



# THE Word of Faith

DECEMBER 2014

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

**AVOID  
THE DEVIL'S  
CHRISTMAS  
TRAP**

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*“Behold,  
I bring you good tidings  
of great joy . . .”*

—LUKE 2:10

**REACHING THE  
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*Merry  
Christmas!*

**KEEP  
A TENDER  
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**2014  
RHEMA'S PART  
IN GOD'S WORK**

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# Merry Christmas

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## the Word of Faith



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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS Patty Harrison

SENIOR EDITOR Bob Murphy

EDITORIAL STAFF Kimberly Hennenfent  
Yvette Lanier  
Cheryl Piper  
Janet Wagner

GRAPHIC ARTISTS Kristen Cook  
Jeanne Hoover  
Lisa Moore  
Amber Warner  
Rose Wenning

PHOTOGRAPHER Phil Anglin

PROJECT MANAGERS Cindy Barber  
Carol Breedon  
Christi Finley  
Cristina Mincer  
Kris Taylor

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**WRITE:**

US: THE WORD OF FAITH, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74150-0126  
CANADA: THE WORD OF FAITH, P.O. Box 335, Station D, Etobicoke  
(Toronto), Ontario, Canada M9A 4X3

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PLEASE SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR RECYCLE.

# Christmas Isn't Christmas Without Christ

Have you noticed that in the past several years some people have tried to make Christmas just another holiday? They want us to say "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings" instead of "Merry Christmas." And we're to have "holiday" trees and lights, instead of *Christmas* trees and *Christmas* lights. The world wants to completely remove Christ from Christmas.

But the truth is, Christmas is all about Christ. It's the day we choose to celebrate His birth and remember why He was born. Jesus wrapped Himself in flesh and came to the earth, born as a baby in Bethlehem. Luke 19:10 (NKJV) sums it up in one sentence: "*The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.*" Jesus—the Messiah—took on the biggest job that's ever been assigned to someone. He took on the responsibility of redeeming you and me. He purchased our salvation with His own life.

Think about it a moment. If we were to take Christ out of the Bible, what would we have left? We'd have some nice stories, history, and words of encouragement. It would be like reading any other book, because without Christ, there'd be no salvation—no hope of glory. Likewise, without Him, December 25 would be just another day on the calendar.

But thank God, John 1:14 (NKJV) says, "*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.*" Jesus mixed divine nature with human nature to become the sacrifice for our sin. He paid the price. And because of Him, we have been brought near to God (Eph. 2:13). Because of Him, we can have peace, joy, and healing. Because of Him, we can celebrate! *That's* what Christmas is all about.

Merry Christmas from my family to yours! May this be a season of joy, peace, and love like you've never known before.

*Kenneth W. Hagin*

PS. If you've never accepted Jesus—God's greatest gift—turn to page 6 right now. Don't wait. Your life will never be the same.



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### ► Special Report: MISSIONS

Josie Rogers is a young, single woman trekking across the Amazon to share the good news of Jesus. Read her story.



KENNETH W. HAGIN

# AVOIDING THE TRAP OF OFFENSE

**Opportunities to give in to offense present themselves to everyone at one time or another.** No one is exempt. We all must continually guard our hearts against the temptation to become offended and harbor grudges and other negative emotions.

**WHERE DOES OFFENSE** come from? It comes from Satan. Ephesians 6:12 says, “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Offense is the enemy’s strategy to keep us from fulfilling God’s will and ultimately destroy us. Certainly, people can yield to Satan and cause problems. But the root of our problems in life is the devil, not people.

Now, in any competitive sport, if we truly want to win, we need a good defense. We can have a great offense, but if our defense is deficient, we won’t win many games. Similarly, if we’re going to win in life, we need a good defense against Satan’s offense.

One of our first lines of defense against offense is simply to realize that offenses will come. But there also are some key steps we can take to build our defenses and ensure that we’re ready when those offenses show up.

## ABIDE IN THE WORD

One step we can take to defend ourselves against offense is to continually abide in the Word.

Psalms 119:165 (NKJV) says, “Great peace have those who love Your law [Word], and nothing causes them to stumble.” This verse is talking about loving God’s Word. When we do that, nothing can make us stumble and fall away from it—nothing!

Verse 105 of the same psalm reads, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” When the Word of God is in our hearts, we can see where we’re going so that we won’t stumble. Another verse in Psalms says, “With You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light” (Ps. 36:9 NKJV). As we keep a firm hold on God’s Word

in our hearts, we’ll see where we’re going and recognize offense when it comes.

## CULTIVATE THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

A second step we can take to build a good defense against Satan’s offense is to develop the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

### GALATIANS 5:22-23

**22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

**23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

The last part of this passage says, “Against such [against these fruits of the Spirit] there is no law.” In other words, when God in you has control of your life, Satan cannot gain control! You would have to relinquish your position for the enemy to get a foothold and make you stumble. When you’re walking in the fruit of the Spirit, you’re manifesting the fruits of righteousness—the characteristics of God. And you will not be easily swayed when the temptation to sin comes.

## CHOOSE YOUR TEAMMATES WISELY

A third step we can take to become good “defensive players” in the game of life is to use wisdom in choosing our teammates. First Corinthians 15:33 (NIV) says, “Do not be misled: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’” Proverbs 13:20 (NIV) carries the same idea: “Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.” The Bible is clear on this point: the company we keep will influence us for good or for evil.

When I talk about being influenced by people we associate with, I mean taking on certain aspects of their character and even

some of their opinions and viewpoints. That's fine if the people we're around love God and base their lives on His Word. But it's not fine if those people are critical of others and are continually offended.

Why? Because over time—little by little—we'll begin thinking the same bitter thoughts. We'll develop an intolerant, critical attitude. And we'll find ourselves becoming offended. Just as the Word says, the “bad company” we keep will corrupt our minds, emotions, and actions. That's why it's so important to choose our teammates wisely.

