



THE Word of Faith

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Christmas Memories

PAGE 21



the Word of Faith



KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES
Working Together to Reach the World!

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More Than a Story

It's a tradition with many families to read the Christmas story—the story of Jesus' birth. People get sentimental and reminisce about mom or dad or somebody else reading that story. Unfortunately, for too many people, it's just a story. But there is significance in the Christ child—that baby lying in a manger.

Through that baby, God identified with us. Jesus, His Son, became flesh and lived among us (John 1:14). He identified with our limitations and frailties by becoming one of us. Because of that, He understands what we go through in life. Hebrews 4:15 says that He was *"in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin"* (NKJV). Jesus passed the test! That's why He could become the Lamb of God that was slain for us.

God takes insignificant things—the things people overlook—and makes them significant. Who would have thought that the baby in the manger would become a man who preached the Good News to the poor, healed the sick, and proclaimed freedom for the prisoners (Luke 4:18-19)?

Jesus may have started out as a babe in Bethlehem, but He died on the cross as the Son of God. He arose from the dead as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He became our substitute and paid the price we could not pay.

That's why He left the glories of Heaven and came to earth as a babe in a manger. He didn't come for His own gratification or to set up an earthly kingdom. He came to die so humanity could live. He came to save us from being lost and to destroy the works of the devil.

That baby lying in a manger is more than a story. He is a picture of God and man reunited. He is Emmanuel—God with us—our salvation!

If you haven't made Jesus your Lord, there's no better time to do so than right now. It's easy. Just pray the prayer on page 23 and accept the gift that Jesus came to give you.



Kenneth W. Hagin

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FOLLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO FUFILL YOUR CALL

ARE YOU READY to wholeheartedly consecrate your life to the Lord?

Are you ready to humble yourself before Him?

Are you ready to be patient and stand strong until God brings His plan to pass in your life?

In and of yourself, you *can't* answer yes to these questions. You need the power and Presence of the Holy Spirit to accomplish God's plan.

It's impossible to know all that the future holds. For years I didn't know how God's plan for my life would unfold. Thank God, He keeps some of His secrets for a long time. If I had known from day one everything God had planned for me, I probably would have quit before I started!

You don't need to know how every detail of God's plan for you will take place. You just need to trust Him and follow the Holy Spirit's leading. Remind yourself of what Paul said in Acts chapter 20. He didn't know what his future held, but he trusted in the One Who held his future.

ACTS 20:22–24 (AMPC)

22 And now, you see, I am going to Jerusalem, bound by the [Holy] Spirit and obligated and compelled by the [convictions of my own] spirit, not knowing what will befall me there—

23 Except that the Holy Spirit clearly and emphatically affirms to me in city after city that imprisonment and suffering await me.



LYNETTE HAGIN

24 But none of these things move me; neither do I esteem my life dear to myself, if only I may finish my course with joy. . . .

If you obey the Holy Spirit, He will lead you. He will be your *Comforter* and *Helper*. He will be your *Counselor*. When you don't know what to do, you can rely on Him for counsel and help. And the Holy Spirit will be your *Intercessor*, *Advocate*, *Standby*, and *Strengtheners* (John 14:26 AMPC).

The Holy Spirit will also bring things to your remembrance. John 14:26 says, "*But the Comforter . . . shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*" And He will show you things to come (John 16:13).

There's no way you can see into the future and prepare for everything you will encounter. So what should you do? Call upon the One Who lives in you, because He is the Great Teacher (Luke 12:12).

As you rely on the Holy Spirit, determined to follow God's plan, you *will* finish your course with joy (Acts 20:24). You will echo what the Apostle Paul said: "*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith*" (2 Tim. 4:7).

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything you need to know to fight the good fight of faith and finish your race victoriously. But you must invite Him to teach you. It's the anointing that breaks the yoke (Isa. 10:27), and there is nothing like the power of God.

At times you will have to fight battles to reach a new level that God wants to take you to. Perhaps you have been fighting battles

for quite some time, and you may not see how God will turn your situation around for your good. You may ask, “How will this work out for me?”

Stand and see the salvation of the Lord. (See 2 Chron. 20:17.) Watch God work on your behalf. The road to fulfilling His plan isn’t always easy, but He is calling you. There will be tests and trials. Will you be faithful to His call? Those who are faithful shall witness a glory that has not been seen before.

Yield to the Lord’s calling. **BE CONSECRATED TO GOD’S CALL. WALK WITH HIM, AND HE WILL TEACH YOU WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO ACCOMPLISH HIS PLAN.** You will experience great victory in the battles you have been fighting. Be strong and courageous and keep fighting the good fight of faith (1 Tim. 6:12).

I encourage you to stay prayed up. Stay sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading. Opportunities will come to you. Lay aside every weight that could easily beset you and hinder you from fulfilling your calling and winning your race (Heb. 12:1).

Weights will distract you from your mission, so lay them aside. They may not be sins, but they will keep you from fulfilling your divine purpose. Distractions are part of the enemy’s devices. He uses them to keep you from walking in God’s divine purpose.

Go before the Lord, seek His face, and listen to His voice. He will speak to you strongly and clearly. As part of preparing for your calling, He will teach you how to hear His voice.

To accurately follow God’s plan, you have to be able to understand His directions and see clearly what He has ordained you to do. And He must lead you. When the Lord leads you, there is divine protection, guidance, and wisdom.

As you seek His face, you will be emboldened as never before. When you know what He’s called you to do, a boldness accompanies His calling. As you yield to that boldness, doors will open for you. You will have more opportunities and supernatural favor than you can fathom. The plans God has for you are far greater than what you have imagined for yourself!

