

Sept. 1973



# THE WORD OF FAITH

## STEP UP TO GOD'S BEST

-by Kenneth Hagin

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. -Mark 11:23

Jesus got into the ship with his disciples and said to them, "Let us pass over to the other side." (See Mark 4:35-41). As they crossed the Sea of Galilee, scripture tells us there arose a great storm of wind so that the waves beat into the ship and water filled it.

Jesus was asleep on a pillow in the back part of the ship when the frightened disciples awakened Him saying, "Carest thou not that we perish?"

Jesus arose and rebuked the wind, saying to the sea, "Peace, be still." The wind ceased and there was a great calm.

But then, Jesus rebuked the disciples, "Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?"

Here we see the twelve disciples, Peter, James, John and the others, robbed of the greater blessings of God--His best.

"Yes," someone said, "but the Lord intervened here and calmed the sea."

He certainly did. But that wasn't His best. His best for them was that their faith take them through. After all, when Jesus got on board He said, "Let us pass over to the other side." He did not say, "Let us go half-way and sink."

"How is it that you have no

faith?" He asked the disciples. In this incident, they were exercising no faith whatsoever. Yet they were the closest followers Jesus had.

Even now, this happens with many close followers of Jesus. This doesn't mean they are not Christians. It doesn't mean they are not Spirit-filled. It simply means they are not using their faith at a given moment in a certain case, or incident.

Jesus said, "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe...." (Mk. 11:23).

Now what does he believe? (That those things which he saith shall come to pass.) And what will happen then? (He shall have whatsoever he saith.) You can put it this way, "You shall have whatsoever you say."

So when Jesus got on board ship He said, "Let us pass over to the other side." He believed that in His heart. And He knew then that what He said would come to pass, so He wasn't bothered. He just went to the back part of the ship and went to sleep on a pillow. He had already said it.

Because Jesus taught that you can have what you say and because He had already said it, He rebuked the disciples, "Why are you so fearful? How is it you have no faith?"

Now the disciples were believing something. They believ-

ed they were going to sink. We know this since they said, "Master, carest thou not that we perish?"

Doubt is believing the wrong thing. It is believing according to the natural. But real faith is of the heart--of the spirit. It is believing in the supernatural. That is why Jesus said, "Whosoever shall say and not doubt in his heart (spirit)...."

Faith will work in your heart (spirit) with some doubt in your head (mind, soul). The natural man, the natural mind, educated by the physical senses always has some doubts.

The greatest miracles I ever received, including healing for my almost totally paralyzed body, happened with my head saying all the time, "It isn't so. No, it's not so. It won't work. You don't have it." But on the inside of me, with my heart, I believed God's Word. The heart is your spirit.

Many people are walking in the natural (they are born again, filled with the Spirit, but are not walking in the Spirit, nor are they walking by faith) and they think, "If I've got doubt in my head, then I'm doubting."

No! The devil will put a doubt in your head. Your head is not your heart. Faith will work in your heart with a doubt in your head. Jesus said, "Whosoever shall say and not doubt in his heart but shall believe those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith." So when He board-

ed the ship He said, "Let us pass over to the other side." And that settled it!

At a Full Gospel Business Men's convention one wife said to me, "Brother Hagin, I want you to pray for me. I'm just a nervous wreck. I'm here at the convention all right, but it just scares me to death to fly. I actually became sick with fright. I'm not going to attend any more conventions, even though I love to go, because I am not going to fly. I'm afraid."

"You don't have to be," I replied. "And really you don't even have to pray about it. All you have to do is to get on that plane and say, 'Let us pass over to Los Angeles,' or, 'Let us go on over to Los Angeles.'

"And," I continued, "it can't go anywhere else. It surely can't go down. You didn't say, 'Let's go halfway and go down.' Jesus didn't say, 'Let's go halfway across the Sea of Galilee and sink.' He said, 'Let's go over to the other side.' All you have to do then is to go to sleep as Jesus did, knowing the plane is going to get there because you have spoken that in faith.

"Your head may be bothering you," I said to her. "Your head may be saying, 'Oh, it isn't so. It isn't so. This thing is liable to fall. It's liable to go down with you in it.' But don't pay any attention to your head. That is what gets most people into trouble, listening to the head."

I have since seen that lady at several conventions and she told me, "It works just like you said. I get on board and say, 'Let's go over to the other side.' Then I lie back and go to sleep or relax and rest and praise the Lord. I am really enjoying flying."

It works! God's Word does work! Why do you suppose Mark 11:23 is in the Bible? Is it there just to tease us a little, to arouse our hopes and then God is not going to do anything about it? No! I don't believe Jesus told a lie. Do you? I believe He told the truth. He is not a liar.

When He said, "Verily I say unto you, that whosoever...." to whom was He talking? (To you--to "whosoever.") When I first saw that many years ago on the bed of affliction, I wrote right beside this in my Bible, THIS MEANS ME. "Whosoever" is me. "Whosoever" is you. Hallelujah!

