



THE Word of Faith

OCTOBER 2002

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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Give Me **My Mountain!**

Is there something God has promised you that you haven't seen come to pass yet?

Maybe it's something that He has promised in His Word, or something He has spoken to your heart concerning His will for your life. Whatever it is, it's time for you to possess what God has promised!

It's important to know that you will not receive any more from God than what you are prepared to receive. A lot of people want God to bless them and do this, that, and the other, but they're not prepared to receive from Him.

In the Book of Joshua we read about Caleb, a man who was prepared to receive from God. At the age of 85, Caleb possessed the mountain God had promised to him forty-five years earlier through Moses.

Joshua 14:11 and 12 reads, "As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in. Now therefore, give me this mountain . . ." (NKJV).

Caleb wanted what belonged to him. Are you ready to receive what belongs to you?

When God promises us something, we can have it — if we're willing to possess it. It's not going to fall on us out of the sky; we have to take it. Some people stand around saying, "Lord, bless me. Bless me, bless me, bless me." And they never receive anything, because the only action they've taken is to stand there hollering, "Bless me!"

Looking at the Old Testament story of Caleb, we discover three principles that will help us receive from God all that He has promised.

The first thing we must do to possess our mountain, so to speak, is to remember what God has said. Forty-five years had come and gone, and Caleb still remembered what God had promised him. That's a long time to keep remembering what God said!

Hebrews 6:12 says that it's through faith and patience that we inherit what has been promised. God promised the land to Caleb, but He didn't tell him when he was going to physically possess it. I am quite sure that when Caleb first heard the mountain would be his, he didn't think it would take forty-five years!

Some Christians have been believing God for something for six days, and they're already thinking about giving up. We need to be encouraged by those who through faith and patience have received the promises of God. Possessing the promises of God is not always a quick thing. We must guard ourselves to make sure we

don't start griping and complaining when what we're believing for hasn't come to pass yet. We must remember what God has promised, and wait patiently for it.

Caleb waited forty-five years to possess his mountain. What did he do while he waited? He kept remembering what God had said and continued wholeheartedly following Him. And you can do the same thing Caleb did.

Second, Caleb believed that God would do what he had promised. Faith may not make what has been promised appear overnight, but if you'll keep believing God, the promise will be fulfilled.

However, you will only receive what God has promised when you operate in the God-kind of faith. And the God-kind of faith operates by believing and speaking what God's Word says. Some people are moved by circumstances and negate their blessing by talking or acting in unbelief. But Caleb believed what God had said, and then he spoke what he believed.

Third, Caleb was ready to possess what God had promised. How was he ready? Caleb said, "I'm still strong, and with God's help, I'll take the land." Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (NKJV). Caleb wasn't going to take the mountain in his own strength. He knew the Lord was going with him!

We need to stay strong both naturally and spiritually if we want to be ready to possess what has been promised.

We don't always want to exercise physically, but to keep our body in shape, sometimes we have to grab ourself by the back of the neck, so to speak, and say, "Self, you're going to go exercise whether you want to or not!" In the same way, we don't always want to exercise spiritually by reading the Word and praying, and we may have to be just as firm with ourself when it comes to spiritual exercise as we do with physical exercise.

Ephesians 6:10 says to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. In other words, "Be strong in believing that God's ability to take hold of the promise is yours." The enemy and all of his helpers will try to keep you from possessing what God says belongs to you. But it's yours! And by the power of God you can possess it!

What will you do to take hold of what God said belongs to you? If you will apply these three simple principles that Caleb used, you will possess your mountain. First, remember what God has said. You may go through tests and trials, but God has promised to deliver you out of them all (Ps. 34:19). Second, exercise faith in God. For forty-five years, Caleb continued to believe that God would do what He said! When God promises you something, say, "God promised it, I believe it, and that settles it!" And, third, go in the strength of the Lord and take hold of what belongs to you.

Kenneth Hagin Jr.
— Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

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C E N T E R

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Healing School classes are conducted twice daily on the RHEMA campus.

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Prayer & Healing Center Auditorium

(This class is for those who need physical healing and for those who accompany them *only*.)

Monday-Friday • 2:15 p.m.
SDC 1, Room 1278

(This class is open to the general public.)

For more information, please call (918) 258-1588, Ext. 2280, or write:

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Telephone Prayer Lines

If you have a need and would like to have a concerned prayer partner agree with you for your need to be met according to the Word of God, call Kenneth Hagin Ministries, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CT) at (918) 258-1588, Ext. 2280.

'L O O S E H I M A N D

LET HIM GO!

Many people think that being born again is all there is to living God's abundant life. But being made spiritually alive is just the beginning.



Kenneth E. Hagin

Do you know someone who is spiritually alive in Christ but still bound in his or her daily life? After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, the Bible says that Lazarus was still bound hand and foot by grave clothes.

Many Christians who've been raised from the dead spiritually still live in bondage and need the help of others to be loosed and let go.

"Loose him and let him go" were the words spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ at the tomb of Lazarus, a friend who had been dead for four days.

JOHN 11:43,44

43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them [His disciples], Loose him, and let him go.

Many people are familiar with the story of Jesus raising Lazarus

from the dead. I believe this story is a type, or picture, of a person being raised from spiritual death. Ephesians 2:1 says, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins." The word "quickened" means *made alive*.

Only God can give life to the dead. I cannot quicken a man's spirit. I can give him the life-quickenning Word of God, but I cannot save a man. Jesus is the Savior. I can preach the saving message, but Jesus is the only One who can spiritually raise people from the dead.

Notice that even though Lazarus was alive because he was raised from the dead, he was still bound. There are a lot of people who have been raised from the dead, spiritually speaking, who are still bound in some areas.

Lazarus was still bound by grave clothes and even had a napkin covering his face. Jesus said to His disciples, "Loose him and let him go." Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead; His disciples loosed him from the

- “The formula for faith is believing in your heart and speaking out of your mouth.” – Rev. Happy Caldwell

Read more about it on page 9.

grave clothes that still had him bound. You see, Jesus raises people from the dead, causing them to be born again, but as workers together with God (2 Cor. 6:1), it's our glorious task to “loose” people and “let them go.”