Be faithful and committed to walking one step at a time. As you do, only time and eternity will tell all the great things you will accomplish as you are empowered by the Holy Spirit and the grace of God.♥

FAITH IN ACTION

Finishing Your Course

The Apostle Paul said he fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith (2 Tim. 4:7). And he told us to follow him as he followed Christ (1 Cor. 11:1). Here are ways to do that as you fulfill God’s plan for your life.

1. Become firmly established in Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Determine not to let anything or anyone distract you or become more important to you than Jesus.
2. Be equally determined to fix your eyes only on Jesus. Build your foundation firmly on Him.
3. Be as unwavering as Daniel in the Old Testament. Let nothing stop you from serving God.
4. In adversity, be quick to speak God’s Word. It will build your faith and strengthen your heart.
5. Spend time in prayer—especially praying in the Holy Spirit. That helps you build yourself up on your most holy faith (Jude 1:20) and pray out God’s perfect plan for your life.

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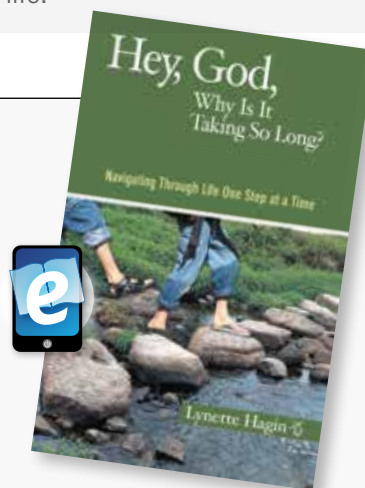
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HIGHLIGHT**

What Are We Doing Here?

BARRY JENSEN

DURING JESUS' TIME on earth, He frequently spoke about His relationship with the Father. He emphasized that His words and actions were not His own; they were what the Father wanted Him to say and do. (See John 14:24, 31.) In John 6:38 (NKJV) Jesus said to those following Him, *"I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."* Jesus was constantly reinforcing that His purpose for being here was to do His Father's will.

UNDERSTANDING OUR PURPOSE

In these last days when deception is rampant, we Christians must know what we believe, Who we believe, and what our purpose is on the earth. Since Jesus came to do the Father's will, our purpose as His Body is to carry out the same purpose. God's purpose has always been to reach the world.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18–20 (NKJV)

18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ.

If you have ever wondered if you're called to the ministry, you are. Every believer is called to the ministry of reconciliation. We're to act as ambassadors for Christ everywhere we go. Every time we walk into a convenience store, a big box store, or anywhere else, we are ambassadors for Christ.

HEARING AND DOING

More people are living on the earth today than ever before. We are surrounded each day by people who need to hear what we know—that God has already reconciled them and the rest of the world to Himself. If there was ever a generation that should be turning the world upside down in Jesus' Name, it's us. We have unprecedented access to God's Word. But just having access and hearing the Word isn't enough. God needs us to be *doers* of His Word. We've been good at hearing the Word, but what are we *doing* with what we're hearing?

JAMES 1:22, 25 (NKJV)

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. . . .

25 He who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

We need a firm grasp on the message of faith and healing. We need a firm grasp on who we are in Christ. Why? Because Jesus wants us to share these truths with those who don't know Him. That's why He sent

us here. People need to know that it is God's will to heal them and their loved ones. They need to know that God wants to reach into their lives and touch them in a real way.

MOTIVATED BY LOVE

God needs men and women who will carry these foundational truths. But along with that, we need a firm grasp on the message of love. For God's purpose to be fulfilled as He desires, we must walk in His love. As we carry this truth to our neighborhoods, our cities, and our nations, we must make sure that our only motive is love. We must view people as God does—precious and worthy of His blood.

When the foundation of love is firmly fixed in our lives, it will motivate us to go further than we ever could by ourselves. It will move us to do more than we ever thought we possibly could.

Above all else, we must maintain, represent, and prioritize the culture of Heaven, which is doing the will of our Father. We were sent here from Heaven, not to do our will, but the will of the One Who sent us. ♥

[Editor's Note: Barry Jensen and his wife, Adrienne, are the directors of Rhema Ukraine.]

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RECOGNIZING

THE SOURCE OF

OPPOSITION



Timeless
Teachings
of Kenneth E. Hagin

WE DON'T HAVE TO LET SATAN DOMINATE US
IN THE HERE AND NOW.

MANY TIMES WHEN something happens, people don't know whether God or the devil did it. Years ago, an evangelist had a tent that seated 20,000. One time he put it up and a tornado blew it away. People received a special offering to help him get another tent. I almost fell off my seat when I heard him say, "I don't know whether God or the devil blew away my tent."

God is not blowing away preachers' tents. He's putting them up! "Yes," someone said, "but God *allowed* it."

Second Corinthians 4:4 calls Satan the god of this world. The laws governing the earth largely came into being through the fall of man and the resulting curse.

When people don't understand that, they accuse God of causing storms and all kinds of other harmful things. But He is not responsible for, nor the author of, any of them.

Jesus set aside natural laws to bless humanity. He stood on a ship and rebuked a storm, saying, "Peace! Be still!" In John 14:10 Jesus said, "*The Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.*" If God caused the storm, He would be working against Himself to stop it.

Jesus did healings, miracles, and mighty works. But He said God did them through Him. If God were the author of sickness and then healed people through Jesus, God would have been working against Himself. And Jesus said, "*If a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand*" (Mark 3:24–25).