In Matthew 14:22-33, we read where Jesus sent the disciples across the sea while He went into the mountain to pray. Between 4:00 and 6:00 o'clock the next morning, He came walking out to them on the sea. When they saw Him they were afraid and they cried out for fear, saying that it was a spirit, or in other words, a ghost. Jesus said, "It is I, be not afraid."

Peter then said, "Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water." Jesus answered "Come." And Peter walked on the water to go to Jesus.

Someone said, "Yes, but he began to sink." I know it, but you can't hide behind Peter. God is enlightening you here in the Word to show you why Peter did sink and then you won't have to. When Peter saw how boisterous the wind was, he became afraid. He got his eyes on the circumstances. He began to see the things that were going on around him. He quit looking at Jesus. He quit acting on what Jesus had said.

Faith is acting upon the Word of God. Jesus said, "Come." When Peter quit acting, he began to sink. Jesus called it doubt. He said, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

Doubt robbed Peter of the best that God had for him. Jesus didn't intend for Peter to sink. Jesus meant for him to be able to walk back to the ship with Him.

Don't criticize Peter though until you have walked on the water and have not sunk. Never criticize others. When Peter saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid. Doubt and fear go hand in hand. But Faith and love go

hand in hand. The Bible says, "...perfect love casteth out fear..." (I John 4:18).

Doubt, or unbelief, is the thief of God's greater blessings. Read these four passages of scripture and see how doubt, or the lack of faith, robbed the individuals or the group of the best God had for them. (Matt. 14:22-31; Matt. 13:58; Matt. 17:14-20; Mark 4:35-40.)

Even though Jesus did intervene when Peter called out to Him, "Lord, save me," and He reached out His hand and saved him, and even though Jesus intervened when the disciples awakened Him with their cry, "Carest thou not if we perish," they still missed His best.

Many people have seen the intervention of Divine Sovereignty and they seem to think that it is God's best. Many times they wait for it. However, the intervention of Divine Sovereignty is not God's best. God may see fit to intervene, or sometimes He may not.

"What is meant by the intervention of Divine Sovereignty?" you might ask. Well, for instance, at the Pool of Bethesda, five porches of people who were halt, sick, blind, crippled, etc., waited because God saw fit in His own right of Divine Sovereignty to send an angel every so often to trouble the water. The first person in, whether they had faith or not, whether Jew or Gentile, man or woman, was healed. That is a miracle. We don't understand it.

You will see this when the Gifts of the Spirit such as Gifts of Healing, Working of Miracles and the Gift of (special) Faith are in operation. Through these

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manifestations, you will see people delivered in a service at times and there will be other people there for deliverance with the same problem who will not get a bit of help.

We thank God for these miracles! But thank God, His best is available to all of us by the claim of faith! For Jesus said, "...Whosoever shall say...and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe...shall have whatsoever he saith." Jesus also said, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

Whatever you get from God, whatever you have from God, and everything of God--works by faith. We begin with salvation, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). Then we walk by faith, "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (II Cor. 5:7). We live by faith, "The just shall live by faith" (Rom. 1:17). We are to "fight the good fight of faith" according to I Tim. 6:12.

So you see, it is a faith proposition. It is a matter of walking and believing that you are what God says you are, that you have what God says you have, that you can do what God says you can do--and then getting after it.

## MONTHLY LESSON

During the campmeeting it came to our attention that many were not aware of our free monthly lessons. The Lord instructed Brother Hagin to put his teaching into lesson form and in obedience to Him we print a new lesson each month and make these lessons available without charge.

This month's lesson, "Understanding How To Act On God's Word" is outstanding. The editorial staff received such blessing and light from setting the type for it, that we don't want you to miss it.

To receive your free lesson each month, all you have to do is write the office and request the current month's lesson.

## \* \* \* \* \* TESTIMONIES \* \* \* \* \*

Dear Brother Hagin,

I am studying your Bible Faith Study Course and it has already transformed my life and ministry. God has done many gracious things in my past but until now I have lived far below my privileges. I have a lot to learn still, but I'm already saying, doing, receiving, and telling and I'm just excited beyond words at what I have in Christ! .... I know it's a shame that I have been in Pentecost for years and though I realized some of these truths I've never let them operate as they are now.... The Lord has made all the provision and recently as I've claimed it, we've had healings in our family, financial needs met and our spirits are renewed! You may not even read this-- I'm sure with all your mail this probably won't get past a secretary. But if not, I hope the secretary will be blessed to know that one life and ministry has been touched and will influence Paraguay as a result....

Brother,  
Arkansas  
(Paraguay Missionaries)

Dear Brother Hagin,

It seems that the Holy Spirit has impressed me to send this note of gratitude for your teaching.... It was about eight years ago that, under your teaching, I began to learn to walk in the Spirit, know His impressions, hear His voice, and remind Him of His Word. Mistakes--some, but abundant gratitude which came from Him. My meat is to do His will, Energetic, enduring, nutritional meat on which there can't be a price ceiling placed because the cost is everything. P.T.L. the rewards are directly proportional to the cost!!!

