

FROM THE
GUTTER ^{TO}
GLORY

The Testimony of
Kevin Basconi

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From the Gutter to Glory: The Testimony of Kevin Basconi
by Kevin Basconi

ISBN: 978-0-9989122-1-9

King of Glory Ministries International Publications 2017
King of Glory Ministries International
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www.kingofgloryministries.org

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This

Book

is

dedicated

to

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Without

You Guys

none

of

this

would

have

been

possible!



Acknowledgments

Once again I would like to thank my wonderful precious wife, Kathy Basconi:

Thank you for being who you are in Christ each and every day. Thank you for believing in me when others did not see the Lord's hand upon my heart and upon my life.

Thank you for looking past the flesh and discerning my spirit. Thank you for your amazing love, patience, and kindness for me. Thank you for everything that you do to help me to be all that I can be in the Lord.

Thank you for the long hours of proofreading.

Thank you for praying for me.

Thank you for your help and unwavering support throughout the entire process of writing these books.

You are precious and there is nothing that can compare with you or your love.

I shall love you forever and eternity!

Other than Jesus Christ, you are the most wonderful thing that God has placed in my life.



Table of Contents

Introduction.....	xiii
CHAPTER 1	
The Spirit of Prophecy.....	1
CHAPTER 2	
Seeking God.....	8
CHAPTER 3	
The Gospels.....	15
CHAPTER 4	
A Sign and Wonder.....	21
CHAPTER 5	
Obedience to the Lord.....	26
CHAPTER 6	
A New Found Land.....	34
CHAPTER 7	
It Does Not Get Any Better Than This.....	42
CHAPTER 8	
Suspended Between Heaven and Earth.....	48
CHAPTER 9	
Moose and Gooseberries.....	52
Epilog.....	59
Prayer Index.....	62

Contact the Author	66
About King of Glory Ministries International.....	68
About the Author	71
Other Books by Kevin Basconi.....	73



Introduction

I would like to introduce you to an amazing person.

I pray as you read this small testimonial book you will realize who this little book is all about.

Yes, I am talking about my friend. As you look at my friend's life it will become possible for you to learn how your life can be transformed.

Proverbs 18:24 shares some wisdom about friendship:

*A man who has friends must himself be friendly,
But there is a friend who sticks closer than
a brother.*

Proverbs 17:17 also speaks about true love and friendship:

*A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born
for adversity.*

I invite you to sit back and relax. It should not take you any longer than a couple of hours to meet my amazing friend in the pages of this book.

Everyone needs a friend like I will write about in this book.

Everyone needs a friend who will stick closer to you than a brother.

Perhaps, if you open your heart, as you read you will be introduced to a new friend who can work miracles in your life and work miracles in the life of your friends and family too.

Enjoy!

Kevin Basconi

Kevin Basconi

King of Glory Ministries International



CHAPTER 1

The Spirit of Prophecy

Revelation 19:10 says that “the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” I would like to share my personal testimony with you. My testimonies are not so much “then” but more “now” and “to come.” I believe as you read this testimony it can be a prophetic promise for you, if you can believe and receive it. The reason I know this is because over the years we have seen many people activated into the seer realms just as I have shared these testimonies about how God opened up my eyes to see into the spiritual dimension or the heavenly places. Other people have been set instantly free from addiction, depression, and unhappiness as well. I encourage you to keep an open mind as you read these short chapters. Be open to God moving in your heart and within your life.

God created the heavens and the earth. God the Creator created us in His image and gave us a spirit, a soul, and a body. We are spiritual beings with a soul (mind, will, and

emotions) and a physical body dwelling on a terrestrial or earthly realm. But, really, our true nature is spiritual. The issue is that many of us are no longer able to discern or to see the spiritual dimensions or heavenly places that God created for us. But we can learn.

Part of my heritage is that of a Cherokee Indian. There are those who believe that the Cherokees have a special DNA for prophecy and for visions. I'm not sure if that's true. But I do know that since I was a young child, before I ever knew Jesus, I had prophetic experiences—dreams and trances and visions and saw in the spiritual realm. Of course, I didn't understand these supernatural experiences. I just thought that things like this were normal.

As I grew and became older, I began to get involved in an unholy lifestyle and spent thirty-one years running from God. As a small boy I had a visitation of Jesus: He appeared to me. I had a vision of the Lord Jesus on the Cross when I was about three years old, and I understood that Jesus Christ is Lord. When I was about eleven years old someone I trusted introduced me to marijuana. It put me on a path of drug addiction that lasted for thirty-one years. So for thirty-one years I endured this terrible lifestyle of addiction that I would cycle through. I tried to stop using but was unable to break the cycle with my own strength. I was involved in terrible things: sexual immorality, fornication, and all sorts of ungodly behavior. However, the blood of

Jesus has set me free and cleansed me (see Revelation 1:5-6 and Hebrews 9:14). The blood of Jesus can set you free too.

Hell or Jail

But on February 25, 2001, I hit a low place in my life where I was basically in the street. I knew that if I didn't change there were only two options for me: hell or jail. In fact, one time before this day I actually overdosed on drugs. I was lying on the floor; I was bleeding out; I was dying. My spirit came out of my body and hovered above me about forty-five feet. I saw my body lying on the floor with all of this blood coming out, and I realized that I was dead. My spirit was out of my body. That is not a good feeling, trust me.

I looked down and saw my body bleeding on the floor; at that moment a demon stepped into the room and called me by my name. He said, "Kenneth, I've come for you." I knew that wasn't a good thing. I think it was literally what we call the grim reaper. And I knew in that moment that I was going to hell. (I have a short message for you: heaven good, hell bad—don't go there.) At that moment I knew I was going to hell; but from somewhere deep in my spirit, one word came out: Jesus! And when I just thought the name of Jesus, my spirit went back into my body. Thank You, Jesus!