It is easy to see where things come from. Jesus contrasted His works with the works of the devil.

JOHN 10:10

10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

In contrasting His works with the devil's, Jesus was contrasting God's works with the devil's. On one occasion Jesus said, "*I must work the works of him [God the Father] that sent me*" (John 9:4). Later when one disciple said, "Show us the Father," Jesus replied, "*He that hath seen me hath seen the Father. . . . The Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works*" (John 14:9–10). If you want to see God at work, look at Jesus.

It would erase all confusion as to where something comes from if we would read God's Word. Many of us have heard unscriptural things all our lives. What we heard was the human mind trying to solve spiritual problems. And the human mind cannot solve spiritual problems.

Getting in the Word will straighten out our thinking. We must ask, "What does the Word say?"

In John 10:10 Jesus called the devil a thief. And that which steals, kills, and destroys comes from the thief. It's the devil's work, not God's.

The Bible tells us that when Satan is eliminated from the earth, nothing will be left to hurt or destroy. That will be a great day.

But we don't have to let Satan dominate us in the here and now. He's the god of this world, but he doesn't have the right to dominate believers.

It is important to recognize the source of our opposition is Satan and to stand our ground.

Too many people give up on something instead of realizing that Satan is trying to keep it from happening. Much of what we pray about—finances, healing, and so forth—must come to pass in this world realm. And Satan is trying to block everything he can.

At the least delay, some people say, "Maybe God doesn't want me to have that after all." They lose out and are defeated. They should see that the one opposing them is Satan and not let him defeat them.

The Apostle Paul told us, “*Be strong in the Lord*” (Eph. 6:10). Someone may say, “I’m *trying* to be strong.”

The Bible doesn’t say anything about *our* being strong. That’s where people miss it. They drop back into the natural and try to do it themselves. The Bible doesn’t say, “Be strong in yourself.” No, we’re told to “*be strong IN THE LORD, and in the power of HIS MIGHT.*”

On May 11, 1932, a crowd of 10,000 assembled to welcome the world’s largest dirigible, the U.S. Navy’s USS *Akron*, to Camp Kearney in San Diego, California. (At that time, the U.S. government was experimenting with lighter-than-air craft.)

The mooring appeared successful. Then a ring holding one of the two mooring cables snapped and the 785-foot airship started to lift. Two groups of sailors holding landing ropes attached to the cables attempted to guide the *Akron* back to its mooring mast. But strong winds buffeted the giant airship, and it broke loose, lifting many of the 200 sailors 10–20 feet off the ground. Some were injured as they fell. Then only three men dangled from the 300-foot cable as the *Akron* continued to ascend.

Enlisted men ran around wildly, unable to help the three desperate men clinging to the cable. Soon, two of the men could hold on no longer and plummeted 150–200 feet to their deaths.

Farther up in the twisted lines, a 19-year-old sailor from Oklahoma braced his feet in some wooden handgrips and quickly

lashed other lines attached to the cable around his body. He kept holding on as the *Akron* rose to 2,000 feet. Onlookers thought his strength would fail and he, too, would fall to his death. Half an hour passed. Then the tiny figure moved—the man was alive!

Attempts to lower the giant aircraft were unsuccessful because of the winds. The sailor’s two-hour ordeal ended when the crew cautiously hauled him inside the airship by hand while the *Akron* circled San Diego.

When asked how he held on, he replied, “When I saw I was too far from the ground to let go, I wrapped the ropes around me. I wasn’t holding on to them; they were holding me.”

While people on the ground were screaming, he was enjoying the scenery. He wasn’t trusting in himself to hold on. He was trusting in the rope to hold him. He was swinging free!

That’s what God’s Word is talking about: “*Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.*” If you try to stand against the devil in your strength, you will tire out after a while. Yes, there is a wily foe opposing you, but thank God, you can be victorious against him. Just wrap yourself in God’s promises and swing free!♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin’s book *What to Do When Faith Seems Weak and Victory Lost*.]

The human mind cannot solve spiritual problems.

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THE PATH TO SPIRITUAL VICTORY



KENNETH W. HAGIN

MANY THINGS CAN be taught from the story of the woman who had a spirit of infirmity for 18 years. (See Luke 13:10–17.) I heard one person who taught on this say that this woman had an *inside* problem and an *outside* problem. The Bible says she had “a spirit of infirmity.” She was bent over, which indicates that a paralytic condition

was involved. *Infirmity* means “feebleness.” It can carry a connotation of something that’s been shaken up—something that is faltering.

Many people are like this. They are walking around with a problem on the inside. They are faltering. Their soul has been shaken. They say, “I can’t. I’ve failed so miserably. There’s no use. I might as well give up.” That gives the enemy a chance not only to afflict them on the *inside*—in their minds and emotions—but also to afflict them on the *outside*, to afflict the outward person.

God’s Word teaches that we are *spirit*, *soul*, and *body* (1 Thess. 5:23). When the soul is depressed, it shows up in the body. When a person is down spiritually and mentally—thinking he is a miserable failure—it shows up in his outward countenance and in the way he functions. It usually tends to lead him from one failure to another.

The devil is always trying to condemn us. But he can’t condemn those of us who are Christians because he has no authority to, according to Romans chapter 8.

ROMANS 8:1

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.

The devil can and does accuse. He goes around whispering innuendos and scandalous little remarks that, if we listen to them, become fearsome in themselves. But who listens to a donkey braying or the wind blowing? Who listens to outlandish statements? Nobody. Well, what are you listening to the devil for? He’s a nobody! Let him make all the accusations he wants—what can he do? Nothing.