## KEEP A CLEAR CONSCIENCE

A fourth step we can take to defend ourselves against offense is to keep our consciences clear. Look at what the Apostle Paul said in the Book of Acts:

### ACTS 24:16 (AMPLIFIED)

**16** Therefore I always exercise and discipline myself [mortifying my body, deadening my carnal affections, bodily appetites, and worldly desires, endeavoring in all respects] to have a clear (unshaken, blameless) conscience, void of offense toward God and toward men.

Paul endeavored to keep his conscience clear before God and man. He diligently kept his flesh under the control of his spirit by disciplining himself in spiritual things.

Like Paul, we can develop ourselves to instantly recognize and avoid things that cause us to sin and grieve the heart of God. We can get to the place where we hear something ungodly, such as gossip or slander, and an “alarm” will go off in our spirits warning us not to listen.

As we train ourselves in the Word, we'll become spiritually sensitive. If someone says something we shouldn't listen to, our consciences will know it and caution us. If we start to say something we shouldn't say, that voice will witness to us that we should keep quiet instead. This will help us avoid the sin of offense.

## FAITH IN ACTION

## Love Always Wins

Here's a great place to start “abiding in the Word”—especially during this busy time of year. Confess this scripture every day and get it deep in your heart. Then you'll be ready when offenses come!

### 1 Corinthians 13:4–7 (NLT)

*“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.”*

As opportunities to become offended arise over this busy Christmas season, remember to keep your defense strong. James 4:7 says, “*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*” When you yield to offense, you are yielding to the devil's influence, and you certainly don't have *him* on the run. Instead, he has *you* on the run.

But if you build a good defense, resisting the devil and refusing to become offended, you are yielding to God's influence. And the Bible says that when you do that, you will run the devil off every time!♥

## WANT MORE?

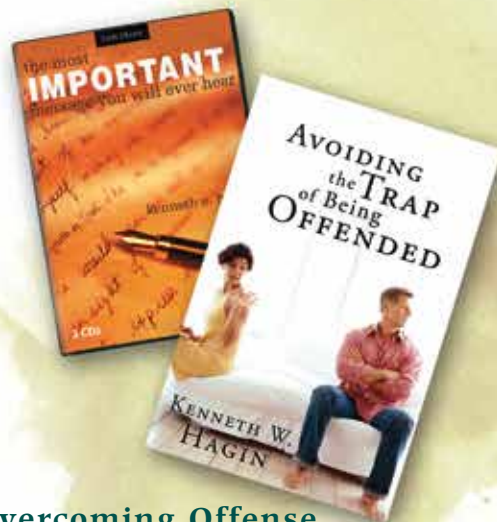
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# The Best Gift

**BILL RAY**

**Bill Ray** is a Rhema Bible Training College instructor and an associate minister at Rhema Bible Church.

**WHAT'S THE GREATEST GIFT** you ever received at Christmas? For me, it's a toss-up between a racecar track I got when I was 11 or 12 years old and a Lionel train set. I wish you could have seen the expression on my face when I got these things! I was so excited.

Even though these were great gifts, they still don't compare with the best gift I've ever received.

See, you and I have been given a gift by God Himself. It's the most awesome gift we could ever possess—God's best gift. And that gift is the precious blood of His Son, Jesus

Christ. John 3:16 (NIV) says, "*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*"

**GOD GAVE HIS SON—AND JESUS GAVE HIS LIFE—AS A GIFT FOR YOU.**

With this gift comes eternal life. With this gift comes freedom from guilt, shame, and fear. With this gift comes prosperity, love, peace, and joy like you've never experienced before.

You can look far and wide, but you won't find another gift like this one. If you're feeling worried about the future today—if you're feeling alone and that no one cares—it's time to accept God's gift. It will fill you up like nothing else can.

Just say the following prayer aloud, from your heart:

## God,

I come to You in Jesus' Name. I admit that I need You. I need the gift You gave. The Bible says, "*If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved*" (Rom. 10:9 NLT). I believe in my heart that You raised Jesus, Your Son, from the dead. And I declare that Jesus is my Lord. Therefore, according to your Word, I am saved. I look to You to take care of me now. *Thank You* for giving me your joy and peace!

If you prayed this prayer, welcome to God's family! We would like to send you some materials to help you in your new life with Him. Email us at **PartnerService@rhema.org** or call us at **1-800-54-FAITH (543-2484)**.



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to our Rhema graduates around the world!  
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**JOE DORAN**

*1991 graduate*

MISSIONARY WHO TRAVELS  
AND TEACHES AT RHEMA BIBLE  
TRAINING COLLEGE CAMPUSES  
AROUND THE WORLD



**KATHIE FLEMING**

*1979 graduate*

TRAVELING MINISTER  
WITH A HEART TO  
REACH AND ENCOURAGE  
PEOPLE—INCLUDING  
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*2008 graduate*

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# REACHING THE FORGOTTEN

## SHARING JESUS IN THE AMAZON JUNGLE

**IMAGINE HAVING** four children and not being able to tell any of them about the Jesus you serve. Deep in the Amazon jungle, this was the stark reality for one woman. We'll call her Anna.

A member of the Tikuna tribe, an indigenous people, Anna had been born again when missionaries came to her village. But when she married, her husband forbade her to practice Christianity or tell their children about it.

Instead, their children would be raised the Tikuna way. They'd serve several different gods and worship creation, rather than the Creator. Anna's husband, the village chief, was also heavily involved in witchcraft, casting spells and calling on demonic spirits. And he expected his children to do the same.