You would think that would be enough to bring somebody around. People like me who have struggled with addiction know: sometimes it's not, is it? So that addiction, that draw, those demonic beings associated with drug addiction, are so strong, it took me several more years (of misery) until February 25, 2001, when I fell down at an altar and prayed to receive Jesus as my Savior. And God instantly changed my life. I had a drug habit of about \$200 a day or so. Sometimes I used more some days I used less. I wasn't proud of the way I was living. I knew I wasn't called to be a drug addict; but people sometimes just end up there.

One kind word or one kind deed released into a stranger's life could be the key that will set them free from a life of addiction and hell. In fact, someone reading this little book is going to be delivered and set free from drug addiction today. If that is you, just turn to the back of the book and read the prayer of salvation right now! Just believe and receive your salvation and your deliverance!

Prophecy for You

I want to prophesy over someone reading this book: You've got some family members, possibly children or some grandchildren who are struggling with the same thing. Never give up. Never stop praying for them. I know it was the prayers of my grandmother, Lula May Thornton,

who held me up as a small child and declared God's destiny over my life (I saw it in a vision years later), that kept me from dying that day. It was the power of the prayers of my grandmother that kept me from bleeding to death that day on the floor. Her prayers were the thing that drew me into Jesus. Of course, it was the Holy Spirit. But your prayers, saints, are powerful. Hallelujah! So, never give up and never stop interceding and praying for your family who are lost or just not serving the Lord.

God's going to begin to raise up some of the most unlikely people. They are not going to look like what we expect in the Body of Christ. Some of them are going to be a little unusual. Some of them aren't going to smell good. God is going to supernaturally save them and draw them into His Kingdom. The Lord will open them up to the seer dimensions, and they are going to be able to walk in great power and great Kingdom authority. If some of them walked into many of our local churches, they might not be very welcome. Some of the ones God is going to bring in are not going to fit into our paradigm. They may even be in prison right now or struggling with a lifestyle of addiction or sin like I was ensnared with.

So, when I rose up from that altar that day on February 25, 2001, something was different. I was truly "born again" and I was also instantaneously delivered from the drugs. Praise God!

The greatest testimony in the Kingdom of God, in my opinion, is not a testimony like mine; but, for example, a testimony of someone who has served God since he or she was a small child. If this is you, I would encourage you to receive this prophetic word: To you I prophesy that you will continue to serve God even when you are an older man or woman. I see you preaching the Gospel to the nations and I see God using you to stretch forth your hand in the name of Jesus to release mighty miracles, signs, and wonders. I just prophesy destiny over you that God will raise you up to be a soul winner. Hallelujah! You may not have a titled office like Ephesians 4 (pastor, teacher, prophet, evangelist, or apostle) but you are going to be a son. You are going to have an intimacy, a relationship with Father; you are going to be a son (or daughter) of the Most High God.

Did you know you can appropriate prophetic words? You see, when a prophetic word is spoken, when the true breath or *rhema* of God or the anointing of the Holy Spirit is upon a prophetic word; as it is released into the atmosphere if it resonates with your spirit, you can have it. That's how I get most of my prophetic words. I really don't want just any prophet to prophesy over me. There is a responsibility that comes with a legitimate Holy Spirit-inspired prophetic word. (The inference is that some prophetic words are not Holy Spirit inspired-Selah)! I've

got plenty on my plate right now. Sometimes prophetic words are good and needful in your life, but choose to get your direction directly from the Lord and His word first. Read the Bible! Then any prophecy given to you will just confirm what God has laid upon your heart. Let me to encourage you to learn to hear the Lord for yourself. Seek the Lord.



CHAPTER 2

Seeking God

So, receiving Jesus as my Savior launched me into a season where I began to have encounters with the Kingdom. I began to seek God because (hear my heart, I'm not trying to be judgmental) what I was seeing in the church was not pretty. And I thought, "Well, if God, if this Jesus is like these people I see in the church where most of them are unkind, unfriendly, and hypocrites, I don't want to be like that." So I began to pray what I call a dangerous prayer. I just wanted the Lord.

Somebody gave me an old King James Bible. That Bible has been with me all over the world. I love that old Bible. The pages are a little faded now and the leather is worn but the words still ring true! I would read in there about this dude named Saul. I saw that Jesus appeared to Saul on the Damascus Road. (By the way, I was on the Damascus Road yesterday). He was on a horse, and the power

of God came upon him in such a way that a blinding light appeared and knocked him off his high horse. He had to get up picking the gravel out of his teeth. He couldn't see because scales were covering his eyes. They had to lead him by the hand. This guy named Ananias had to come and lay hands on Saul that he might be filled with the Spirit. Hallelujah! (See Acts 9:1-18.)

I prayed,

God, if You are real, that's what I want! I want to be like that dude Saul. I want some dude named Ananias to come and lay hands on me so the scales will fall off of my eyes. I don't want to be a part of this stuff if it is all false. If You are real, I want You to reveal Yourself to me, Jesus.