If we’re not careful, when the devil begins to point his finger, we’ll allow what he says to affect us. We will begin to feel depressed, and then we’ll become a target for him to come in and harass us.

For instance, maybe the devil tells you, “You’re never going to amount to anything. You’re nothing but a miserable failure.” Those words cut like a knife, and the next thing you know, you’re down and out. Or maybe he comes against you by attacking you with a disease. Then he’ll come in and say, “What makes you think that God is going to heal you? What makes you think that you could even go ask God to do anything for you?”

When children of God start listening to that junk, they don’t

God’s power ministered in love

is the key to deliverance

from depression and oppression.

receive what they need from Him. The woman with the spirit of infirmity had been bound for 18 years. The devil had probably been telling her, “Well, you’re a child of Abraham all right, and you belong to the special group—but *you can’t* get healed. *You can’t* get anything.” Jesus defied Satan even on the Sabbath Day by healing her.

The Answer for Oppression

You see, the devil can *oppress* us, but he can’t *possess* us—he can’t cross the bloodline. One way he oppresses us is by putting symptoms on us. But we find the answer for oppression in the Book of Acts.

ACTS 10:38 (NKJV)

38 God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing **all** who were **oppressed** by the devil, for God was with Him.

If you’re being oppressed mentally or physically, you are bound and you need to be loosed. The Church is full of bound people who are being oppressed by the enemy to the point where they’re not the success God wants them to be.

Many people are hurting. Psychiatrists and psychologists realize it. They know these people need to be free. The Church recognizes it too, but she uses every kind of tactic possible to snap them out of it: indignation, scolding, harassment. Some people have a “holier-than-thou” attitude that says, “If you had faith, you wouldn’t be in this problem!”

None of these “solutions” is going to work. Why? Because you need the anointing of the power of God to break the spirit of infirmity that has gotten hold of that individual. God’s power ministered in love is the key to deliverance from depression and oppression.

Reaching Out in Love

People need someone who can minister to them not by the letter of the Word but by the love of the Word! We need to realize that just because people sitting around us in church are singing and maybe even praising God, we don’t know what the enemy is feeding their minds. We don’t know their situation. That person sitting next to us may be hurting and nobody knows about it. Our tapping them on the shoulder and saying, “I love you in Jesus,” may minister to them more than we realize.

Love has won more people to God and has ministered to more people than all preaching combined. You can talk about faith. You can quote scriptures until you’re blue in the face. But when you reach in your pocket, pull out some money, and give it to the person who is down and out, that ministers to them more than any word you could give them.

There’s a world full of hurting people who need help—who need to be set free. And they’re not all outside the Church. Maybe you’re reading this and saying, “That’s me. I need to be set free.” Jesus came to deliver you and set you free! Jesus knows all about your troubles. He knows how the enemy has lied to you and crushed your body with disease. He knows all of your mistakes. He knows you have been bound by depression and disease, sin and sickness.

Jesus is calling to you right now, just as He called to the woman with the spirit of infirmity in the synagogue. He’s saying, “Come here. Come to Me.” He said to the crippled woman, “*You are loosed from your infirmity*” (Luke 13:12 NKJV). And He’s saying to you right now, “Be set free! You are loosed from your infirmity because I have delivered you!”♥

SPECIAL OFFER

Setting the Captives Free

God’s power breaks the spirit of heaviness and infirmity. But in trying times, believers need to know that friends care about them and are there for them. Whatever problems you face, you can walk in the power and path of the God Who sets captives free!



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A LOOK BACK: RHEMA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



Preaching Near and Far

KENNETH AND LYNETTE HAGIN love preaching the Gospel—whether at Rhema Bible Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; a *Living Faith Conference* elsewhere in the United States; or a meeting halfway around the world.

At the end of May, the Hagins headed to Central and South America to connect with the international

Rhema family in that region. During this fast-paced, 12-day trip, they visited Rhema campuses and churches in Brazil, Colombia, and Guatemala. They ministered to faculty, staff, students, alumni, pastors, politicians, and thousands of others who were hungry to hear the Word of God.

International trip highlights

BRAZIL

- Verbo da Vida (Word of Life, the Brazilian arm of Kenneth Hagin Ministries) and the City of Campina Grande held a special night service to honor Kenneth and Lynette Hagin. The ministry, government authorities, and high-ranking army officials presented them with gifts and awards. Those included the highest honor a citizen can receive: The Medal of Honor for Municipal Merit.
- Kenneth W. Hagin ordained and laid hands on 137 men and women who accepted the call to ministry.



COLOMBIA

- Along with preaching and teaching at a half-dozen services, the Hagins ministered to and prayed for the mayor and first lady of Cartagena.



GUATEMALA

- The Hagins visited RBTC Guatemala for the first time since the campus opened in 2016. They met with Rhema Guatemala alumni, students, and faculty.



2024 Living Faith Conferences

- Fort Walton Beach, Florida (Champion Life)
- St. Augustine, Florida (Anchor Faith Church)
- Las Vegas, Nevada (Word of Life Christian Center)
- Chandler, Arizona (Faith Family Church)
- Columbia, Tennessee (Trinity Family Church)
- Raleigh, North Carolina (Victory Church)
- Puyallup, Washington (Experience Church)
- Hillsboro, Oregon (New Creation Church)
- Sioux Falls, South Dakota (Victory Life Church)
- Omaha, Nebraska (Faith Family Church)
- Kenedy, Texas (Word Fellowship Church)
- Yorkville, Illinois (Restore Church)
- Truesdale, Missouri (Faith Christian Family Church)



Thank You, Word Partners

We extend our deepest gratitude to our Word Partners. Your support makes everything possible. You play a crucial role in the global impact of Kenneth Hagin Ministries and Rhema Bible Training College. Every person reached by a member of the Rhema family is because of you!