What this father didn't count on was a 27-year-old, Holy-Spirit-led missionary—Josie Rogers. Stuck in the airport in Manaus, Brazil, after her flight left an hour early, Josie, a 2008 third-year Rhema graduate, noticed a young man wearing an Indian headdress. And when the Lord said, "Go talk to him," she did. This young man was Anna's 22-year-old son. And Josie was able to do what Anna could not—she shared the Gospel with him.

### THE JOURNEY BEGINS

For Josie, sharing Jesus is what it's all about. In 2012 she sold everything she owned and moved to Brazil. Her mission? To bring the Gospel to the darkest places deep in the Amazon.

Knowing very few people—and speaking only broken Portuguese—Josie began hopscotching her way across the Amazon territory of Brazil, Colombia, and Peru. Rhema Brazil had connected her with one pastor, who connected her with others, and so on. As a single female, she relied heavily on the Holy Spirit to get her safely from place to place and set her up with the right contacts.

"You have to work with whoever the Lord sets you up with," Josie noted. And that's what she did. With only a backpack

"I LOVE TO *Go* TO THESE PLACES. THEY'RE SMALL—ALMOST FORGOTTEN. MOST PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO GO TO THEM. *But I do!*"



JOSIE ROGERS ▲

to her name, Josie boated, hiked, and motorcycled her way through the jungle and its villages and cities. She stayed flexible, going where God sent her. And because of that He used her—and is still using her today—to reap some amazing results.

### PREACHING THE GOSPEL

In a tiny riverside community outside the small city of Manacapuru, Josie walked into the house of a man who'd been sick for three months. He couldn't eat food because he had terminal throat cancer. "He was ready to die," Josie said. "He was uncomfortable, groaning, and hungry."

But as Josie began to share the love of God with him (he'd never heard of Jesus before), the man's eyes got big. "That's what faith does," Josie explained. "It stirs a hope in you. I told him what it means to take authority over symptoms in your body and explained laying on of hands."



▲  
SAN PEDRO IN THE COLOMBIAN AMAZON. THIS AREA WAS NOT EVANGELIZED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2013.

## TO LEARN MORE

about Josie, visit  
[JosieRogers.com](http://JosieRogers.com).

That day, the man was born again. And two weeks later, Josie received a report that he was up, working, and eating. He was completely healed!

In a nearby town, three people deaf from birth received their hearing after Josie ministered to them. "The Lord opened their ears, and they could repeat the Name of Jesus," she said. "I've seen them multiple times since then and they're happy, hearing, and talking!"

### COLOMBIAN CONNECTIONS AND A BLIND WITCH DOCTOR

Josie has also made connections on the Colombian side of the Amazon. In Leticia, Colombia, she met a woman named Edilaine. A Rhema Colombia graduate, Edilaine also works with the Tikuna. Together she, Josie, and a few others were able to visit three villages where the Gospel had never been allowed before.

"The vast majority have never once heard the Name of Jesus," Josie explained. "I love to go to these places. They're small—almost forgotten. Most people don't want to go to them. But I do! God wants these people to know Him."

In one of these villages, Josie met a witch doctor who was almost blind. Though he thought he was working for God, he had no idea Who Jesus was.

"We began to teach him about what it means to know Jesus," Josie said. "Then I asked if we could pray for him. We laid our hands on his eyes, and boom! He could see without any problem. It was just beautiful to see God touch this man."

"You've got to do something to get their attention," Josie added. **"IF THEY DON'T SEE SOMETHING THAT'S GO-**

**ING TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES, THEY DON'T WANT IT.** If this is truly the real God, He needs to show Himself real. Period. They won't be set free if we're not preaching the healing power of God—the saving power of the blood of Jesus."

### FREED WOMEN FROM BONDAGE

In 2012 the Lord put it on Josie's heart to hold a women's conference in

Manacapuru, site of one of the largest sex trades in the Brazilian Amazon. "The people are precious, but they're walking in so much bondage," Josie observed.

So in 2013, after much planning and hard work, she held a three-day conference. Women in the local churches invited those bound by prostitution and human trafficking. The first night over 600 women came. That number increased on the second night, and by the final night, over 1,100 women attended.

Many of the women risked their lives to come. If found not fulfilling their "duties," they could be harmed or killed. But as Josie put it, the conference was "an absolute success." Hundreds were born again. "We saw so many incredible miracles because they were hearing the true word of faith."

### GETTING UNCOMFORTABLE

"Everything I do, it's all to the glory of God," Josie noted. "And it's fun walking out the journey. I'm not telling you it's easy. Missions isn't like sleeping on a bed of roses. Where I'm at, they don't have hot water. I've showered, washed my clothes, and done dishes in the river. And as a single woman, it can get lonely for me—even though I'm around people all the time."

"But it's worth it. Yes, I'm uncomfortable. Yes, I get sweaty. But I don't mind. **WE HAVE TO GET UNCOMFORTABLE TO DO THE WILL OF GOD.**

"Challenges will come, but they won't stop me from moving forward," she added. "I learned at Rhema to be led by the Holy Spirit and to walk by faith. **I'M NOT LED BY HOW I FEEL. I'M LED BY THE LORD.** And I trust Him to meet my needs. He takes care of me because I'm His daughter and He loves me." ♥

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- » **OPEN DOORS** to take the Gospel where it still has not gone
- » **FAVOR** with village chiefs and those in authority, as well as wisdom, protection, health, and unity for the teams reaching them
- » **PARTNERS** and **FINANCES**

◀ **JOSIE MINISTERING AT THE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN MANACAPURU.**

**CROSSING ONE OF THE MANY JUNGLE BRIDGES.** ▶

▶ **JOSIE PRAYS FOR A NEARLY BLIND WITCH DOCTOR.**



Timeless  
Teachings  
of Kenneth E. Hagin

# KEEP A TENDER CONSCIENCE

**Does the Holy Spirit condemn you if you do wrong as a Christian?** No. It is your spirit that condemns you (1 John 3:20). You need to learn that. It's a hard lesson to learn, however, because we have been taught incorrectly.