I began to fast and pray. I prayed that prayer consistently. It's a dangerous prayer. Later on God began to open up the door for me for evangelism in my home city. I was also obedient to the Lord. This is in Acts 1:8 where Jesus says we will be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Some of us haven't fulfilled the destinies in our lives because we haven't done the first things first. One of the first people that God sent me to evangelize was someone in my own house—my mother. When she was eighty-one years old, I led her to Jesus. When Kathy's mother was

ninety-four years old I led her to Jesus as Savior as well. I give Him the glory. But you have to do the first things first. It's wonderful to hear all these powerful testimonies by well-known men of God about some of the amazing supernatural things God does in their lives, but sometimes you need to do the first things first. You need to look at your own heart; you need to look at your own family; you need to do the things the Holy Spirit leads you to do. Jerusalem is your sphere of influence, and you've got to expand your sphere of influence from there. Judea is forty miles further and Samaria is another forty miles beyond that. After you have done those first things, God releases you and sends you out to the ends of the earth. This is a real dynamic in the Kingdom of Christ. He will do it for you!

Jabez

Rules are made to manage the exceptions. But I was obedient. I just kept praying my dangerous prayer. And then I got ahold of this thing called the prayer of Jabez from 1 Chronicles 4:10:

Oh, [Lord,] that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!

God began to tell me to speak or decree this scriptural prayer over my life. (I wrote a little book about that: *31 Word Decrees That Will Revolutionize Your Life*. All of these decrees are in there that you can pray each day.) And what happened is that God began to do it. He began to expand my territory, a little upon a little, just like in Acts 1:8. I was faithful with little things. I was faithful to reach out in my hometown. I didn't have a church that supported me, but I had the word of the Lord.

Marching Orders

I received my word from the Lord on March 13, 2001. These marching orders (pun intended) and supernatural revelation still propel my life and the ministry. It was on March 13, 2001, that the Lord visited me and gave me directions for evangelism in my Jerusalem (hometown). By the grace of God, my brother was allowing me to sleep on his couch. Otherwise I don't know where I would have been. As a new believer I was graced to be able to orchestrate the salvations of 128 young people within 120 days.

I was still suffering from the after effects and the consequences of my sinful lifestyle—a herniated disc in my back, deafness in my ears from playing in rock bands, a blood disease from being a drug addict. I kept reading all these promises from the word of God about how I was

going to prosper and be in health (3 John 1:2), but I wasn't seeing it. So I started getting in God's face.

So, I began to unwittingly push God around (**Pray Until Something Happens**). I said, "Lord, Your word says..." Then the Holy Spirit spoke to me and said, "Begin to remind Me of My promises to you." At the time I didn't even know it was scripture. I later found it in Isaiah 43:26:

*Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together;
State your case, that you may be acquitted.*

And so I was doing all these things, I was seeking God; but I wasn't getting any breakthrough. I was fasting because I saw where Jesus had fasted. I thought, "If it is good enough for Jesus, then it should be good for me too." And I was praying constantly and was reading the word of God night and day. I was seeking the Lord's face. I wanted to know if He was real. I was actively and daily praying my dangerous prayer. I wanted to know the Lord. So the Lord then began to release miraculous things into my life. Grace and favor came upon my life in the form of answered prayers as I worked at this assignment to do the work of an evangelist.

These miraculous events or "normal or natural" miracles involved the Lord's supernatural grace and favor to provide all of the materials and provisions necessary for a Christian music festival as I prayed them in. This was the way the Lord had directed me to reach out to young people

in my city. I call these kinds of God happenings “Jabez miracles,” and they began to manifest by the dozen on a daily and weekly basis. Finally everything that we needed to hold the festival (The Jabez Youth Outreach) was in hand having been supernaturally given to us through our answered prayers of agreement (Matthew 18:19). Psalms 40:2 describes my life during this period:

*He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out
of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock,
And established my steps.*

I had been praying the prayer of Jabez in unity with my friends Tim Coker and Sue Burnopp, my brother, and a few others, asking the Lord to save 120 young people in 120 days. By the way, God did allow us to witness 128 young people pray to receive Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior in just 118 days! Tim and I were able to invite hundreds of youth from all over the East Coast and central states of America to our small local denominational church throughout the course of the summer of 2001. God used the pastor there to preach the Gospel to them, and over the course of several months the goal that the Lord had birthed in my heart was met as I witnessed 128 salvations that summer. I was also graced to lead many people to the Lord as Savior in the streets of my home town (Jerusalem) too.

Mountain of Worship

On the night the last several young people prayed to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior in the church, I left the meeting and drove to the summit of East River Mountain to worship and thank the Lord. It was the same mountain where the sun had emblazoned a crimson red cross upon my eyes and upon my heart (see the story in chapter 4). When I stopped on the top of the mountain and shut the motor off, the power of God and lovely fragrance and presence of the Lord invaded the little beaten up Ford truck. I simple sat there on the mountain in the glory of God weeping freely, relishing, and luxuriating in the presence and goodness of such a faithful God. My life was transformed, and I believe that upon that mountain I was taken from one glory to another level of glory. 2 Corinthians 3:18 expresses how I felt that night quite well:

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Then God began to speak to me; first, through nature. In chapter 4 I will share a testimony about a raven to illustrate the way God spoke to me though nature. Actually, the Lord stills speak to me almost daily through nature.



CHAPTER 3

The Gospels

As I would read the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, something wonderful began to happen. The first time it occurred I had been praying and fasting with zero water for about 96 hours. (Today I realize that medical professionals will advise you that such an undertaking is not wise or healthy.) This is called a “true fast.” I just saw that Jesus fasted and I wanted to do it too, though I really did not know the “correct way to fast.”

I was reading in the book of Luke at about 2 a.m. when this wonderful smell began to envelop me for the first time. It was a fragrance that I had never encountered before. It was a marvelous combination of roses, honey, cinnamon, myrrh, and frankincense. I had no concept of what was happening, but I did realize one thing: I felt absolutely drunk or perhaps totally “stoned” when this heavenly smell would manifest in Ronnie’s (my brother) little living room. I apologize if this language offends you,

but at the time I did not have another language to describe the sensation of God's love and acceptance. I did not know that God can release His presence, which some call His glory, into your life.