RBTC USA TURNS 50!

On May 17, Rhema Bible Training College USA graduated its 50th class. This historic milestone marked a half-century of the school teaching people faith. RBTC remains dedicated to taking revival to this generation and the ones to come. The graduation ceremony highlighted Rhema's commitment to teach believers and train ministers to reach the world with the Gospel.



“WE’RE NOT GOING TO QUIT; WE’RE GOING TO KEEP RUNNING THIS RACE UNTIL THE WHOLE WORLD HEARS THIS MESSAGE OF FAITH IN GOD.” // Kenneth W. Hagin

TO EVERY NATION: RBTC MISSIONS

“The blind receive sight, . . . the deaf hear, . . . and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.” —Matthew 11:5 (NIV)

During spring break, Rhema students and alumni embarked on missions trips to Mexico and Nigeria. Josiah, a team member on the Mexico trip, shared part of his experience.

“There was a group of elderly ladies who came up to one of our team members. They all needed prayer for various things, and they called some of us over. One lady was mostly blind. Her eyes were gray and cloudy. She also said that she had trouble hearing in both ears.



“We were all together in a group—the ladies, my teammates and me, our translators, and their translators—all praying together. It was just a really awesome

moment. Even though we were all from different backgrounds, all speaking different languages, we were united in the language of the Holy Spirit.

“I got to pray with the blind lady. As soon as we were done praying, you could see the change. She had the biggest smile I've ever seen in my life. She was grinning from ear to ear and she said, “I can see! I can see!” We tested it by having her read one of our name badges, and she could read it clearly. Where her eyes were gray before, they were totally clear and normal. She also said that she could hear completely well.”



Worldwide Impact

Once again this year, *Winter Bible Seminar, Campmeeting, Kindle the Flame Women's Conference, and A Call to Arms Men's Conference* were another way Kenneth Hagin Ministries built faith in the Body of Christ. And through television and radio broadcasts, podcasts, books, print/social/digital media, and Rhema Correspondence Bible School, Rhema continued to reach millions of people around the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the message of faith.

Through Rhema Correspondence Bible School's Adopt an Inmate program, those who are in prison were able to receive and complete RCBS courses with the help of a sponsor.

One inmate wrote:

RBTC At-a-Glance...

25,855 STUDENTS ENROLLED WORLDWIDE

123,789 GRADUATES WORLDWIDE

299 CAMPUSES IN 57 NATIONS

**3,699 RHEMA CHURCHES PASTORED BY RHEMA GRADS
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4 NEW CAMPUSES

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- Ejisu, Ghana
- Marabá, Pará, Brazil
- Papeete, Tahiti

“

“I'm walking in the finished works of Jesus Christ, and through your ministry, I have learned and grown so much. I get out next year, and I look forward to coming to Rhema. Great things are happening here. I'm passing the blessing to others. The Holy Spirit has allowed me to lay hands on people for the baptism in the Holy Spirit with tongues and



to lay hands on the sick and see them healed. I stand in my full authority in Jesus, and I delight in proving His Word true over and over again. Thank you so much.”

// Robert

Hearing Restored!

"In 2012 two Rhema students who lived near me prayed for someone close to me who had been deaf since infancy. I knew from faith teachings that Jesus wanted more for him. It has been four years since that prayer, and during that time he received eligibility for two surgeries that restored his hearing through cochlear devices. These surgeries cost close to \$120,000. Both were totally covered! Thank you for your teachings and your students!"
—Jennifer



Thank you, Rhema Word Partners for helping to keep Rhema Bible Training College's tuition as low as possible. **BECAUSE OF YOUR FAITHFUL GIFTS, MEN AND WOMEN ARE BEING TRAINED TO MINISTER SALVATION, HEALING, AND FAITH TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.** And their lives are being forever changed! Thank you for making a tremendous difference!

If you're not a Rhema Word Partner, it's not too late to get involved! There are more men and women to be trained and more people around the world to reach. We're pressing forward . . . **WON'T YOU JOIN US?** You *can* make a difference!



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PSALM 91



CRAIG W. HAGIN

IN PSALM 91, God promises us protection. I believe every Christian needs to know this psalm. And every parent and grandparent should teach Psalm 91 to the kids in their lives.

When I was young, Psalm 91 was my protection scripture. One time my good friend, Michael, came over, and we were jumping on the trampoline in the backyard.

Mom came outside and told us she needed to go to the grocery store. We didn't want to go with her because we were busy playing. So she left and we kept playing. Eventually we went in the house to get something to drink. Once inside, we could hear somebody pounding on the front door.

Fear instantly hit me. At that time, cellphones didn't exist. I couldn't call my mom, and my dad was out of town.

The only thing I knew to do was grab the *King James Bible* from the bookshelf and read Psalm 91. I told Michael, "I'm going to read this." We didn't pray. I just read the Bible aloud. By the time I finished the last verse, the man had left.

I don't know why that person was pounding on our door. I don't know if he meant any harm. **I JUST KNEW THAT WHEN I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, PSALM 91 WOULD PROTECT ME.**

It doesn't matter what's going on around us. God promises to protect us. All we have to do is call on Him.