**THE HOLY SPIRIT** will not condemn you. Why? Because God won't. Study what the Holy Spirit through Paul wrote in the Epistle to the Romans. He asked, "Who is it that condemns? Does God condemn? No, it is God that justifies" (Rom. 8:33–34).

Jesus said that the only sin the Holy Spirit will convict the world of is the sin of rejecting Jesus (John 16:7–9). It is your own conscience—the voice of your own spirit—that knows when you have done wrong.

## THE COMFORTER

I have found that even when I do wrong, though my spirit condemns me, the Holy Spirit is there to comfort me, to help me, to show me the way back. You will never read in the Bible where the Holy Spirit is a condemner. Jesus called Him *the Comforter*. The seven-fold meaning of that word from the Greek is brought out in the *Amplified Bible*:

### JOHN 14:16 (AMPLIFIED)

**16** And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever.

The Holy Spirit is all of those! He will stand by you when no one else will. He will help you. It is your own spirit that knows the moment you have done wrong. I am glad I learned that early. It has paid off richly for me in life.

## A TENDER CONSCIENCE

I was barely saved and healed and back in high school when the following incident occurred: I really don't know why it slipped out—no one in our family used profanity. But we had a neighbor who could—as we say in Texas—"cuss up a storm." I suppose I picked it up from him. Anyway, I simply said to one of the boys, "Hell, no, (something or other)." The minute I said that, I knew on the inside it was wrong. What was it that condemned me? The Holy Spirit? No. It was my spirit. My spirit, this new creature, this new man doesn't talk that way. The Life and Nature of God doesn't talk that way. Now the flesh, the outward man, may want to go on doing some things that he did before, and talking in ways he talked before, but you have to crucify the flesh. A good way to crucify the flesh—the outward man—is to bring your mistakes right out in the open.

I did that right then. I didn't wait until I was moved. In my heart I said, "Dear God, forgive me for saying that." The young man I said it to had walked away. I located him and asked him to forgive me. He hadn't noticed what I'd said; he was used to people talking that way. But I had to get it right.

It was the voice of my spirit. It was my conscience. My

THE HOLY SPIRIT  
**will not** CONDEMN  
YOU. WHY? BECAUSE  
GOD WON'T.



## How God Leads Us

### KENNETH W. HAGIN

The number one way God leads us is through the inward witness of the Holy Spirit in our spirits.

This inward witness is an inner knowing. You don't always know how or why you know something. But what you know is as real in your spirit as if someone had spoken in your ear. This inner knowing will never contradict the Word of God. It is the Holy Spirit communicating with your own spirit. **HE WANTS TO GIVE YOU WISDOM, GUIDANCE, AND COMFORT—WHATEVER YOU NEED** at a particular moment.

conscience was tender, and I didn't want to violate it. Unless you keep a tender conscience, spiritual things will be indistinct to you. That's because your conscience is the voice of your spirit, and it is your conscience—the voice of your spirit—that will relate to your mind what the Spirit of God is saying to you down in your heart.

### A SEARED CONSCIENCE

The first church I pastored was a community church out in the country. I usually went out Saturday night, spent Saturday and Sunday nights there, and came back into town on Monday. I stayed quite often in the home of a dear Methodist man. This fine spiritual man, a great man really, was 89 years old. He and I didn't get up as early as the others did on his farm. They would be out doing chores or working in the field when this older gentleman and I had breakfast together about 8 o'clock.

I didn't drink coffee, but this old gentleman did. Now you could scarcely believe it unless you saw it, but he had one of those old-fashioned coffeepots—this was the mid-'30s—sitting

on an old-fashioned wood stove with coffee boiling in it. I have seen him take that boiling coffee, pour it into a big thick mug, and when it was still so hot it simmered in that mug, turn it up to his mouth and drink the whole cup.

The first time I saw him do it, I hollered. I felt like my mouth and throat were burning.

How could he do that? I couldn't. The tissues of my lips, the inside of my mouth, my throat, and my esophagus are so tender, just one teaspoonful would have burned all the way down. But he drank a whole mug without taking it away from his mouth.

He couldn't do that to begin with though. Through years of drinking coffee that hot, his lips and mouth, and throat and esophagus, became seared. Eventually, he could drink it that hot and it didn't bother him.

Spiritually, the same thing can happen. (See 1 Tim. 4:2.) Learn to keep a tender conscience. Learn the minute you miss it and your conscience condemns you, to correct it right then. Don't wait until you go to church. Immediately say, "Lord, forgive me. I missed it." If you have to, if someone else saw or heard you, tell that person right away, "I did wrong. Please forgive me. I shouldn't have said that."

You will have to keep your spirit tender if you are going to be led by the Spirit. ♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *How You Can Be Led by the Spirit of God*.]



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### SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT



## You Decide

CRAIG W. HAGIN

MANY PEOPLE try God when nothing else works. They exhaust all their resources and then ask the Lord to help. And that's where the problem lies.

If we're sick, for example, the first thing that should come to mind is that God wants us well. Jesus Christ took the stripes on His back, and **BY HIS STRIPES WE WERE HEALED** (1 Peter 2:24). If we *were* healed, then we *are* healed. We can walk in healing.

The truth is, it doesn't matter if every person who's ever been in your situation has died. You don't have to die, because there is no name above the Name of Jesus (Phil. 2:9). I don't care how many symptoms come on your body. **YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP THOSE SYMPTOMS.** You can decide whether to have them or not. It's up to you.

When a headache would try to come on my grandfather, he'd immediately say, "Oh no you don't, Satan! You don't have any dominion in my body. You have no authority to attack my head. In the Name of Jesus, pain has to leave!" And the pain had to leave because "by Jesus' stripes we are healed."