I really believe that the enemy of our soul seeks to counterfeit the anointing and love we can feel from the Lord. The enemy would seek to substitute the intoxication that comes from alcohol and drugs for the wonderful infilling of the Holy Spirit and the agape love of the God that comes upon us as we enter into His presence and into His glory. Anyone who has experienced the anointing of the Holy Spirit and the precious presence and unconditional love of the Father will never willingly want the counterfeit (drugs or alcohol) again.

This manifestation of the fragrance of the Lord continued to happen night after night. Almost every time I would begin to read the word of God, this wonderful aroma would invade the room. Several times I actually knocked on my brother's door and asked him to come into the room and enjoy the fragrance. Soon I realized that as I fasted and prayed, during the time that I read the word the wonderful aroma and fragrance of heaven would envelope me. I would get intoxicated and feel a total peace! Some people call this phenomena being "drunk in the Holy Spirit." It was absolutely God! The Lord knew what I needed! It was not until several months later that I found out that every

Christian did not experience this type of phenomena when they fasted, prayed, and read the word! I thought that they were unusual. However, many people began to think that I was growing weird or peculiar.

Attesting Signs

Even to this day as I read the scripture there is often a manifestation of the glory of God and I can smell the fragrances of heaven. It is a beautiful mixture of the fragrances of roses, honey, cinnamon, myrrh, and frankincense. People sometimes call this aspect of Christ's Kingdom the fragrance of the Lord. I just know that it is associated with heaven invading earth. In almost every event that King of Glory Ministries International hosts today I will discern a "rushing" of the "winds of heaven" into the sanctuary or the room and many people will also smell this wonderful fragrance of the Lord. It has happened in my life and in the ministry for nearly twenty years.

Though some may not understand it, I'm confident that the Lord is the one responsible for the manifestation of the beautiful mixture of the fragrances. Scripturally this type of manifestation can be called "attesting signs" or "signs and wonders" (Acts 2:22; Mark 16:17). You may even experience or smell the fragrance of the Lord as you are reading this book. If you do, put the book down and seek

the Lord and rest in His presence. Imbibe the fragrance of the Lord; it is refreshing and life changing!

There are times when the Lord releases His angels into our space to minister to us as we call out to Him with prayer and fasting (Hebrews 1:14; Psalm 103:20). That is what was happening back there in 2001 as I was seeking God while living on my brother's fold out couch. This phenomenon was totally supernatural and totally God! I actually would become distressed if I began to read the Bible and the fragrance of the Lord did not manifest. Then I would determine and purpose in my heart to fast and pray harder, if such a thing were possible.

At first I actually thought the wonderful aroma was coming from the binding of the trusty King James Bible! I would stick my nose into the binding of the Book of Luke and imbibe the fragrance of God! Some nights the smell would float and hover around in the little living room for hours and the warm, fuzzy feeling (the glory of God) would linger on my body as well.

The Prince of Peace

I did not know anything about what some people in the Body of Christ being "drunk in the spirit." I did not have any understanding about any of those "river" and so called "renewal" manifestations. I had never heard of such a thing. I was a brand-new believer! Truly, I am just an ordinary

man from a small backwoods town in the Appalachian Mountains who serves an extraordinary God. I had never heard of these kinds of expressions of the Holy Spirit. I did not know the Holy Spirit. These strange things were totally foreign to me. The only thing that I knew was that it was of God, and I wanted more of Him and His presence. I wanted to experience more of His peace and presence that accompanied this heavenly fragrance. I was desperate for more of Jesus. The whole experience was very refreshing and filled me with supernatural peace and reassurance in the Lord. Remember, I was just coming out a very dark place of hopelessness and addiction. By the grace of God I did not have any withdrawal symptoms and the Lord supernaturally delivered me with His 1-step program. Jesus can do the same for you too.

I began to call out to God during those visitations and times of fasting and late night prayer. Although what I was reading in the Gospels, and those words written in red sounded great, I was still in a place of brokenness. As a result of my sinful lifestyle prior to accepting Jesus as my Savior, there were still consequences that I had to trust the Lord to help me work through. I was in total poverty. I was homeless. I had lost or given up everything I had owned. Although I had a truck, I could not afford to put any gas in it. So I was stuck on the mountain in Ronnie's little house. It was cold, gloomy, and depressing outside. It was

snowing, and this kept me stranded up on the mountain. I was “on the shelf” in the little house with God’s word and an earnest desire to know more about Jesus.

Late one desperate night I prayed a prayer kind of like this: “Jesus, if you are real please show Yourself to me. God, I need a sign if I am going to be able to go on.” That night the fragrance of the Lord invaded my space again. I was reading in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 12; and I fell off to sleep pleasantly intoxicated and enveloped in God’s grace and glory. Luke 12:24 says:

Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds?



CHAPTER 4

A Sign and Wonder

The next morning, just as the sun began to lazily rise over East River Mountain, I awoke with the Bible still lying on across my heart. The old King James Bible was still opened to Luke 12. I had forgotten all about asking God for a sign. A bright light was burning into my eyelids, and my eyes began to water profusely. I could not seem to open my eyes. Suddenly I realized that a shape was being scorched, and imprinted upon my eyelids. I could see a blood red cross emblazoned across my closed eyelids. After several minutes I was able to open my eyes, but the image of the blood red cross was forever fixated upon my mind and permanently etched into the eyes of my heart too. The blood of Jesus! I had a knowing that I needed to know more about it. Today I know that the blood of Jesus is the most powerful thing in the universe!