Today thousands of Christians are alive, meaning they've been saved, or born again. They're children of God, but they're bound hand and foot by sin or disease like Lazarus was bound hand and foot by grave clothes. What a wonderful privilege and what a God-given right we have to set people free from the shackles that bind them!

Lazarus was alive, but he was bound and helpless. He could not free himself. Jesus did not say to him, “Loose thyself.” He said to the disciples, “*You* loose him and let him go.” Lazarus had to be set free by others.

It's our job to set people free. What a great responsibility has been given to us as believers! We must use the powers God has given us — the Name of Jesus, the Word of God, and so forth — to set men and women free.

There are multitudes of Christians around us who are helpless and bound, even though they've been made alive from the dead. They'll never be totally set free until and unless we as fellow believers in the Lord Jesus Christ set them free.

John 11:44 is a wonderful, thrilling verse. The story of Lazarus is an exciting passage that illustrates an important truth for us. But John 11:44 isn't the only scripture in the Bible to contain the word “loose.” Let's look for a moment at the word “loose” as it is recorded elsewhere in Scripture so we can better understand what it means.

Genesis 49:21 says, “*Naphtali is a hind let loose. . . .*” Have you ever seen a hind, or a deer, let loose? It's full of life — running and jumping and kicking up its heels all over the place! Are we as God's children full of life and spiritual energy, or are we walking around half-dead and half-hearted, unfit and unable to help and to loose those who are bound?

You have to be loosed yourself before you will be able to loose anyone else. Some churches are not experiencing miracles or moves of God because everyone in the church is bound. They need to exercise their God-given authority and be loosed!

I believe we ought to be thrilled with what we have received from the Lord.

Some people get more excited at a ball game than they do about the things of God. Folks jump up and down and hoot and holler at a football game when some fellow running around with a bag of wind under his arm makes a touchdown. But when someone jumps up and down and hoots and hollers at church because Jesus is making a touchdown in his spirit, people think he's nuts. Well, we've got something to shout about!

Galatians 5:13 says we have been called unto liberty, and Galatians 5:1 says, “*Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*” Jesus has set us free; He has loosed us.

There are a lot of people who have been raised from the dead, spiritually speaking, who are still bound in some areas.

Isaiah is very specific in describing this total freedom.

ISAIAH 58:6

6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Notice the expressions in this verse: to loose, to undo, to let go free, to break. These are the actions implied in the phrase, “loose him and let him go.”

Matthew 18:18 says, “*Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*”

Read this text carefully and you'll find it refers to Church action. How many churches today exercise this power of binding and loosing? And yet these are the words of the Lord Jesus Christ! It ought to be happening.

We know from Scripture that it is our right and responsibility to loose people and set them free. Now let's look at two things we are to loose people from.

Number one, we are to loose the sinner from his sins. Someone may say, “*Can we do that? I thought that was God's job.*” Well, let's read what the Bible says.

Mark 2:7 asks, “*Who can forgive sins but God only?*” And John 20:23 says, “*Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.*”

Here are two portions of Scripture that seem to contradict one another. One verse says, “*Who can forgive sins but God only?*” And the other text says, “*Those whose sins you remit, they are remitted unto them; and those whose sins you retain, they are retained.*”

Do we have the power to remit or retain people's sins? Well, no, not

exactly. What this passage is saying to us is this: We have been given the *message* of salvation. Whenever anyone wants to repent and receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, we have the right to say to them, according to the Word of God, “Your sins are remitted.” Whenever anyone rejects Jesus as Lord and Savior, we have a right to say, “Your sins are retained. They are not remitted.” We have that authority.

We have a Gospel message that will free and loose people from their sins. And it is our right and our duty to share the message of salvation with others in order to loose them and let them go!

Number two, we are to loose the sick from their diseases. Are we going to loose people from sickness and disease with our own strength and our own power? No, no, a thousand times no! But we have the healing message, we have the Word of God, and we have the God-given authority to minister healing and to tell people what God's Word says.

Matthew 8:17 says, "Jesus took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses." First Peter 2:24 says, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." Isaiah chapter 53 also declares that God wants people loosed of sickness and disease.

For others, God has set in the Church particular gifts and ministries. But even if you're empowered by the Spirit of God to minister, you can't minister to everyone on the same level. The gifts of the Spirit are manifested as the Spirit wills, not as the preacher wills.

If it were up to me, I would minister by the gifts of the Spirit every time.

We need to stay open to God and let Him move however He chooses. We can minister healing to people through the Word of God, through prayer, through the laying on of hands, through anointing with oil, through the gifts of the Spirit, through the manifestation of God's power, and so forth. Praise God, the sick can be loosed from their sicknesses and diseases!

First Corinthians 3:9 says we are laborers together with God. As Christians we have been given the awesome privilege of working with God to set people free. There are many ways we can help people break free from the chains that have them bound, and there are other areas besides sin and sickness in which the Lord wants people to experience His freedom. He wants us to be totally free so we can help others around us live in the total freedom He purchased on the Cross. In the story of Lazarus, Jesus told His disciples, "Loose him, and let him go." Let us take Jesus' words to heart. It's time to loose people and let them go! ♠

You have to be loosed yourself before you will be able to loose anyone else.

ISAIAH 53:4,5

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

According to the Word of God, physical healing belongs to us. And we need to share this message with everyone who is bound by sickness.

Many people will be healed simply by listening to the healing message.

But it's not up to me; it's not something I control. If I could minister by the gifts of the Spirit any time I wanted to, I would minister that way in every service. But I can only minister that way as the Spirit leads. Of course, I stay open to God, allowing Him to lead me and guide me.

It disturbs me to hear people claim to be operating in the gifts of the Spirit every minute, every hour, every day. Unfortunately, too many times people try to use the Lord instead of allowing the Lord to use them.

NEW RELEASE

'LOOSE HIM & LET HIM GO!'