Breaking It Down

Seven powerful symbols of God's protection are listed in Psalm 91, verses 1-4.

"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty" (v. 1 NIV).

According to *Webster's New World College Dictionary*, *shelter* means "something that covers or protects." In Oklahoma, many people have tornado shelters. My mom heard about bomb shelters while growing up. But what's more awesome than a bomb or tornado shelter is *God's* shelter.

A *shadow* protects us from the blazing sun. God's shadow provides protection all around us.

"I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust'" (v. 2 NIV).

A *refuge* is a person or thing that prevents someone or something from suffering harm or injury. God protects us from injury no matter what is happening. A *fortress* provides protection to a city, not just to individuals.

"He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart" (v. 4 NIV).

God's *feathers* and *wings* depict the tenderness of a mother bird when she protects her offspring by gathering them under her wings.

A *shield* was used in times of war. Today, we use our shield of faith when the enemy shoots fiery darts at us. The *New Living Translation Bible* translates *rampart* as *protection*. Protection is when a person or thing prevents us from being harmed or injured.

Our Threats

We face two different kinds of threats from the devil.

*“Surely he will save you from the **fowler’s snare** and from the **deadly pestilence**. . . . You will not fear the terror of night, nor the **arrow** that flies by day, nor the **pestilence** that stalks in the darkness, nor the **plague** that destroys at midday”* (vv. 3, 5–6 NIV).

WE HAVE PROTECTION FROM DISEASE AND PHYSICAL HARM 24/7/365. God promises to protect us from the fowler’s snare and from arrows—today, we would say bullets. And we are protected from another epidemic.

We can be filled with either faith or fear. Psalm 91 helps us have faith when everyone else is fearful. Sometimes we just have to turn off the news because it often broadcasts fear, fear, and more fear. We can’t allow ourselves to be fearful.

Can’t Touch Us!

“A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you” (v. 7 NKJV).

Every time I read that verse, I think about MC Hammer’s song “Can’t Touch This.” The point is that the devil can’t touch us when our faith is in God. He is our protector, our shelter, our shield, our armor, our fortress, and our refuge. This must be ingrained in us.

“Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling” (vv. 9–10 NKJV).

When we make the Lord our refuge, no plague will come near us. No sickness, disease, or pandemic has the right to touch us.

“For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go. They will hold you up with their hands so you won’t even hurt your foot on a stone.” (vv. 11–12 NLT).

Through His tender care, God has supplied each of us with celestial bodyguards to carry us along the rock-strewn road. We won’t even stub our toe. Our bodyguards are armed with God’s power and authority.

“You will trample upon lions and cobras; you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!” v. 13 NLT).

We are assured of victory when we know Who our Protector is. When we resist the devil, he has to flee from us (James 4:7).

*“ ‘Because he loves me,’ says the Lord, ‘I will **rescue** him; I will **protect** him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will **answer** him; I will **be with him** in trouble, I will **deliver** him and **honor** him. With **long life** I will **satisfy** him and **show him my salvation**. ’”* (vv. 14–16 NIV).

The last three verses of Psalm 91 assure us of eight blessings. God promises to rescue and protect us. When we call on Him, He will answer us. He will be with us. Jesus will never leave or forsake us (Heb. 13:5). He will deliver and honor us. One of my favorites is, He will satisfy us with long life. And He will show us His salvation.

Being Led by the Spirit

One way God protects us is by leading us through the Holy Spirit. When we get checks in our spirit, that is God’s way of telling us not to do something.

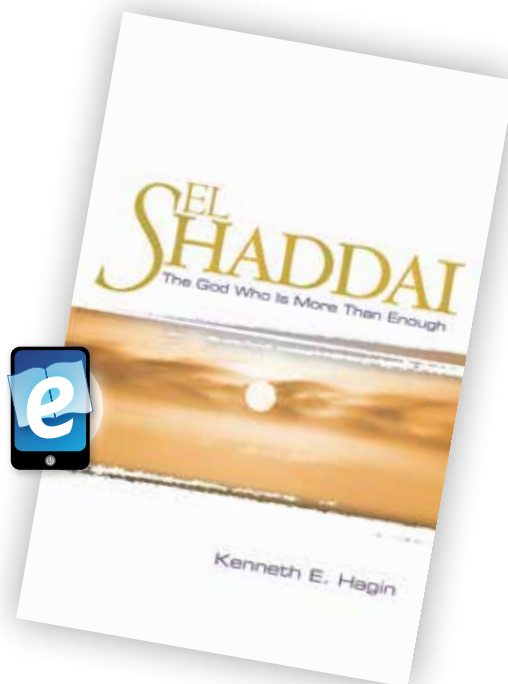
Just as we can be in the right place at the right time, we can be in the wrong place at the wrong time. But if we follow those checks in our spirit, we won’t be in places where we can be harmed.

People have asked me why I never worry. It’s because of Psalm 91. I know my God, and I’m always mindful that He protects me. I know He will help me in every situation, so there’s nothing to worry about. 🍀

SPECIAL OFFER

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LYNETTE HAGIN'S WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

KINDLE THE FLAME

WHAT A CONFERENCE *Kindle the Flame 2024* was. From the very beginning, every word that was spoken touched the hearts of the women in a deeply needed way. God's anointing manifested in different ways throughout the weekend. At the beginning of the conference, the ladies had a time of consecration and commitment to the Lord. The women were encouraged to be mindful of their thoughts, learning to take control rather than letting their thoughts control them. Then the Holy Spirit gently ministered to those who experienced past trauma, bringing healing and comfort. At the end, the women

had a time of rejoicing, confident that no matter how many times the devil tries to knock them down, they will rise again. The three-day conference ended with the beautiful Candlelight, Prayer & Praise service. The women left with a renewed purpose and understanding that when they align their hearts, thoughts, and prayers with God's will, He will direct their steps and lead them on paths that influence their families, workplaces, communities, and nations.