As the early morning sun had slowly risen over the ice-coated trees on top of East River Mountain and begun to

shine on my brother's the porch, the cross mounted there had formed the pattern I was experiencing on my retinas and upon the eyes of my heart (Ephesians 1:18). The Cross was a brilliant crimson red. What transpired next forever changed my life. It forever cemented my faith in God. He is so real, and the Lord is so near to those who call His upon His name. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! I love You, Lord! I love the name of Jesus!

Suddenly I felt like I was about to die from thirst. I was gripped by a supernatural and unquenchable thirst for some clear, cold water. I was thirsty for the living waters too (Revelation 7:17). I moved the King James Bible from my chest and walked to the kitchen to pour a glass of cold water from the tap. Snow was swirling around the picture window as the bright morning sun began to filter through the early morning mist into the room. As I began to pour the clear cold water into a tall clear glass I heard a sharp, loud sound outside. The back yard was covered with about eight inches of snow. The sunrise made it appear to be glowing and the brilliant fresh white snow was hard to look at. Snow represents forgiveness of sin by the way (Isaiah 1:18).

The sound of "caw, caw, caw" filled my sleepy ears. I looked out the kitchen window through blurry eyes. It took me a few seconds to focus, and then I saw the largest coal black raven I have ever seen. The jet black raven cawed

again, as if to say, “Watch this! You need to pay attention!” This majestic black bird hopped onto a deep drift of snow and pecked its yellow beak into a mound of fresh white snow! To my astonishment, when the raven pulled its head up it had a large ten-inch long worm in its beak! The raven’s wing span must have been over three feet wide. It was immense!

Immediately, the bird looked directly at me and “cawed” three more times: “Caw, caw, caw!” Then it launched into the air, flipped the worm across its back, and began to fly directly at me! I thought, “This beautiful creature is going to crash into the kitchen window!” But at the last second it swished over the roof with that huge worm in tow. As the raven flew over my head, the anointing and presence of the Lord fell upon me like a ton of bricks. I was flabbergasted as the Spirit of God rolled over me in what seemed to be a mighty rushing wind. I fell to my knees and wept uncontrollably for a long time.

Consider the Ravens

Instantly I remembered my pitiful prayer of the previous night: “God, I need a sign!” I had whimpered! Then the scripture and words of Jesus became alive in my spirit: “*Consider the ravens....*” At that moment Luke 12:24 became a rhema word for me, and I had a supernatural knowing that God would provide all of my needs. I only needed to

trust Him. Jesus was well able to keep me from taking any more drugs. This supernatural sign and wonder gave me the strength to keep pressing into God. The Lord gave me a tangible answer to my paltry prayer. It was a feeble and weak mustard seed prayer of one of His children who felt almost defeated. God chose to speak to His desperate child through His wonderful creation of nature.

I have never looked at ravens the same again, and they are now one of my favorite birds. That experience also affirmed beyond a shadow of doubt that God was real and that He was listening to me when I spoke to Him in prayer. Now that I knew unequivocally that Jesus actually cared for me and that He was real. This supernatural experience empowered me, and I began to press into hearing what God was saying to me personally. I began to ask the Lord to speak to me. The Bible tells us that we have not because we ask not (James 4:2). Jesus also said in John 10:27, "*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*" I began to earnestly seek the reality of God and the Kingdom of Heaven all the more by pressing into it with prayer and fasting. I began to radically and diligently seek the Lord. I began to call out to the Lord asking God to make Himself real to me all the more. I wanted God to speak to me again. I asked to be like His friend the way that Moses was described in Exodus 33:11: "*So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.*"

I told the Lord in times of prayer that I wanted to be totally impacted by His power. I prayed my dangerous prayer all the time! I fasted and prayed asking the Lord to visit me like He did that dude Saul in Acts 9. I wanted to “know that I know” that the supernatural things that I was experiencing were really and truly of God! I wanted to be God smacked! I did not realize the magnitude of the prayers I was releasing unto the throne in Heaven. I desperately wanted, and earnestly desired for the Lord to speak to me face-to-face, as a man speaks to his friend!

In the next chapter I will share about how the Lord began to invade my space and start me on a supernatural journey that was activated by my dangerous prayers.



CHAPTER 5

Obedience to the Lord

As I shared in the last chapter, I began to have encounters with the Kingdom of Christ. These things all started on March 13, 2001, when I was sleeping on the couch at my brother's house. As I shared earlier, I woke up to smell this wonderful fragrance I had never smelled before. It was like roses and cinnamon and honey; it was the fragrance of the Lord. And the Lord spoke to me (I believe it was an audible voice) and He gave me direction for evangelism in my home city. There were angels in the room; I knew that, although I didn't see them that night.

When I was obedient to the things the Lord spoke to me that night in His presence and in the glory, I began to see God do amazing things in my life. (You can read about those amazing adventures in detail in the trilogy of my books *Unlocking the Hidden Mysteries of the Seer Anointing* and the *Visitations of Angels & Other Supernatural*

Experiences series.) God began to supernaturally open up doors for me. This dynamic accelerated after I had been faithful to reach out to the young people in my city. By the grace of God we saw 128 young people around or under the age of eighteen pray to receive Jesus Christ as Savior in less than 120 days.

So during that assignment during that season, everything I prayed for seemed to happen almost instantaneously. It was amazing! You know, there is still grace on my prayer life; I give God glory for that. This book and this message was birthed through prayers; birthed through intercession; birthed through the word of the Lord. I thank God for that too. God wants you to pray effectively. Part of that is to understand, to hear, and to see what's happening in heavenly places and decree it—not upon earth up to heaven but decree it from heaven down upon the earth. There is an example of this kind of prayer in this next section.