Sister  
Colorado

Dear Brother Hagin,

Words cannot express how reading your books have helped me. Half way through "Seven Steps to Receiving the Holy Spirit," I received it and that is pretty great for a long time Nazarene who thinks she already has it.

Sister  
California

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MOVING?? CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS??  
Please let us know your new address as soon as possible. (In advance would be great!) Your "Word of Faith" will arrive on time and you can help us lower postal costs.

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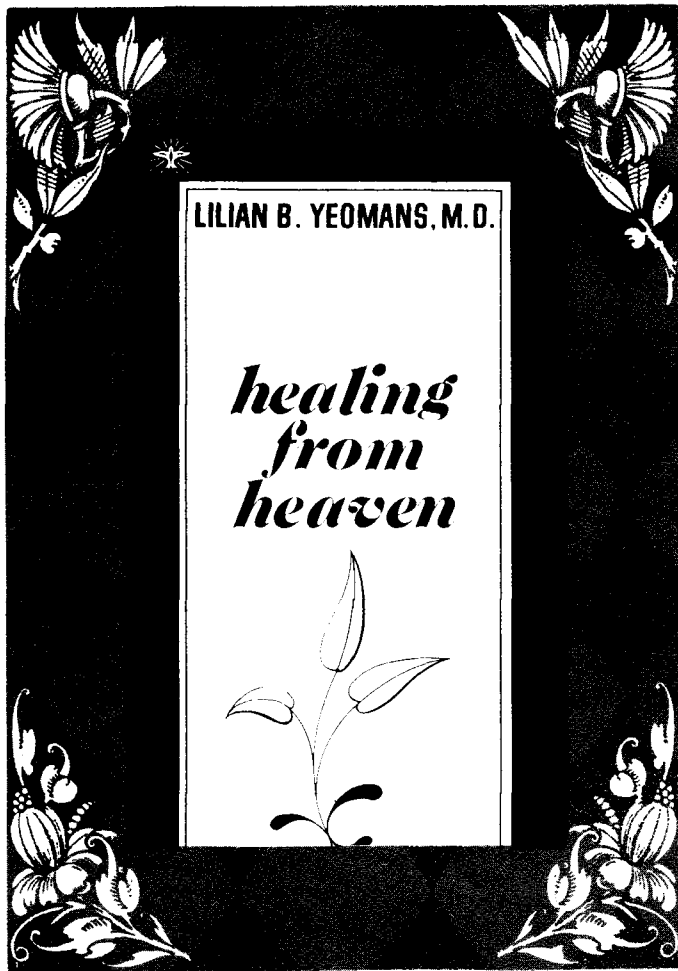
## CRUSADE SCHEDULE

DETROIT, MICH, AREA ..... Aug 26-Sept 2  
The Community House  
380 South Bates  
Birmingham, Michigan  
Sunday Services ..... 2:30 pm  
Mon. thru Sat. .... 10:00 am & 7:30 pm

BUFFALO, NY AREA ..... Sept 9-12  
Calvary Episcopal Church  
Scaife Bldg., South Cayuga Street  
Williamsville, New York  
Sun, Sept 9 ..... 2:30 pm  
Mon-Wed ..... 10:00 am & 7:30 pm

ITHACA, NY ..... Sept. 23-26  
Women's Community Bldg.  
100 West Seneca Street  
Ithaca, New York  
Sun, Sept 23 ..... 2:30 pm  
Mon-Wed ..... 10:00 am & 7:30 pm

ALBANY, NY ..... Sept. 27-30  
Maryrose Academy, The Arts Center  
1069 New Scotland Rd.  
Albany, N. Y.  
Thurs, Sept 27 ..... 7:30 pm  
Fri-Sat ..... 10:00 am & 7:30 pm  
Sun, Sept 30 ..... 2:30 pm



# FAITH LIBRARY

As a young woman practicing medicine, Miss Lilian B. Yeomans became hopelessly addicted to drugs. Dr. Yeomans' medical colleagues could offer no help. Christian Science tried but was unable to cure her. Her friends gave up hope, convinced that the addiction would eventually cause her death.

Freedom from the long night of bondage came miraculously when a minister became burdened for Dr. Yeomans. He pointed her to the Word of God and then prayed night and day. Finally the prisoner was set free! (Her complete story is told in chapter one of HEALING FROM HEAVEN.)

Miss Yeomans gave up her medical practice and then for the rest of her life--some forty years--was a popular Bible teacher and writer, inspiring thousands to believe God for healing as well as for salvation.

If you have been acquainted with Brother Hagin's ministry for very long, you know his high esteem for Dr. Yeomans. He regards her books as the best he has ever read on healing. They have been out of print for some time. But through special arrangements with the publishers we have been successful in getting them back into print and available to you. HEALING FROM HEAVEN will be sent to those sending any offering this month.

THE WORD OF FAITH

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AT TULSA, OKLAHOMA

- Enclosed is my offering of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Please send the book: HEALING FROM HEAVEN  
by Dr. Lilian B. Yeomans
- Please send the free monthly lesson:  
UNDERSTANDING HOW TO ACT ON GOD'S WORD