The Bible tells us that after Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, Lazarus was still bound hand and foot with grave clothes. Many Christians today have been raised from the dead spiritually, but they still live in bondage.

In this videotape of his classic sermon from Campmeeting 1976, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin reveals ways you can help set others free, including how to:

- Loose the sinner from his or her sins.
- Free the very atmosphere around you from satanic oppression.
- Loose those bound by satanic influence.
- Loose those bound by sickness and disease.
- Help those who are timid and bound in their spirit to obtain boldness.

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30th Campmeeting *Highlights*



85 Years Young!
Brother Hagin Celebrates His 85th
Birthday With Family, Friends, and
Loved Ones From Around the World

Here were just some of the
celebrations . . .



Following a resounding "Happy Birth-
day" song from the crowd, Brother
Hagin blew out 85 candles in what
looked like a bonfire — and he did it in
only five blows!



RHEMA South Pacific honors Brother
Hagin with a traditional Samoan cere-
mony called a Sua. This ceremony is
only performed when honoring and
acknowledging a highly respected
individual.



Brother Hagin and his family
"We're all here because of you, and we want to honor you," said Rev. Kenneth
Hagin Jr. on opening night.



Tulsa Mayor Bill LaFortune proclaims
Thursday, July 25, 2002 as "Kenneth E.
Hagin Day" in the City of Tulsa.



In a historic celebration marking both its 30th anniversary and Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin's 85th birthday, Campmeeting 2002 unfolded as a glorious journey through both old and new. For the

"Christians ought to be able to give more reasons why they believe instead of why they doubt."
— Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

more than 9,000 people who attended, it was a week of looking back upon RHEMA's rich heritage and affirming all that God had done, as well as a time of seeking His face and reaching forward to all that lay ahead. Above all else, Campmeeting 2002 presented a beautiful portrait of God's faithfulness to His children and, in particular, those obedient to answer the call.

30th Campmeeting: Proclaiming Again the Message of Faith

For Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin, part of the call has long been to "go teach My people faith," a commission he received in 1950. Then in 1973, the Lord instructed Brother Hagin to have a special meeting where the spirit of old-time campmeetings would prevail and where faith was to be taught during the daytime. Thirty years later, at Campmeeting 2002, faith was still the message of the hour as "the basics of faith" were taught, preached, and established with resounding force and life-changing power. Here, in summary, are some of the "faith basics" highlighted.

Opening the meetings on Monday morning, July 22, Rev. Happy Caldwell — Pastor of Agape Church in Little Rock, Arkansas — declared that faith is not merely a biblical doctrine, some new revelation, or man's message, but a way of life, or a lifestyle. He noted that without faith, it is impossible to please God (Heb.

11:6) and that the Scriptures repeatedly proclaim that the just shall live by faith (Hab. 2:4; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38; and Rom. 1:17).

Moreover, the faith by which we are to live is the God-kind of faith. That is, we are to have the faith of God (Gal. 2:20; Mark 11:22). A basic principle of the life of faith — the God-kind of faith — is calling those things that are not as though they were (Rom. 4:17). Indeed, those "things that are not," Rev. Caldwell clarified, are those things that are *not yet seen*, although they in fact exist (2 Cor. 4:18). The key to calling those things that are not as though they were, Rev. Caldwell set forth, lies in speaking coupled with believing (2 Cor. 4:13).

In making an important distinction, Rev. Caldwell explained that faith is not the denial of problems, but the denial of their right to exist in a believer's life in light of God's promises. For example, faith does not deny that a sickness exists, but it denies the right of that sickness to exist in a believer's body because of the promise of healing found in God's Word.

Morning speaker Rev. J. C. Hash — Pastor of St. Peter's World Outreach Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina — further expounded on the basics of faith and, in particular, faith's relationship with righteousness. While faith comes by hearing, he said, faith is established through righteousness — our right-standing before God that gives us both confidence and boldness before Him. In contrast, sin and sin consciousness are great enemies of faith. "I am convinced the secret to walking with God is always developing a thirst and a hunger for righteousness," Rev. Hash declared. In three powerful morning messages, he taught and encouraged Campmeeting attendees to establish themselves in righteousness (Isa. 54:14), and, in that way, develop themselves in what the Apostle Peter called "like precious faith" (2 Peter 1:1).

Moreover, all the promises of God come through the righteousness of faith (Rom. 4:13). Dovetailing with Rev. Caldwell's teaching, Rev. Hash underscored that the righteousness which is of faith speaks (Rom. 10:6). In short, he concluded, the righteousness of faith works by communicating

Moments With First-Time "Camper"

Alyse Hoyos from Rocky Hill, Connecticut, grew up a non-practicing Catholic who attended church only on Christmas and Easter. A graduate of Princeton University and Columbia Business School who seemed to have it all, she says, "If people looked at me, they would think I was blessed: I had money and a successful career . . . but I felt something was missing. Two years ago, I prayed to receive Jesus, and I felt the emptiness leave. I knew my purpose was to serve God."

Last October Alyse was first introduced to Brother Hagin's books by Peter Lynch, a 2001 graduate of RHEMA Bible Training Center. She recalls, "I had never met anyone so on fire for God." The first book she read was *The Believer's Authority*. She then read *Seven Vital Steps to Receiving the Holy Spirit*, and in May 2002 was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Alyse says Brother Hagin's books have revolutionized her thinking and understanding of the Word.



Alyse Hoyos
First-time Campmeeting
attendee

Her thoughts about her first Campmeeting? "The teaching is incredible, and the movement of God here is indescribable. I can see why people come."

Things she learned? "I learned I've got to live and walk in faith every day. Thank God Brother Hagin was a man of faith, or we wouldn't have this Campmeeting or the message or see all these Spirit-filled believers . . . He is truly a blessing!"

Times and Technology Change, But the Word Never Changes!

November 1979 — “Healing Scriptures” on reel-to-reel

With the release of this classic teaching on reel-to-reel audiotape, people were able to experience God’s truths about healing in a whole new way.