Newfoundland

So when God began to speak to me, one of the things He told me to do was to go to Newfoundland. By now it was November, and in Newfoundland it is incredibly colder than where I lived at that time.

I had been getting persecuted in the church because I had been leading people to Jesus in the streets and in the

local hospital. In fact, I would have visions in my prayer room, and I would see things, like a hospital room. And the Lord would speak to me in a vision and I would see the door number, like 316. I would ask, "Lord, what's that?" He would say, "That's a hospital room," and He would name the hospital. Then I would have another vision, such as a woman lying in bed with a broken leg with four women around the bed. He would say, "If you will go there and pray for them, I will miraculously heal her leg and all five will be saved." So I would go to the hospital, would go to the door that had 316 on it. I would open it up, and there would be the woman with the broken leg. I would pray for her, she would be miraculously healed, and all five women would receive Christ as Savior and start bursting out crying. I would just turn around and walk out praising God quietly to myself.

You see, God began to teach me line upon line, precept upon precept about the seer operation. I didn't know what it was. The church was upset with me because I was going out on the street and leading people to Jesus. I was going into the hospital and praying and people were being healed and saved. I did not understand this dynamic. I found the church's response unsettling, and honestly it seemed a bit hypocritical. That was the main reason that I has started to pray my dangerous prayer, you see.

All That Stuff

I was actually called into the pastor's office where he told me to stop. He rebuked me saying, "You have no right to lead people Jesus. You haven't been trained and equipped yet. I want you to stay here and help us here around the church—change light bulbs, clean the toilets, paint the building." You know what? I did those things. I painted the building, I changed light bulbs; I did all that stuff. (I would like to state emphatically that it is a glorious thing to volunteer and serve a church or a ministry in this way. God blesses those who do these things.)

But I would also just go out and do the evangelism and just not tell them after that. The pastor suggested that I would get in trouble because the police would find me at the hospital and stop me from praying for people because I was not an ordained minister. He told me that it was illegal for me to pray for people in the hospital because I was not an ordained minister. That was news to me because I just was doing what I was seeing in the visions, and I never seemed to have any problems. In fact, the people who I ministered to were all very grateful to be healed and saved. It was true that I was not an ordained minister back in 2001. Please hear my heart: that pastor is a man of God and I appreciate him. He is a good preacher of the word. But he did not understand what God was doing in

my life. His denominational mindset had no grid of comprehension for the goodness of God that was manifesting in my life.

I want to prophesy to you:

God is going to begin to send some suddenlies into your lives and into your ministries. And they are not going to look like what you think they should look like. Some of them are going to be strange. But God might anoint them with the gift of grace and with the power of God so that if you allow them and make room for them to minister, the Kingdom of God can come and revival can break out in your church and your sphere of influence. They may not fit within your denominational ideas and precepts of how God can work in the lives of new believers. The Lord will do a new thing at this hour.

I believe all of this was part of a training period for me, part of a process that God wanted me to walk through so I would see these things. Sometimes I have discovered that God can teach you things “not to do” through your difficult experiences. So after being used by the Lord to orchestrate all of those salvations of the young people and seeing amazing answers to my prayers, I entered into a season of dryness in my spiritual life. I wasn’t having visions; I

wasn't hearing the voice of the Lord. It was terrible! It lasted about a week. I had been having amazing supernatural encounters with the King and His Kingdom. I was seeing the power of God and signs and wonders follow me around like a puppy dog. But then all of these supernatural manifestations of God's Kingdom just stopped. The supernatural suddenly evaporated in my life. Attending my denominational church seemed as dry and stale as a two year old saltine or a walk in the Mojave Desert in August. I was just so grieved. I'm thinking, "Oh, my God! What mortal sin have I committed?" The reality is that I hadn't sinned at all. God was just trying to get my attention. He was playing hide and seek with me.

The Bully Pulpit

After about seven days I had an encounter with the Holy Spirit in my prayer room. I was on a true fast again when the Lord spoke to me very clearly and said, "I want you to go to Newfoundland, Canada." There was a problem however. I had already made my own selfish plans. My plans stemmed from my soul. Perhaps because of what was happening to me in the church. Have you ever been preached at from the pulpit? Some people call it the bully pulpit. I was getting slammed by the pastor all the time (well, it seemed that way to me—and to others too). I'm just saying. I was volunteering as the sound technician in the church; it's a

tough job. Everybody wants to tell you what to do. So, I had already purposed in my heart that I was going to go to the Virgin Islands; just me and Jesus! That was it—St. John, Cinnamon Bay, just me and Jesus snorkeling with the tropical fish. It was going to be glorious. I'd already planned it; I had decided I would go in November when it was really cold and my painting business was shut down.

Then the Lord finally speaks to me and says, "I want you to go to St. John's." I said, "Hallelujah!" I was thinking that God was finally getting on track with me! Then the Lord says, "Newfoundland, Canada." I thought, "That's the devil! That is the devil, because I am going to St. John in the Virgin Islands and snorkel." You see, I love to snorkel. It's one of my hobbies.

Now bear in mind that I am coming out of drug addiction, darkness, and a place of utter hopelessness. Let me just take a moment to give God glory by testifying that over the course of time God healed my deaf ears, God healed my herniated disc, God healed my blood disease. I knew that He was real. Jesus is the Healer! But now the Lord was telling me to go to St. John's in Newfoundland, Canada, *in November*. I checked and the temperature in Newfoundland is like 40 below zero there in November. On the other hand the temperature at Cinnamon Bay on St. John is like 92 degrees in November. I was sure that someone had their "St. Johns" mixed up. I was convinced

it was the devil telling me to travel to Newfoundland in November! In the next chapter I will share how the plot thickened in this upcoming supernatural adventure!