**TOO MANY PEOPLE TODAY ARE DECIDING TO HAVE SOMETHING THEY DON'T WANT.** Decide right now that you're tired of having that thing. And I'm not just talking about sickness. I'm talking about situations and struggles—financial difficulties.

**CHRIST DIDN'T DIE ON THE CROSS FOR YOU TO SIT AND DEAL WITH BAD SITUATIONS!**

He died on the cross so you could have life, and have it more abundantly. That means spiritually, physically, emotionally, and financially—in every area!

It's time to stop limping through life and playing peek-a-boo with the devil. Renew your mind with the Word, believe it in your heart, and speak it with your mouth.

**NO MATTER WHAT THE DEVIL SAYS, YOU CAN HAVE WHAT YOU SAY.** Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world! Take what you need by faith—right now! ♥



# KINDLE THE FLAME®

Lynette Hagin's Women's Conference



ONCE AGAIN women from around the world descended on the Rhema USA campus for Lynette Hagin's 2014 *Kindle the Flame® Women's Conference*. Each speaker delivered a powerful message to help those present live victoriously in these last days before Jesus returns.

## The Power of Your Thoughts

LYNETTE HAGIN

*"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts."*

—PROVERBS 4:23 (GNT)

GOD WANTS TO GIVE US a rich and satisfying life (John 10:10). But in order to live that life, we must take control of our thoughts. Our thoughts affect our health, emotions, and what we say and do. Our thoughts determine our destiny. That's why it's so important for us to transform our minds. But how do we do that? We must:

- 1 CENTER OUR THOUGHTS AND LIFE AROUND GOD.** That means communing with Him throughout our day.
- 2 ASK GOD TO SEARCH US** and tell us what we need to do to adjust our thoughts (Ps. 26:2 Amplified). When He reveals what needs to change, we change it.
- 3 CHOOSE NOT TO DWELL ON FLESHLY THOUGHTS** (Rom. 12:2). Instead, think about good, pure, and honorable things (Phil. 4:8–9).
- 4 TAKE EVERY NEGATIVE THOUGHT CAPTIVE** (2 Cor. 10:5) with the "washing of water by the word" (Eph. 5:26). The Word of God is heavy, just like water is heavy. And when we wash with that Word over and over again, it will dispel every negative thought.
- 5 CHOOSE TO REJOICE IN THE LORD** in spite of the circumstances (Phil. 4:4–9). God is in control, and He's going to take care of us.

Transforming our minds is a daily process. But when we take control of our thoughts with the Word of God, we will experience victory!♥





“The devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. How does he do that? By putting thoughts in your head. If you accept those thoughts as truth, the devil just preyed on you. He knows you’re someone he can devour. But **WHEN THE ENEMY SEES YOU CONTROLLING YOUR THOUGHTS, HE HAS TO MOVE ON.**

“Don’t be the type of person the enemy can devour. You’re not helpless against him. You have the Greater One inside of you. You have control over your thoughts; so control them. Don’t let them spiral out of control.” // **DENISE BURNS, FINDING YOUR HAPPY PLACE: CHASING THE DEPRESSION BLUES AWAY**

**LYNETTE HAGIN AND DENISE BURNS SHOW WOMEN HOW TO DE-CLUTTER THEIR LIVES WITH EXPERT ORGANIZING TIPS.**

“The Lord said, ‘Tell them I am coming.’ He said, ‘You are sounding an alarm. It’s time to wake up the bride and tell her to make herself ready . . . to get her things in order.’ This is a wake-up call. **WE CANNOT HIT THE SNOOZE BUTTON ANYMORE ON OUR LIFE, OUR CALL, OR SHARING OUR FAITH WITH PEOPLE WE ARE NERVOUS TO SHARE OUR FAITH WITH.** The Groom is coming!” // **RHONDA ROGERS**

“**WHAT KRYPTONITE IS TO SUPERMAN, THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD IS TO A CHILD OF GOD.** That spirit will bring us to our knees. It will contaminate, dilute, and neutralize who we are. Thank God, He has given us a means to be sanctified through His Word. But we also have the Holy Spirit Who works with that Word to separate what needs to come off us. He shows us what it looks like to obey the Word coming out our mouth.” // **PATSY CAMENETI**

“You will never be what God wants you to be until you do what God wants you to do. **YOU HAVE TO GET BOLD IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.** You can’t let the devil quiet you down! Don’t run away from the devil. Make him run away from you! Never let adversity stop you. Just find another way to cruise on down the road and do what God has called you to do.” // **LOIS TAUCHER**

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# CALL UPON THE LORD

*“The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.”*

—PSALM 34:17 (NKJV)

IT'S SO WONDERFUL to be able to call upon the Lord in prayer! It's so great to be able to come boldly into His presence! There's nothing like being in the presence of the Lord—praising Him, worshipping Him, and seeking His face. Sometimes we don't find out how desperately we need God's peace until we get into His presence!

When we say, “Heavenly Father, I just want to come into the throne room and fellowship with You,” it floods our hearts with peace. There is so much our Heavenly Father wants to tell us, but we have to take the time to commune with Him. And the more we commune with Him, the more we will experience His peace.

When I began thinking about seeking the Lord in prayer, He quickened to me a verse from the Book of Psalms.

#### **PSALM 34:10**

**10** The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.

Are you “wanting” or lacking some good things in your life? Are you lacking peace? If you are, let me ask you this: have you been seeking the Lord?

Verse 15 in this same chapter says, “*The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.*” I'm so



**LYNETTE HAGIN**

thankful that His eyes are upon us and He hears us! But is there anything we have to do for His ears to be open to our cries? Let's look at the two verses before this.