April 1980 — “Healing Scriptures” on cassette

In 1989 Jeanne Caldwell, wife of Campmeeting 2002 speaker Rev. Happy Caldwell, was in an automobile accident, severely injuring her back in three places. As she listened to Brother Hagin’s “Healing Scriptures” on cassette each morning during breakfast, every scripture would minister to her. After thirty days, Jeanne was out of bed and walking again as her healing came to full manifestation!

NEW! July 2002 — “Healing Scriptures” on CD

“Healing Scriptures” is released as a CD featuring Brother Hagin’s readings of healing scriptures set against a background of beautiful, soothing music!

Have you ever wondered, *Why don’t I get healed?* To receive the healing that God has provided for you through Jesus, you must renew your mind to what the Word of God says about healing. Just as countless thousands have been healed by God’s Word over the years, you, too, can receive the healing you need *through the very same Word*. What worked for them will work for you — God’s Word never fails!

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

— Matthew 24:35



the Word and believing what is spoken.

Both morning speakers also stressed the importance of being fully persuaded (Rom. 4:20-21; 14:5). “Faith calls for what God has already promised,” said Rev. Caldwell, adding that we must “stay with it” by holding fast and not wavering (Heb. 10:23 and James 1:6-8).

. . . And Pushing Forward To Fulfill Divine Destinies

In conjunction with a return to the immutable, time-tested basics of faith, Campmeeting 2002 was a time of preparing for and catapulting into the future for the fulfillment of divine destinies. During dynamic, Spirit-led evening meetings attendees were given, time and again, words of wisdom and direction.

In reflecting upon and sharing accounts from 68 years of ministry, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin encouraged his hearers Monday and Saturday evenings to hold fast to that which is good (1 Thess. 5:21) and that which they have (Rev. 2:25; 3:11). Brother Hagin exclaimed that after 68 years he was still thrilled with the Word and holding fast to it! He admonished attendees to resist the devil, who tries to keep believers from holding fast — for example, to their healing or deliverance. “But you hold fast! What does ‘hold fast’ mean? Hold on to it! Hold tight! Hold hard! Hold with all your strength!”

In tandem with Brother Hagin’s sermons on holding fast, Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr. spoke Tuesday evening on getting off the roller coaster of unbelief. While doubt and unbelief will confront every generation, Rev. Hagin Jr. said, they “will give you a ride you can’t enjoy!” He encouraged attendees to get off the roller coaster of doubt

and stay in faith. As illustrated in the account of Peter walking on water in Matthew chapter 14, Rev. Hagin Jr. pointed out, “You only begin to sink when you begin to doubt.” Rev. Hagin Jr. closed with his hallmark scripture — the words of Jesus in Luke 18:27: “*The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.*”

Friday evening Rev. Hagin Jr. also exhorted Campmeeting attendees to receive and uphold divine healing in their lives. In speaking on the account in Luke chapter 13 of the healing of the woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years, Rev. Hagin Jr. declared that the will of God is for all to be free and whole, even as this woman was set free and healed instantly.

Rev. Pat Harrison, Brother Hagin’s daughter, outlined another central component to fulfilling one’s divine destiny when she spoke Wednesday evening on “Liv-

“Faith will work in your heart with doubt in your head.”
— Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin

ing a Focused Life.” In a world full of distractions, she shared, the only way to fulfill our God-given destiny is to remain focused on Him. “No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated, and disciplined,” she said. Rev. Harrison spoke of a time when the Lord instructed her, “Stay focused on Me! . . . And when you do, you’ll become a magnet drawing everything you need to you.” If we are to stay focused, she continued, the Kingdom of God must be our top





priority. Pointing to the pattern established by Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, she underscored that being focused begins and ends with a yielded life.

Affirming the week's strong teaching on the basics of faith, Rev. Craig W. Hagin, one of Brother Hagin's grandsons, in his sermon Thursday night challenged attendees to return to "simple faith and simple believing." He said, "If you came here in need of something, you need to know right now that you've got it!" After exhorting all to go out and do what God had told them to do, Rev. Hagin spoke under the unction of the Holy Spirit to those who were afraid to step out

for fear of failure: "God is saying, 'If you trust in Me, and if you'll do My plan . . . things will work out.'"

Throughout the week, Campmeeting attendees received not only excellent teaching on living the life of faith, but also anointed and inspired messages on fulfilling their individual, God-given destinies. In what was both a celebration of the past and an embracing of the future, Campmeeting 2002 truly was "history in the making."

"Faith always has a shout."

— Rev. Charles Cowan

Experience CM 2002!

Use the enclosed envelope to order audio and videotapes today.

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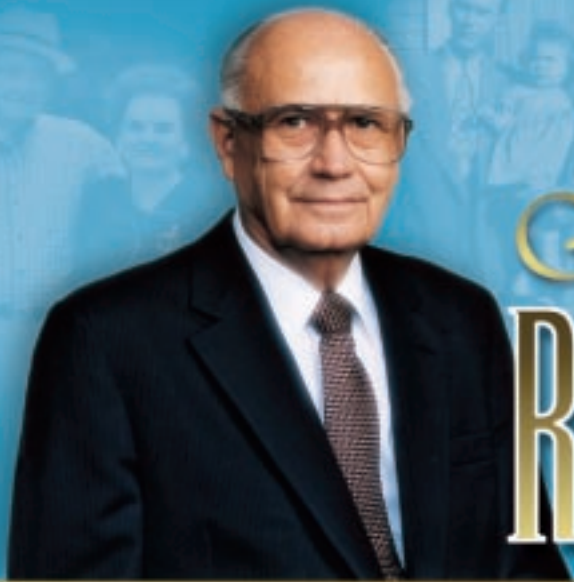
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In loving memory of Rev. V.E. Tipton

V. E. Tipton, founding pastor of Southside Assembly of God Church in Garland, Texas, died Wednesday, August 21, 2002, at the age of 89. Rev. Tipton founded Southside Assembly in July 1951 and served as pastor for 42 years until changing his ministry in December 1992.

After holding Southside's first services under the "big brown revival tent" at 1648 Axe Drive on Garland Road in Garland, Pastor Tipton led the church in several major building programs. The church now occupies several acres and boasts a 900-seat sanctuary, an 18,000-square-foot "Tipton Family Life Center," and several chapels now being used by Spanish and Native American congregations.