CHAPTER 6

A New Found Land

I felt things were getting a little out of hand! So, I decided one day I would go visit my mother. I went to see her and found her watching television—it was a special on Newfoundland, Canada, from National Geographic! A couple of days later I got a postcard from Newfoundland, Canada. It seemed that the Lord was speaking to me about Newfoundland, but I did not want to hear what He had to say! A few days later the only person I knew in Newfoundland, Canada, called me and prophesied to me: “The Spirit of the Lord told me to call you and say: “Thus saith the Lord, “Cometh unto Newfoundland.” They were that kind of prophet, you know, who prophesies in the old King James language. I learned that there was a series of revival meetings scheduled for a small city in Newfoundland and this prophetic person is telling me in a *“thus saith the Lord*

cometh to Newfoundlandeth". (This is just a little humor here – [very little]).

By the way, this prophetic Newfoundlander had no idea of what the Holy Spirit had told me. They did not know about my inner struggle about the wrong St. Johns. I had my mind made up. I was on the way to the Caribbean. I was asking the Lord to help me to book my tickets to St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands for a November snorkeling trip with Jesus. Surely the Lord was going to confirm that! The Lord had been answering my prayers like crazy! Come on! I'm still like, "Oh, this is the devil! I'm going to St. John in the Virgin Islands." Again, this is a teachable moment because it is a demonstration of how God can speak to you in different ways.

After a while I decided I was really going to get to the bottom of the situation. I got to my prayer room. I didn't have any money, so I was fasting. (I had given all my money away to the poor. If you want a breakthrough in your life, give all your money to the poor.) All I had in the house was ramen noodles and Kool-Aid, so I think that's one reason I was fasting. But I decided, "Boy, I'm going to get to bottom of this. I'm going to fast; I'm going to get into my prayer closet."

My prayer closet was my bathroom in my little rundown house in a crack neighborhood. I finally got a place of my own to live; it was in this crack neighborhood where they

were shooting off guns and stuff while I'm in there having heavenly encounters with Jesus. It was a little bitty place with this dingy golden carpet I had put down on the bathroom floor. I'd get in there with my head up against the toilet and my feet against the door and I would, whoosh, go up into the heavenly places and see visions. Then I just did those things that I saw in the heavenly places on earth. God released amazing miracles when I operated this way as a new believer.

Your Destiny in Him

Teachable moment: It doesn't matter where you are, God will meet you. And, as we find an example of this in Genesis 28:11, 12, often it is when you are between a rock and a hard spot where you will find God and where He pours out His blessings upon you.

Now I am determined to get to the bottom of this issue about which St. John I was supposed to travel to. So I get back into the prayer room and say, "OK, God, I'm not coming up to heaven. You are telling me to go to Newfoundland. I want to go to the Virgin Islands." I have this debate with God for about three days. I was not eating or drinking anything. As I said, back then I didn't know it wasn't wise to not drink when you were fasting. (I do not recommend this for you, by the way; but you see, I was desperate for the word of the Lord.) I would only do "true" fasts, and

I still fast even this day, though I use wisdom gained throughout the years. I was fasting and I had an encounter with God. The Lord said, “I want you to go to Newfoundland. It’s important that you go. I’m going to open it up for you to go to Newfoundland. And if you will go, I will open other doors for you that will lead to your destiny in Me.” The Lord gave me a choice!

I thought, “Well, how do you like that?” I began giving the Lord excuses why I couldn’t do what He wanted me to do. That is called disobedience, by the way. When you are trying to press into this dynamic with God—the seer realms and hearing and seeing what the Lord is saying to you—sometimes God will tell you to do some strange stuff. If you don’t believe me, read the Book of Ezekiel. So I’m giving God all the excuses I could: “It’s cold. We are going to go snorkeling in Cinnamon Bay, remember? You’ve got the wrong St. John. Your gyroscope is off Lord....”

Listen, God’s gyroscope is never off. God will take you to a specific place at a specific time where the heavens will open over you and He will rain down a blessing into your life. That’s Deuteronomy 28:12. It is an important scripture. God can take you to a place where the heavens are open to bless you. Jacob came to such a place where the windows of heaven were open and he saw God’s angels. He called that place a Mahanaim. We see that in Genesis 32:2: “*When Jacob saw them, he said, ‘This is God’s camp.’*”

And he called the name of that place Mahanaim.” Perhaps this little book can become your Mahanaim. We see this Kingdom dynamic of open heavens again in the Book of Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 28:12 says,

The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

You need to get the heavens opened up over your life. When the heavens open up over your life, the blessings of God will rain out upon you. God will bless the work of your hands. Have you ever known anybody that just everything they touch multiplies and prospers? That is evidence that the blessing of God is upon them. I know a few people like that. I want to tell you that anointing can be imparted. Read about this guy named Joseph in the Bible. God can bless you when you are geographically obedient.

I now believe that the Lord was orchestrating my steps and leading me to Newfoundland because He knew that the heavens would open over my life there and He would bless me in that specific geographic region. The key to accessing the open heavens is to be in the right place at the right time.