#### **PSALM 34:13-14**

**13** Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

**14** Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

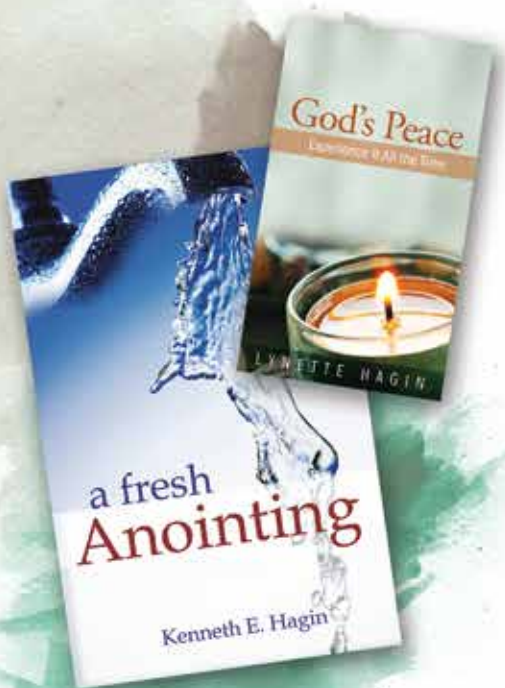
If we want God to hear and answer our prayers, and if we want to have His peace in our hearts, we must keep our lips from guile. It's so important to keep our lips from saying the wrong things—from saying hurtful words and spreading gossip.

Verse 17 goes on to say, “*The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.*” Troubles may come to all of us, but this verse says that the Lord hears our cry and delivers us. Does He deliver us out of *some* of our troubles? No! He delivers us out of them *all*!

You might say, “I've been living right. I've kept my lips from speaking guile. But when I've cried out to the Lord, He doesn't seem to hear me.” Or you may be thinking, “So-and-so isn't living right, but everything he prays about comes to pass. What's wrong, Lord?”

# Trust Jesus WITH YOUR CARES

Are life's cares threatening to overwhelm you? Do you wrestle with fear and anxiety? Learn how to call upon Jesus—the Prince of Peace—and cast your cares upon Him. As you fellowship with the Lord, He will give you a fresh anointing each day to help you fulfill His plan for your life.



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God doesn't mind if we express our true feelings to Him. He doesn't get upset if we ask Him questions. There's a big difference between asking God our honest questions and getting into the arena of questioning the Lord. Psalm 37 tells us what to do when we have those kinds of questions.

### PSALM 37:7-9

**7** Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

**8** Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

**9** For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

If you have been praying diligently and earnestly about something, and yet the answers haven't come, I believe the Lord is saying to you through these verses, "Rest in Me and I will bring it to pass."

In other words, don't worry or fret about that situation any longer. Just rest in Him. Hebrews 4:3 says, "*We which have believed do enter into REST.*" When we rest, we're at peace, aren't we?

Let's look at a few more verses from Hebrews chapter 4.

### HEBREWS 4:14-16

**14** Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

**15** For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; [Jesus knows how we feel!] but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Verse 16 is the one I want to emphasize here.

**16** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.



GOD **is** OUR HELPER.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS **call upon Him**  
AND HE PROMISES TO BE THERE TO HELP US—TO  
MEET EACH AND EVERY NEED.

We can come boldly to the throne of God, and as we do, our Father will hear our prayers and answer us. Hebrews 13:6 says, "*We may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.*" The Message Bible puts it this way: "*God is there, ready to help; I'm fearless no matter what. Who or what can get to me?*"

God is our Helper. All we have to do is call upon Him and He promises to be there to help us—to meet each and every need.

The more you call upon the Lord in prayer, the more you will walk in His peace, knowing that your Heavenly Father is listening for your cry. He is watching over you. And He is going to carry you through!

Just as we pick up our children and carry them, your Heavenly Father is right there, waiting to carry you. As you learn to rely on Him, you can rest in His peace and joy. You can relax in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ and let Him carry you through all the rough waters of life!

When we call upon the Lord, He will refresh and restore our souls. He will heal our scars. He will erase the hurtful memories that plague us. And He will heal our emotions so they won't be a hindrance or a stumbling block that can rob us of our peace. We'll find out that *it is so wonderful to call upon the Lord!* ♥



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# GOD'S WORK THROUGH RHEMA IN 2014

## ***LIVING FAITH CRUSADES***

IF THERE'S one word to describe the 2014 *Living Faith Crusades*, it's *awesome!* No two were alike. Each was carefully scripted by the Holy Spirit specifically to meet the needs of those attending.

Kenneth and Lynette Hagin and the rest of the crusade team traveled to **11 CITIES**, and at each one, the Holy Spirit manifested His gifts. The Hagins have sought for years to flow with the Holy Ghost, and it was clear that whichever way He moved, they endeavored to follow.

In every service where people hungrily pulled on the Spirit of God, **A HEAVY, TANGIBLE ANOINTING** was felt. The end result: **MIRACLES AND TRANSFORMED LIVES** across the U.S.

At the Omaha, Nebraska, crusade in April, the Hagins learned that a surgeon had accidentally cut the esophagus of a 14-month-old toddler. A team of five surgeons—experts in their field—were called in to figure

out how to repair the damage. But after the long, grueling surgery, they emerged from the operating room with a grim prognosis: the youngster would probably never be able to swallow and would have to be fed through a stomach tube for the rest of his life. His desperate grandmother called Faith Family Church where the Hagins “just happened” to be holding a *Living Faith Crusade*.

That morning Lynette, ministering under an especially strong anointing, declared breakthrough over the church. Then Pastor Tony Finley led the congregation in praying for a miracle for the young boy. By that evening's service, word came that the child was standing up in his crib, swallowing, *and* eating!