Rev. Tipton, known in town simply as "Brother Tipton," was noted for the pastoral care he gave his church members and town leaders, as well as for his mentoring of pastors who now lead churches across the country.

Rev. Tipton's other ministries included pioneering Assemblies of God churches in Frisco and Uvalde, Texas, as well as serving as pastor of Sachse, Texas, Assembly of God prior to founding the Southside church. Rev. Tipton also served for many years as a member of the North Dallas Sectional Committee of the Assemblies of God. After leaving the Southside pastorate, Rev. Tipton moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, and served on the faculty of RHEMA Bible Training Center in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. He and his wife of 70 years, Mary Ella Tipton, who survives him, served as ministerial consultants to the RHEMA Ministerial Association International, mentoring pastors through conferences and counseling nationwide.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by: two daughters, Joanne Smith of Garland, Texas, and Lynette Hagin of Tulsa, Oklahoma; a son, Gary Tipton of Rowlett, Texas; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

V.E. Tipton's Home at Last!

By Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

My life with Rev. V. E. Tipton began in December 1945. I was six years old.

My dad, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin, became the interim pastor of a church in Frisco, Texas. Rev. Tipton had been the pastor, but left to pioneer a church in Uvalde, Texas.

Our paths continued to cross over the years. In fact, when my dad left his last church to begin an itinerant ministry, his first meeting was held in Rev. Tipton's church.

My family later moved to Garland, Texas, where in 1951 Rev. Tipton pioneered and pastored Southside Assembly of God.

Living and growing up in Garland, I didn't attend Southside; I was already attending another church when Southside began. But I certainly knew about the church, and the Tiptons.

In September 1965, my life and that of Rev. Tipton's really became entwined when I asked him for the hand of his youngest daughter, Lynette. Fortunately for me, he graciously agreed, and for the past thirty-seven years, Rev. Tipton has been my friend and mentor, as well as a great father-in-law.

Anything I have accomplished as a pastor, I owe in part to him. As I've said many times, three men shaped my ministerial life: my father; my childhood pastor, Rev. Leonard Wood; and Rev. V. E. Tipton.

Psalm 116:15 says, "*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.*" It has been said that God never sees His children die; He simply sees them coming home. I have no doubt that on Wednesday morning, August 21, 2002, God watched with great pleasure as one of His precious children, one of his most faithful servants, V. E. Tipton, came home.

If we could see only for a moment just how glorious Dad Tipton's homegoing was, no one here on earth would dare call him back.

Even though he will be deeply missed, there is something very appropriate about Dad Tipton's departure. The author of Ecclesiastes said,

"There is a time to be born, and a time to die." His homegoing is timely: His house was in order. He was a Christian who loved God. He had lived a



long and full life. He had accepted and known the love of God and family. His life was productive, fruitful, and rich in good works. He had influenced countless people with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. And he was ready to go.

When someone we love passes on, there is naturally an element of sorrow. We miss our loved ones when they're gone. But beyond our natural sorrow, there is a joy that comes from knowing the realities of Heaven, of eternity with Jesus, and of a future reunion with family.

Dad Tipton spent his life on earth inspiring other people. He raised up churches, and people *within* churches. In his last years, he invested himself in young ministers, encouraging and mentoring them.

And now Brother Tipton has gone on to his ultimate destination, to celebrate with the Savior whom he loved and to receive the rewards of his labors here on earth.

We will shed tears because we miss Dad's companionship, but we will rejoice that he has arrived safely on the other side. He's home at last.

Dad Tipton was, and *is*, victorious. If you could see him now, you would know that. Death is not a defeat for the Christian. Walking by faith, we rejoice in Dad Tipton's promotion.

On Wednesday morning, August 21, 2002, the choir of Heaven began to sing,

Ring out the welcome, swing wide the gates!

Choirs of angels, stand and sing 'Amazing Grace.'

There's one more soldier of the King whose trials are past.

Ring out the welcome, loud and clear. V. E. Tipton's home at last!"

* * *

[Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from Dr. Richard Plunk's eulogy given at the memorial service for Rev. Tipton. Dr. Plunk is pastor of Grace Community Assembly of God Church in Flower Mound, Texas.]

We have gathered this afternoon to celebrate the life of a great man — a godly man — my spiritual father in ministry, in faith, and in life. He was my mentor and my friend.

I started attending Southside Assembly of God when I was less than two years old. Gary Tipton and I are three weeks apart in age and

grew up together in Southside under Brother Tipton.

After graduating from Evangel University, I joined the staff of Southside as the associate pastor, where I served Brother Tipton for nearly twelve years. Since then, we have just been friends. So we have been joined at the heart, if you will, for nearly fifty years.

When I think of Brother Tipton, several thoughts come to mind. One is *concrete*. If you know Brother Tipton, I don't have to explain. My first week out of Bible college, we poured curbs and I had to keep a journal of how to figure concrete, how much steel went into it, and so forth. I thought I was out of college, but I was still doing projects! Brother Tipton even made me turn in my journal to be checked.

Several years later, I was called on one cold, wet morning to join the concrete crew that poured the slab for Southside's main sanctuary. The scheduled workers had not shown up, and all the concrete training I had received from Brother Tipton paid off!

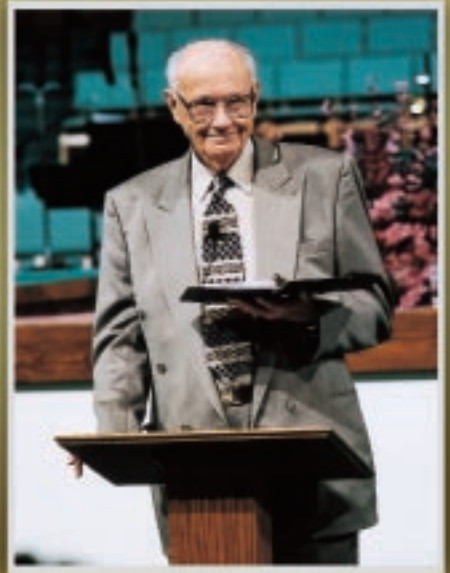
Brother Tipton was noted around town as a fine homebuilder. He was also a church builder; he loved building new places for people to grow in the Lord. I'm sure he's in Heaven right now, trying to figure out where he can add on to his mansion — probably a deck or storage room or something.