Make plans to attend *Kindle the Flame 2025*, September 25–27. In the meantime, enjoy these highlights.



FOLLOWING GOD'S STEPS LYNETTE HAGIN

"The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives" (Ps. 37:23 NLT). Yet, we often don't let Him into every detail.

FOR GOD TO DIRECT OUR STEPS, WE MUST FIRST GIVE HIM PERMISSION. I'VE FOUND THAT AS WE

ALLOW THE LORD TO GET INVOLVED IN EVERY DETAIL, OUR LIVES BECOME SO MUCH EASIER. Giving Him permission means saying, "God, I want your will, not mine."

Too often it's all about what we want when it should be all about Him.

When we allow God to lead us, the enemy will try to bombard our thoughts with, "What if you don't like what God has planned for you?" These moments are crossroads in our lives, and we have to choose between God's perfect will and His acceptable will.

The Spirit of God says, "At this time, in this place, there are decisions that must be made. If you listen to My voice and follow My plan, even if you haven't in the past, from this day forward, you will see a total change in your life—a new direction and a grace that you have not experienced before."



OVERCOMING ANXIETY DENISE HAGIN BURNS

Through a series of events, by the time I was 25, I was anxiety ridden. I knew the Word and did my very best to walk in the light of it. But anxiety became a stronghold in my life. The good news is that we can overcome it.

The main cause of anxiety is thoughts. What we think about has a profound effect on our life. **SHOW ME YOUR THOUGHTS, AND I WILL SHOW YOU WHAT YOUR FUTURE LOOKS LIKE.** Our life always progresses toward what we think.

We have to think about what we're thinking about. The way to do that is through what I call a thought audit—an exercise that helps us to become aware of our thought patterns.

A thought audit assesses whether our thoughts are positive, negative, or neutral. We then identify which thoughts are contributing to stress, anxiety, and unproductive behaviors.

To do a thought audit, we first have to track our thoughts. **WE HAVE TO THINK ABOUT WHAT WE ARE THINKING ABOUT.** Next, we have to determine if the thoughts are truth-based. Do they align with God's Word? Or are they fear-based? Then, we have to challenge the thought by refusing to think it. And finally, we have to replace fearful, negative-based thoughts with the truth of God's Word.

BY SIMPLY DOING THESE STEPS, WE CAN OVERCOME ANXIETY. Instead of being consumed by it, we can walk through it.





“GOD IS SAYING THAT WE NEED TO DO JUST ONE THING—CONNECT WITH HIM. I know there are situations many of you are dealing with. But when you connect with Him, you’re meeting with the One Who will go before you and fight your battles. **IF YOU DO THE ONE THING AND HOOK UP WITH HIM, YOU HOOK UP WITH THE ADVOCATE, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU SOLUTIONS AND PEOPLE TO HELP YOU.**

If you need comfort, and your heart is broken, God is saying ‘Come, just do this one thing—spend time with Me. I want to heal your broken heart.’” // **JULIE BEEMER**



“IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU DO WHAT YOU WERE BORN TO DO. NOBODY KNOWS WHAT THAT IS BETTER THAN GOD. But there is another one who knows how weighty your identity is. That is the enemy of your life. Satan hates your identity because in your identity is his undoing. He doesn’t want you to live like who you are in Christ. So he works in your mind to redefine your identity. Because if you listen to him, receive it, and act like it’s true, the truth about what God said about you will never be lived.” // **PATSY CAMENETI**



“You can’t keep a good godly woman down. We’re in the boxing ring of life, and it gets serious. We have days when we’re up and days when we’re getting back up, but we refuse to have down days. **WE MAY GET KNOCKED DOWN, BUT WE GET BACK UP. WE DON’T FAIL—WE MIGHT FALTER A LITTLE, BUT WE KEEP GETTING UP.** You have a job to do. It’s your job to lead in your mandate, your calling, your family, and your children into what God has told them to do through you. You’re anointed. You can do this.” // **BONNIE HUFFMAN**



“I want to remind you of three things. Number one: God has a plan and purpose for your life He wants you to pursue. Number two: God will order and realize your dreams. Your dreams matter to God. He placed them in you for such a time as this, and He wants to bring them to pass. Number three: God will give you a vision for your future. **AS YOU ALIGN YOUR HEART AND WILL WITH HIS, GOD WILL ALIGN YOUR DREAMS AND VISIONS AND HELP YOU TO WALK OUT THE PLAN THAT HE HAS FOR YOU.”** // **RHONDA ROGERS**



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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)

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

IT IS DIFFICULT to believe it's already December and another year is about to come to a close. At times, I have dreaded seeing December approach because I knew there was so much for me to accomplish. After all during December, we wives and mothers have the responsibility of buying presents for our loved ones, decorating our home for Christmas, and preparing the holiday meals.

In recent years, I have come to realize that instead of dreading the season, we should relax and enjoy this time of year. It is a time filled with many festive activities and events. But in the busyness of the Christmas season, let us not forget the reason we celebrate this time of the year—the birth of our Savior and Redeemer.

I believe we should focus on our family and make lasting memories our children will talk about for years to come. It's not always the elaborate gifts our children and grandchildren remember but the time we have set aside to enjoy being with them.