Kenneth E. Hagin was known to say, “The spiritual tides are rising.” And it was clear this year to the crusade team that this was happening. Kenneth and Lynette found themselves ministering on a higher level, and God did many wonderful things.

You'll want to get to the nearest *Living Faith Crusade* in 2015. There's no telling what will happen. But be sure to come expecting.

## ***RHEMA BIBLE TRAINING COLLEGE***

**40 YEARS!** ■ Turning 40 is a milestone many people don't like to think about. But not Rhema! This year, **RBTC USA CELEBRATED ITS 40TH BIRTHDAY**, and the school shows no signs of slowing down. Plenty of people around the world still need to hear the Gospel of Christ. That means more believers *must* be trained to boldly and fearlessly share God's love with the lost.

**SPRING ENROLLMENT** ■ When applying to RBTC USA, two options are now available. January 2014 saw the first group of spring enrollees begin their studies. With Rhema's new Core Program, it's now possible for students to **ENROLL AT RHEMA IN EITHER JANUARY OR SEPTEMBER**.

## **THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME**

■ The opening of Rhema campuses around the world has been a dream come true for many people in other lands. Men and women on **191 CAMPUSES** in **46 NATIONS** are now able to receive the same training as Rhema USA students. Imagine how thrilled students and grads from 39 of those countries were to be able to “come home” to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, for *Winter Bible Seminar and Worldwide Homecoming 2014*. Some cried; others were in awe. All of them

Kenneth and Lynette Hagin, along with Tim Rogers, pray for people in a healing line in **MEXICO CITY, MEXICO.**



Lynette Hagin ministering at the **ROSEVILLE, CA, CRUSADE.**



Student Revival week at **RHEMA BIBLE TRAINING COLLEGE.**



Rejoicing at **CAMPMEETING 2014!**



International guests at **WINTER BIBLE SEMINAR & WORLDWIDE HOMECOMING 2014.**



## A LOOK BACK AT A GREAT YEAR.

were blessed. For one week in February, more than 500 internationals descended on Rhema USA. What a glorious time it was! For a taste of the “Heaven on earth” they experienced, go to [khm.com/revelationsong](http://khm.com/revelationsong) and listen to “Revelation Song” performed by worship leaders from nine nations.

**SPRING BREAK FUN** ■ What college student doesn't look forward to spring break? But for RBTC students, instead of sleeping late, **MANY TRAVEL TO OTHER NATIONS TO SEE THE LOST SAVED AND THE SICK HEALED.**

In March, a group of 21 from Rhema USA eagerly embarked on a trip to Zambia, and Lusaka, the nation's capital, will never be the same. As group members ministered, they saw 534 people saved, 497 healed, and 491 receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. Seeing God demonstrate His power is a lot more fun than a few extra hours of sleep!

**SAYING GOODBYE TO COOPER BEATY** ■ Saying goodbye to those we love is never easy. On Monday, May 5, 2014, we bid farewell to Cooper Beaty, 97, an RBTC instructor for 30 years. He was affectionately known as “Machine Gun” Beaty because of his rapid-fire teaching style. We will miss his wit, wisdom, and boundless energy. Until we meet again. . . .

RBTC students testify about their missions trip to **ZAMBIA, AFRICA.**



## GOING SOUTH OF THE BORDER

In May, Kenneth and Lynette headed for Latin America. They traveled **12,441 AIR MILES** in **14 DAYS** to visit Rhema schools, graduates, and supporters in **BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, PERU, COLOMBIA, and MEXICO.**

The extended Rhema family greatly enjoys visits from the Hagins. When they ministered in Argentina, a church from Uruguay joined the service via the Internet. So many people tried to watch online that the church Web page crashed! All the more evidence that **PEOPLE EVERYWHERE ARE CRYING OUT TO HEAR THE MESSAGE OF FAITH**—a message that transforms lives.

RBTC turned 40!



## ROCKETS OVER RHEMA



◀ Kenneth and Lynette praying for people in **BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA.**

## LIGHTING UP THE WORLD

God's light shines on the Rhema USA Campus in many ways. Once again this year, the *Rockets Over Rhema* Independence Day celebration drew tens of thousands of onlookers and lit up the night sky with dazzling fireworks. On a quieter note, from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, the Rhema Park and campus were awash in a sea of thousands of tiny lights commemorating Christ's birth. Both events are intended to **EXPRESS GOD'S LOVE TO THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.** ♡



Rhema Park transformed into a winter wonderland.



◀ Kenneth and Lynette pray with leaders of Rhema Brazil while in **SOUTH AMERICA.**



◀ Kenneth W. Hagin brings the Word at the **ROSEVILLE, CA, CRUSADE.**

◀ Having some fun at **ROCKETS OVER RHEMA.**

# SEED Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

"THE LORD WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS; HE WILL SATISFY YOUR NEEDS IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND AND WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FRAME. YOU WILL BE LIKE A WELL-WATERED GARDEN, LIKE A SPRING WHOSE WATERS NEVER FAIL."  
— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

**THIS YEAR** has passed by so quickly. It seems like only yesterday that we were ringing in 2014, and now here it is December. For the last couple of months, I have been giving you some tips on time management. I want to finish those suggestions this month. I trust that they will help you to begin 2015 in a more organized fashion.

As a reminder, let us quickly review the first three guidelines.

## Step One—Pray About Every Single Thing

I make prayer a continuous focus all through the day. I begin the day by confessing Psalm 118:24 (NKJV), "*This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.*" Just saying this verse encourages me and helps me set an attitude for the day.

## Step Two—Ask the Lord for Wisdom in Making Right Decisions

Every day you are faced with significant decisions. It is important that you allow the Lord to guide you in every one of them. God knows our future, and He will help you make decisions that will benefit you in days to come.