Another thing that comes to mind when I think about Brother Tipton is, he *cared* about people. He wanted to make everyone a better person and a better worker for the Lord. He was an encourager, and he believed in people. He poured his life into others because he cared.

Brother Tipton also had *character*. He was a man of integrity and honesty, a man of principles and ethics. He was a man of his word, full of wisdom and common sense.

You can't think of Brother Tipton without thinking of a great churchman. He loved the local church and gave his life for it. He was a pastor, gifted by the Holy Spirit.

He was a builder of churches and of people. My wife, Ladonna, and I are the pastors we are today because of the influence and the people-building qualities of Rev. V. E. Tipton.



RECEIVE YOUR INHERITANCE!

Many believers don't realize all that Jesus did for us on the Cross. We would have nothing if it weren't for Him. But because of Jesus, our inheritance includes salvation, healing, deliverance, prosperity, and countless other benefits!



Kenneth Hagin Jr.

Colossians 1:12 says, “*Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.*” Partakers of what? Of the inheritance.

As children of God, we have an inheritance that includes all the provisions God made for us through all the covenants He established in His Word.

Because our inheritance is found in the New Testament, or New Covenant, we Christians should carefully study these scriptures, paying particular attention to the Epistles, the letters written to the Church.

Many say, “We need to study the Book of Acts and be like the Early Church.” Yes, certainly we need the power of the Holy Spirit which the Early Church had, but we do not need the mechanics that made the Early Church operate, because believers then lived under far different circumstances than we do today.

Too many Christians skim through a psalm or a few proverbs and call

that their daily Bible study. Then they run out and try to face the world on the strength of those few verses! Other Christians want to read only the four Gospels. We need to enjoy and study the entire Bible, but the Epistles have been specifically written for believers who are living under the New Covenant.

In the Epistles, we learn exactly how the Church should be operating, how believers should be living, who believers are, and what belongs to them in Christ. This is the message of the Epistles.

The Epistles are where our strength comes from. They are where our power comes from — the power of knowing what belongs to us *because of Jesus*.

If we do not know what belongs to us, our voice will lack authority, and we will hesitate when we begin to talk about our rights and privileges because of Jesus. And when this happens, we are not going to convince anyone, including Satan, that we have any power or authority. There are too

- “Strong faith gives glory to God in the face of seeming defeat.” – Rev. J. C. Hash

Read more about it on page 9.

many Christians in this predicament: They are often mouthing words that do not have any power behind them.

If we do a lot of talking without knowing what is really going on, we are not going to get very far when facing Satan. We might even run away from him in fear. But that shouldn't be.

Therefore, we need to go through the Epistles and find out what belongs to us as Christians *because of Jesus*. There are approximately 140 key phrases in the New Testament that describe our inheritance. They tell us who we are, what we are, or what we have *because of Jesus*.

We need to underline these scriptures in red ink. Then we need to list all the scriptures having such phrases as “in Christ,” “in Him,” “in whom,” “through whom,” and so forth.

(If you don't want to dig out all of these scriptures yourself, my father,

that destroys the works of the enemy, Satan, in our lives.

We always want to know what the perfect will of God is for us. God's perfect will for His children is that we enjoy *all* of the realities, benefits, and blessings of our inheritance as set forth in the Word of God. *That* is his perfect will.

Too many Christians, however, never have realized that *all* of their inheritance belongs to them *now*. There are those who preach and teach that we will receive our inheritance in the sweet by-and-by.

It's going to be sweet not only in the by-and-by — it's sweet *right now*. It's not out there somewhere in the future.

available to him in a New York City bank. That bank even sent blank checks to him with which to withdraw some of his inheritance.

Sometimes Christians are like that young man. We live in spiritual and material poverty even though Jesus Christ has deposited all the inheritance of Heaven into our account, and we can draw from that inheritance all we want to!

The way we cash the “check” is with our mouth. (Since I discovered that, I have been cashing those kinds of “checks,” and I intend to keep on cashing them!)

There are a lot of people who say, “That's all right for you. You can live that way, but I can't.” They are acting out of the words of that old unbelieving song that says, in effect, “The Lord knows that I can't live on that big mountaintop. Just pick me out a valley.”

Brother, you can live in a valley if you want to, but as for me and my house, we're going to live on the mountaintop and shout the victory!

You can live down there in the shadows if you want to, but we're going to live in the sunshine of the glory upon the mountaintop *because of Jesus*.

People say, “Praise God, fifteen people got saved last night.” No, fifteen people didn't get saved last night; fifteen people just found out about their inheritance and drew from their bank account last night. That bank account was established for them some two thousand years ago when Jesus Christ died and rose again, and they just found out about it.

Have you ever heard people testifying, “Oh, I got healed last night”? No, they really didn't. They just found out about it, wrote a “check,” and cashed it, so to speak, by believing God's Word and acting upon it.

Healing was established for us when Jesus took the stripes on His back. That's what the Word says. *Because of Jesus*, healing belongs to us.

There is a principle involved in knowing what we have *because of Jesus*. It is this: *If we have scriptures to*

**WE HAVE AN INHERITANCE THAT
INCLUDES ALL THE PROVISIONS GOD MADE
FOR US THROUGH ALL THE COVENANTS HE
ESTABLISHED IN HIS WORD.**

Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin, has put many of them into the minibook *In Him*.)

We would have nothing if it were not for Jesus — no salvation, no hope. Just a mess that would end in destruction — that's all there would be in the world if there were no Jesus! But *because of Jesus*, there is hope, there is power, there is strength, there is victory!