Unfortunately, when families get together, disagreements and past offenses may surface. If this happens, I encourage you to practice what the Apostle Paul admonishes us to do. He said, "*Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things*" (Phil. 4:8 NKJV).

Don't continually remind yourself of what someone did to you in the past. Reminding yourself of hurts and offenses only does damage to you. Forget the past and press toward the future.

Some of you may face this holiday season without one of your loved ones. My husband and I can certainly understand the emotions that seem to overwhelm you during this time.

I remember the first Christmas without my father. I was dealing with so many emotions, as I was very close to him. My husband and children wanted to give me something that would bring comfort to me. When I opened my last gift, which was from the entire family, I was so blessed.

It was a gold charm for my bracelet with the inscription, "The heart remembers." My father's name and dates of birth and death were engraved on the back. That special gift brought such comfort to me. It reminded me that although my dad is no longer on this earth, it's all right for me to remember him.

If you are experiencing the absence of a loved one during the Christmas season, remember that the Holy Spirit is your Comforter. Rest in Him and allow Him to minister to your heart and emotions. He is there with just the right words and thoughts to help you get through the difficult times.

Christmas is a great opportunity to minister to others. My husband and I have occasionally invited someone who has recently lost a loved one or who will be alone for the holidays to be a part of our family Christmas dinner. It brings us joy to be able to minister to the hurting at this time of year.

Jesus gave us our mission in Matthew 5:14–16 (NLT) "*You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*"

There are many hurting people in the world, and Jesus is their answer. You are the light of your world. Let your light burn so brightly that you become an instrument for presenting Christ to those around you.

Once again, I encourage you to be sensitive to those who are hurting and extend to them the gift of love. Make good memories with your family members. Each Christmas my husband always reminds the family before opening our gifts, that most of all we need to thank the Lord for the goodness He has bestowed on us. My prayer is that you and your family will have a wonderful Christmas.♥

Lynette





Kids' Page

Fearless, A-nointed, I-nward-Led, T-rustworthy, H-airs of God

Candy Cane Maze

Find your way through the Candy Cane Maze.

Start Here



Finish

The Three W's of Christmas

If you carefully read the Christmas story in Matthew chapter 2 and Luke chapter 2, you will discover three different groups of people whose reaction to Jesus' birth begins with the letter "W."

1. The wise men "W"orshipped (Matthew 2:11).
2. The shepherds "W"itnessed (Luke 2:17).
3. The people "W"ondered (Luke 2:18).

Our reactions should be the same this Christmas season. Like the wise men who brought Him gifts and worshipped, we, too, should offer Jesus the gift of our thanks and praise as we **WORSHIP** Him this Christmas. Like the shepherds who told others in Bethlehem of the birth of the Son of God, we also should tell others about our Savior by **WITNESSING** to them during this season. And just as the people who heard the shepherds' testimony **WONDERED** in awe of the things they had heard, we also should remember that this is the most wonderful time of the year as we think about the awesomeness of this holiday, Christmas, that changed the world forever! **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Seek and Ye Shall Find!

Looks like the wise men brought more than gold, frankincense, and myrrh! See if you can find these other items.

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| hamburger | birthday cake | baby bottle |
| banana | corncob | pizza |
| rocket | | teacup |
| hotdog | | candle |



CHRISTMAS

SPELL IT OUT!

Using only letters from the word Christmas to the left, fill in the blanks below.

1. They weren't just men, they were wise men!
2. By the expensive gifts the wise men brought, you might guess they were h.
3. The wise men used the a instead of a road map to find Jesus.
4. When the wise men found Jesus they worshipped i .
5. "For unto you is born s day in the city of David a Savior, which is i the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

jokes & riddles



"A merry heart does good, like medicine."

—Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

What do you call a wall built out of teddy bears?

A Bear-icade

What do you call it when a rooster scribbles on a piece of paper?

Cocka-DOODLE

Why did the rocket go to the foot doctor?

Because it had Missile-TOE

There are three houses in a row. The Red House is on the far right and the Green House is on the far left. So, where is the White House?

In Washington, D.C.

What has teeth but doesn't eat and hair that it doesn't keep?

A Comb

1. Smart 2. Rich 3. Star 4. Him 5. This, Christ

Finish



Start



ANSWERS:

Have you Opened God's Gift?

IF YOU ARE UNSURE of the answer to this question, or if you're afraid you will not spend eternity in Heaven, there's good news for you! John 3:16 (*New King James Version*) says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

God loves and values you so much that He made a way for you to live with Him forever. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die to pay for the sins of every human being. The Bible says, "No one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again" (John 3:3 *New International Version*).

Salvation—receiving everlasting life—does not come by joining a church, following a certain religion, doing good deeds, or living a good moral life. The Bible says there is only *one way* to be saved. You must be born again by accepting Jesus Christ as your Savior.

Settle the most important question of your life! Pray the following prayer sincerely, from your heart, and receive Jesus as your Savior:

God, I come to You in Jesus' Name. You said in Your Word, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved" (Romans 10:9–10 *New Living Translation*).

I confess out loud that Jesus is my Lord.

And I believe in my heart that You raised Jesus from the dead.

Therefore, I am saved! Thank You, God!♥

If you prayed this prayer, welcome to God's family! We want 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)**.



To grow in your new life as a Christian, you also need to become part of a good, Bible-based church where you can be taught God's Word. If you do not have a home church, scan the QR code to see a list of churches in your area pastored by Rhema graduates.





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