## Step Three—God Never Asks, Expects, or Wants Us to Do It All

It is important for us to understand our priorities. Learn to say yes to things that are important and no to those things that others can accomplish.

Now let's look at three more guidelines.

## Step Four—Organize and Manage Your Time Each Day

Do you realize that time cannot be stopped, stretched, or stored? We must consume time as we get it. What time we waste is gone forever. If you were to keep a diary of what you accomplished each hour of the day, you might be surprised at how much time you wasted.

To-Do lists are very important. I always make out and prioritize each day's To-Do list the night before. I also have a Project List. These are things that I desire to get done, but I may not complete them in a 24-hour period. I keep that list as a reminder that

when time permits, I have pending projects. Don't get frustrated if you are unable to accomplish your entire To-Do list in a day. Sometimes I do, and other times I have to transfer items to the next day.

## Step Five—Take Time to Get Away

When we look to Jesus as our example, we know that He had only three years of ministry to complete His mission on this earth. However, never once do we read that He rushed around. We do read that He took time to get away and rest. After feeding the 5,000, Jesus went up into the hills by Himself to pray (Matt. 14:23). When the 12 disciples returned from a preaching and healing mission, Jesus instructed them, "*Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while*" (Mark 6:31 NKJV).

There are times when we need to forget about all that must be done and take some time simply to rest and relax. This was the most difficult lesson for me. I am one who wants to be doing something productive every moment of the day. However, I began to understand the importance of getting away to rest. And I found that these solitary moments were often when the Lord would answer questions I had been praying about and meditating on for months. I discovered that as I got my mind off the situation and spent time in a relaxed environment, God was able to speak to my heart.

## Step Six—Wait on the Lord

Isaiah 40:31 says, "*But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint*" (NKJV). God's timing is as important as God's plan for our lives.

We live in the age of instant everything. If the microwave takes longer than 30 seconds, we complain. It is important not to get ahead of God's timing. In the natural, if I had a problem that needed to be solved, I wanted to take care of it immediately. However, I learned the value of listening to the voice of God and allowing Him to dictate the right time to solve issues.

Learn to wait on the Lord. He can work out in two seconds a situation that we would completely mess up by trying to handle it prematurely in the natural. As you wait on the Lord and allow Him to direct your every step, you will find that your days will be filled with peace and satisfaction. ♥

*Lynette*



# Kids' Page

**F**earless, **A**nointed, **I**nward-Led, **T**rustworthy, **H**eirs of God

## Identical Angel

Only one of the angels below is exactly identical to the one in the blue circle on the right. Can you find the Identical Angel?



## ANGEL RHYMES

Finish the rhymes below by filling the blanks with the missing rhyming word.

An angel came to Joshua. Josh said, "Have you come to harm me?"  
The angel just replied, "I'm the captain of God's \_\_\_\_\_."

Jacob wrestled with an angel. He was not a wimp!  
But when the match was over, Jacob walked with a \_\_\_\_\_.

Daniel was thrown in the lion's den. His enemies thought he was beaten.  
But an angel shut the lions' mouths so Daniel wasn't \_\_\_\_\_.

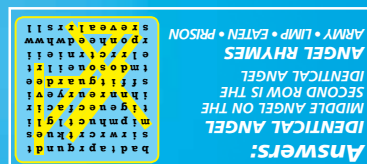
Peter preached and was arrested after Jesus Christ had risen.  
But an angel came one sleepy night and rescued him from \_\_\_\_\_.

## jokes & riddles

"A merry heart does good, like medicine."  
—Proverbs 17:22 (NIV)



Knock! Knock!  
Who's there?  
Howell.  
Howell who?  
Howell you know unless you open the door!  
.....  
How do you know when there's an elephant under your bed?  
**Your nose touches the ceiling.**



Why did the kid do all of his studying in an airplane?  
**He wanted a "higher education"**  
.....  
What did the farmer fix his jeans with?  
**A cabbage "patch"**

## What's Going On 'Behind the Seen'



In show business they say that there's more going on "behind the scene" than what's actually happening on the stage. That's because there are makeup artists, stage hands, prop artists, directors, and a host of other people that the audience never sees who make the performance a success. Well, in the Christian life there is a whole lot more going on "behind the SEEN" too. That's because there is an UNSEEN spiritual world all around us. It's a world that is very real where the

Holy Spirit and angels are working on our behalf.

There was a man in the Bible who learned this in a very scary situation. You can read about it in 2 Kings 6:8–23. Elisha and his servant woke up early one morning in the city of Dothan to find that the whole city was surrounded by enemy soldiers. When Elisha's servant saw this he said, **"Oh, my master, what can we do?"** Elisha said, **"Don't be afraid. The army that fights for us is larger than the one against us."** Then Elisha prayed, **"Lord, open my servant's eyes. Let him see."** The Lord opened the eyes of the young man. **And he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha" (2 Kings 6:15–17 ICB).** So, the next time you are in a scary situation, remember . . . you've got someone "behind the SEEN" who's helping you out!

## Search & Find

See if you can find all of the words below hidden in the puzzle that describe what angels do for God's people. Words can be vertical, horizontal or diagonal.

**minister**  
Heb. 1:14  
**guard**  
Psalm 91:11  
**deliver**  
Acts 5:19  
**reveal**  
Luke 1:11  
**encourage**  
Acts 27:23  
**direct**  
Acts 8:26  
**protect**  
Daniel 6:22

b a d t a p r q u n d t  
s i r w r c r t k u e s  
m i p m h u c t l g l i  
t i g e u e c f a c i r  
i h n n r e u r y e v i  
s f f i t g u a r d e e  
t m d o s o u e i l r t  
e l r r c t r n i e i i  
r p o n h e e d w h w w  
s r e v e a l r r s l l



*Kenneth Hagin Ministries*

P.O. Box 50126 • Tulsa, OK 74150-0126

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