As we study these scriptures about who we are and what we have *because of Jesus*, we need to *believe* them in our heart and *confess* them with our mouth daily. Confessions from God's Word of who we are in Christ make us *what we confess*.

When we begin to make a confession of God's Word — when we speak it with our mouth — it becomes *rhema*. (In the Greek, “rhema” is the *spoken* Word of God, and “logos” is the *written* Word of God.)

As the Word of God comes out of our mouth, faith is created in our inner man, and we receive the power and authority to march forth as conquerors. As we speak forth the Word of God, the *rhema* Word of God becomes a weapon

If you are a child of God — if you are in Christ — it's yours *now*.

The Word of God says we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ (Rom. 8:17). An *heir* is someone who has inherited something — it is his at the moment. If he must wait for his inheritance, he is called an *heir apparent*. But the Bible calls us *heirs*.

What did we receive? We received the inheritance of God in Christ Jesus. Let's make it alive in us. Let's put it to work for us.

If you have received this inheritance, you don't need to be sick. If you have received this inheritance, you don't have to sit around in poverty. You can claim what is yours in Christ Jesus and march forward as a victor, living according to what the Word of God says about you!

Or, you can turn your back on your inheritance. I remember reading a story about a college boy who had inherited one million dollars. He refused his inheritance. He was found living in terrible poverty — yet one million dollars that belonged to him was

back what we are speaking with our mouth, we will create the reality of it in our lives the way God creates realities when He speaks.

In other words, when we speak in line with the Word of God, we create something — we bring something into being with the confession of our mouth.

Always remember: It is because of the foundation Christ established that our confession is made. It is *because of Jesus* that we have an inheritance. It is nothing we ourselves have done.

Faith is real, and faith's confessions will create realities because we are *in Christ*.

at me! Look at my faith!" in a proud, boastful manner is in for a big fall.

The 140 faith confession scriptures may not seem real to you as you begin to read and confess them, but if you keep confessing them — even if you have to confess them to yourself in your mirror — you will start believing them eventually.

Confess them because they are the Word of God. Then you will start believing them with your heart. And when you start believing them in your heart, things will start happening because you are confessing the Word with your mouth.

Study the realities of God. Don't let them lie dormant. When they lie dormant, your life becomes like a stagnant pool of water. Why? Because nothing is flowing into it and nothing is flowing out of it. That is exactly what happens to many Christians. They shut off the channel of blessing because their faith is dormant or inactive.

In the mind of God, He already has given us everything we need in this life. It is up to us to possess it! Let us begin to live at the level at which our Father intended for us to live! ♠

...WHEN WE SPEAK IN LINE WITH THE WORD OF GOD, WE CREATE SOMETHING — WE BRING SOMETHING INTO BEING WITH THE CONFESION OF OUR MOUTH.

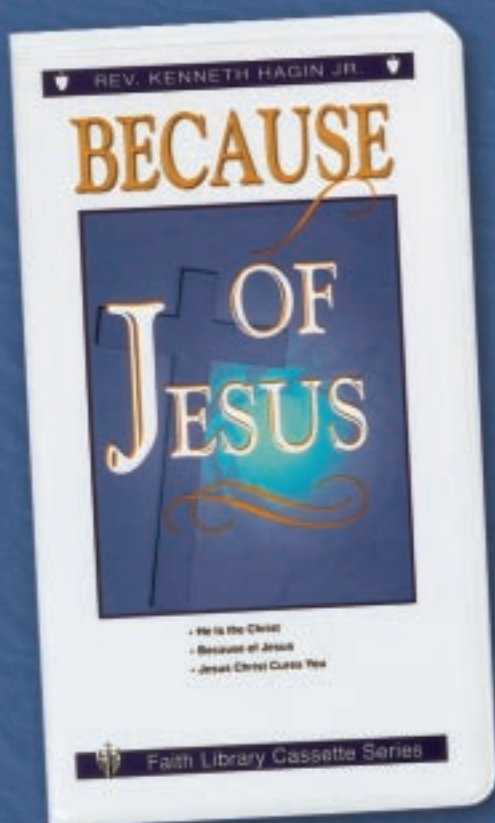
But it never will happen until we speak it with our mouth. We can *think* it in our mind. We can *know* it in our heart. But until we *speak* it with our mouth, it never will happen! That is cashing the check. *Writing* the checks all day long will never do us any good until we go out and *cash* them.

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and WITH THE MOUTH CONFESSION IS MADE UNTO SALVATION" (Rom 10:10). The very foundation for our confession of faith is Jesus and what He accomplished.

Unfortunately, many people begin to get full of pride after they find success in God.

If they begin to say, "I'm spiritual. I've got more faith than anyone," they might as well quit trying to cash the "checks" because it isn't going to work. They have their values misplaced. They are saying, "Look at what *I* can do. I can speak it, and it will come into existence." They are forgetting about Jesus. It is *because of Jesus* that faith and prayer work!

Anyone who thinks he has become so strong in faith that he can say "Look



Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.'s three-audiotape series "Because of Jesus" is a collection of Christ-exalting messages that gives great insight into the realities, benefits, and blessings of our inheritance through Christ and reveals how we can enjoy them!

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- Who Jesus is and who we are in Him.
- What Jesus purchased for us on the Cross.
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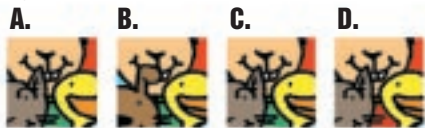


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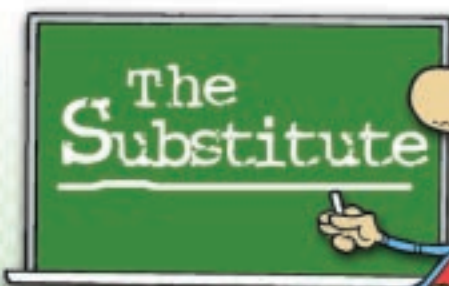
Fearless, Anointed, Inward-led, Trustworthy Heirs of God

ONLY ONE!

