

My Testimony

by Pastor Cal Witham

I was born on May 25, 1926. I was born again on April 22, 1951. I was ordained on January 9, 1964.

While I was making a pastoral call, one gentleman said to me, "I find it hard to believe the Bible because it was written by man." I began my testimony as to how I came to know the Lord. I showed him Genesis 1:2, "...and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." I explained that man indeed wrote the Bible, but the words were inspired by the spirit of God—the Holy Spirit.

In Isaiah 7:14, the Bible says, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Isaiah 9:6 says, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." I, then, asked my friend, "If the Bible were not inspired by God, how did Isaiah know several hundred years before about the virgin birth of Jesus, his name and his place of birth?"

Jesus says, in John 14:2-3, "In my Father's house are many mansions (abiding places): if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." So we see that heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. I asked my friend, "Are you prepared? Have you put your faith and trust in Jesus Christ?"

In John 14:5-6, Thomas asks, "...Lord we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?" Jesus answers, "...I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me." Now, we know there is only one way to heaven, the prepared place for a prepared people.

Today, we hear a lot about praise music; but there is no greater praise written than the beautiful hymns of the church. One of them captures the praise we can have in our hearts for the Savior of that prepared place: **Hallelujah What a Savior** by Philip Bliss.

"Man of sorrows!" what a name, For the son of God, who came
Ruined Sinners to reclaim! Hallelujah, what a Savior!
When he comes, our glorious King, All His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we'll sing: Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Now, I will ask you the question I asked my friend, "Have you responded to His sacrificial love with faith and accepted His invitation to everlasting life, forgiveness, and peace?" Carefully consider what the Bible says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:16-18)

Your Servant by His Grace, Pastor Cal Witham

Postscript by Bill Dagle

Pastor Cal Witham has been my pastor for over 30 years. He has set an example of what a godly man should be. Sunday after Sunday, I sat under his teaching while taking in all the truths the Bible has to offer. Now, that's a good start; but it doesn't necessarily make for a good finish. Pastor Cal not only taught me, he challenged me to get to work for the Lord. The Bible is clear on this subject: you can't work for your salvation, it's a gift. But once you have salvation, you should have a ministry, a work for the Lord. For me, that's Hymn Stories. Pastor Cal has been my biggest fan from the beginning.

Cal Witham is 92 now and still serving the Lord. His "Other Side" article testifies to that. He served independent churches for over 60 years—the end results being that they could not provide him with a retirement. To make his senior years as productive and comfortable as can be, a fund was established through IFCA (Independent Fundamental Churches of America) in Grandville, Michigan. Would you pray about helping Pastor Cal as he finishes his journey here on earth? If you would like to help, you can contact me (see Home Page) or contact IFCA directly at:

IFCA/Cal Witham Project

P. O. Box 810

Grandville, Michigan 49468

616-531-1840

Only eternity will reveal the many souls that will be in heaven, "the other side," through the ministry of Pastor Cal Witham. Thanks for helping my pastor.

Until then,

Bill Dagle