
32. Beatitudes

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