There was **ONLY ONE** who could be the perfect substitute for us and that was **JESUS!** In the same way, **ONLY ONE** of the squares below can be substituted for the empty square in the picture. **ONLY ONE** will work perfectly. Can you figure out which one it is?



TM



If your school teacher is absent, someone has to come and take his or her place. We call that person a **SUBSTITUTE**. A Substitute is someone who takes the place of another. You may not know this, but **JESUS IS YOUR SUBSTITUTE**. No, not your substitute teacher . . . but **YOUR** substitute, the one who took **YOUR** place. But how did He take your place? Well, because you were a sinner, you were going to have to die for your sins and go to hell. But when Jesus died on the cross, God made Him your substitute . . . He died in your place. In fact, all the bad things Jesus went through were a part of being your **SUBSTITUTE**. Emphasize the capitalized words from the following verse (Isaiah 53:5):

HE was wounded for **OUR** transgressions,
HE was bruised for **OUR** iniquities:
the chastisement of **OUR** peace was upon **HIM**;
and with **HIS** stripes **WE** are healed.

All that **HE** did was for **US!** **HE** took **OUR** place!
HE was **OUR** substitute!

Jokes & Riddles



Why couldn't the slow boxer get a drink at the party?
Because everyone beat him to the punch!

Why was the archaeologist upset?
His job was in ruins!

Why do pens get sent to prison?
To do long sentences!

Why did the fly fly?
Because the spider spied her!

What's the moral of the story about Jonah and the whale?
You can't keep a good man down!

Mother: How did you do on your tests?
 Johnny: I did what George Washington did!

Mother: What was that?
 Johnny: I went down in history!

When a knight in armor was killed in battle, what sign did they put on his grave?
Rust in peace!

THE SUBSTITUTION DECODER

The secret message below tells another way Jesus was our substitute. Here's how to decode the message. Substitute every letter N with the letter T. Substitute every letter L with the letter H. Substitute every letter Z with the letter Y. Substitute every letter J with the letter B. And substitute every letter D with the letter M. All of the remaining letters stay the same. The first word has been decoded for you.

THOUGH
 NLOUGL LE WAS RICL, ZEN FOR ZOUR SAKE
 LE JECADE POOR, NLAN ZOU NLROUGL LIS
 POVERNZ DIGLN JECODE RICL.

ANSWERS:
 C. ANSWER - Substitution Decoder - Answer:
 YOUR SAKE HE BECAME POOR, THAT YOU THROUGH HIS POVERTY MIGHT BECOME RICH.

From the Archives

A nostalgic look at the beginnings of Kenneth Hagin Ministries



'Is the Dead Raised?'

In April 1933, at age fifteen, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin became bedfast. Doctors said he had to die. Sixteen months later he was healed by the power of God. This month, Rev. Hagin concludes an account of his healing.

I finally saw exactly what Mark 11:24 meant. You have to believe *when* you pray. The *having* comes after the *believing*. I had been reversing it.

"I see it. I see it!" I said with joy. "I see what I've got to do, Lord. I believe in my heart You have heard my prayer! I believe my heart is healed and my paralysis is gone! I believe in my heart I have received healing for my body!"

As I said this, the thought came to me, "You're a pretty thing. Just look at you, claiming to be a Christian and here you are lying. Don't you know the Bible says that all liars will have their part in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone?"

"I am not a liar," I declared.

"Certainly you are, because you said you are healed and you're not."

"I didn't say that I am healed because I *feel* like it," I stated. "I'm healed because I *believe* it. And, devil, if you say I am not, then *you* are a liar. I am acting on the Word of God. If I am not healed, then Jesus is a liar. Go argue with God about it; don't fuss with me."

With this, the devil left me alone. Then I said, "Thank God, I'm healed."

I lifted my hands and praised God. Momentarily, I started to feel my heart to see if it was beating normally, but I caught myself and stated that I wasn't going by feelings but by faith. I kept saying my heart was well. I praised the Lord in this manner for about ten minutes.

Then the Holy Spirit spoke as an inner witness on the inside of me and said, "You believe that you are healed. If you are healed, then you should be up and out of that bed."

I felt this was right, so I pushed myself up to a sitting position with my hands. Then I reached down, got hold of my feet, and swung them around to the side of the bed. I couldn't feel them, but I could see them. Then I said I was going to stand and walk.

The devil fought me every inch of the way. He kept telling me I was a fool. Of course I couldn't walk, he would tell me. (As long as the devil can keep us in the *sense* realm, he will defeat us. But if we will stay in the *faith* realm, we will defeat him!)

I got hold of the bedpost and pulled myself up. The room started spinning, for I had been in this bed for sixteen months. I closed my eyes, wrapped my arms around the bedpost, and stood there for a few minutes. Finally I opened my eyes and everything had stopped spinning.

I declared I was healed and I was going to walk. Feeling began to return to my legs! It seemed as if two million

pins were pricking me. The nerves were being reactivated. I rejoiced because it was so wonderful to have feeling back in those lifeless legs, in spite of the painful prickling sensation. After a short time, the pain left and I felt normal.

Determined now more than ever to walk, I held on to the bedpost and cautiously took a step. Then I took another. Holding on to pieces of furniture, I managed to walk around the room one time.

I told no one of this, but the next morning I got up and did the same thing. That night I asked my mother to bring me some clothes because I was going to get up and go to the breakfast table the next morning. I think it took me forty minutes to convince her that I meant business, but she finally did as I asked.

On the third morning I got out of bed at 7:30 and dressed myself. I didn't need a clock to know the time. Grandpa always got up early. When you heard his footsteps and heard that swing creak on the front porch, you knew it was 7:30. If your watch didn't say 7:30, you'd better set it. Grandpa operated on schedule.

I purposely gave everyone time to sit down at the table, then walked out of my bedroom and across another bedroom into the dining room. When I walked in, Grandpa looked up. I walked over and sat down in the chair where I always sat. Every other chair was occupied. Grandpa was a man of few words. He said, "Is the dead raised? Is Lazarus raised?"

I said, "Yes, the Lord's raised me up."

He said, "Well, ask the blessing then."

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See pages 14 & 15 of this issue for more details!

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