So, through this ongoing series of events and confirmations to go to Newfoundland I'm having this conversation with God. So I say, "OK, God, there's no way I can go to Newfoundland. I can't afford an airline ticket to Newfoundland." It just so happened that these events happened right during the 9/11 crisis. As a result the prices on airline tickets had plummeted on many flights. *"All things work together for good to those who love God, and are called according to His purposes"* (Romans 8:28). I said, "Lord, I don't have enough money for an airline ticket." He replied, "Check your bank account." I checked my bank account and I had \$212.12. The tickets were \$211. You see, sometimes God gives you just what you need and you must step out in faith. If we take that step of faith, He releases the miracle. God supernaturally sustains us when we take a step of faith.

So, I ended up going to Newfoundland, Canada. I am attending these revival meetings that the prophetic person spoke to me about way back when. I am in this small church in Springdale, Newfoundland, Canada, on November 24, 2001. God was leading my steps. The Holy Spirit was instructing me to complete a series of prophetic acts in Canada. That seemed really weird to me, but I soon realized that the Lord had a purpose for these prophetic actions. As a result of my obedience, the Lord began to

open or activate my spiritual vision. I began to see into the spiritual dimensions of the heavenly places.

One of the things I saw was a swirl in the ceiling of the church about the size of a toonie (a toonie is a two dollar Canadian coin). I also witnessed this supernatural stream of golden oil that began to pour out onto the carpet in the sanctuary of Living Waters Ministries. I'm looking at this supernatural stream of golden oil raining down during the intercessory prayer meeting. I close my eyes, shake my eyes, open my eyes, and look—and it's still there. I think, "Wow! That was very unusual. Maybe they've got a leak in the ceiling of the building or something." The Holy Spirit quickens me: "No, I'm opening up your spiritual eyes." At that time I was not too sure of what that meant.

The Dangerous Prayer

Remember, I had been praying for the Lord to visit me like that dude Saul. I had been praying for God to allow me to see His angels in the natural, in the terrestrial realm. So the Holy Spirit quickens me and I go over right to the spot where this golden oil is coming out. I get down on my knees, and this supernatural stream of golden oil hits me. It began pouring off of me, and the glory of God fell upon me. I went out in the spirit, and I went out in the visions of God.

That night at the service God opened up my spiritual eyes to an even greater degree and I began to see angels everywhere. I saw one particularly large angel. Over the course of the next four days, I saw that vortex (where the toonie-sized opening started) getting larger and larger and larger. After a couple of days the portal or opening into the heavenly realms eventually grew to become about forty to fifty feet in diameter. And I saw God's angels all around the circumference of the vortex. They were worshipping with the saints below. Isn't that amazing? I could see them with my natural eyes and I could also hear them with my natural ears!

I'm not making this up. This really happened. This is what you would call an open-eyed vision. I had an open vision of the Kingdom of Heaven. So I watched these heavenly beings (God's angels) appear over the course of four days. I was seeing the angels of the Lord in the service. I was experiencing open eyed visions of God's angels. I was hearing angels of the Lord as they joined and worshiped with the ministry team. I was seeing angels' feathers floating all around people in the sanctuary (other people in the church were also seeing and hearing these supernatural things too). What transpired next forever changed my life and launched me into international ministry.



CHAPTER 7

It Does Not Get Any Better Than This

On Sunday morning, after these revival meetings, I was attending the church. Sure felt good to be free to worship and not have to duck during the sermon. There was a young man named Dean who was undone, having been greatly touched by the power of the Holy Spirit. The pastor called him forward to give his testimony because he had seen Jesus Christ enter into one of the revival services. But Dean was just weeping and couldn't speak and just fell out under the power of God. But Sunday night the pastor, Dave Mercer, called Dean up again hoping that he would share his testimony.

I am prostrate on the floor under the power of God—some would say slain in the spirit—when Dean started to speak. Dean is standing at the middle of the altar area. I was under such a heavy, weighty glory that I could not

move. I was lying to the right of the altar. I could not move my fingers, I could not move my arms, and I could not move my head. I could hear and I could see and I could move my eyes a little bit, but that was about it. I was watching this vortex where these angels were just looking down into the church. Some of the angels were actually laughing at me. The angels seemed to be goofing around at the edge of the portal. They were pointing at me and laughing at me and they were talking to one another saying, "Look at that one!" You see, angels don't think the way we do and they find humans (the creature) very humorous at times with our charismatic activities. The angels were making fun of me; and they were having fun at my expense. I think they knew that I could see and discern them, but that I could not move. The angels thought that my predicament was hilarious!

I was thinking, "It doesn't get any better than this. The Lord has opened my eyes to see the angels." This was one of the things I had been asking the Lord to do for me. I wanted to see and discern His angelic hosts. There were angels all around. A section of the circle (the open heaven or portal) cleared and the larger angel that I had seen standing behind the worship team early on during the revival meetings stepped up. He was about nine feet tall with long blond hair. When he did, the power and the glory of God increased. I thought, "It doesn't get any better than

this.” It seemed that waves of God’s presence and His glory were pouring out of the open heaven like drops of rain. The angel made a quick gesture with his right hand. Then he said something in a language I could not understand. All of the angels around the portal or open heaven moved and made an open space about ten feet wide. Nothing was in that area of the open heaven. I thought to myself, “It doesn’t get any better than this.”

Manna, Diamonds, Rubies, and Pearls

Then I saw Jesus Christ step up to that vacant spot and look down into the church service. Jesus looked at the young man Dean who was giving his testimony and a great smile creased His Face. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. As the Lord Jesus held His hands out, manna, diamonds, rubies, and pearls rained down into the sanctuary. And I heard them hit the carpet and bounce around; and yes, I looked for them later when I could finally move. And I thought, “It doesn’t get any better than this.”

All of a sudden Jesus took a step forward and down with His left foot and He descended into the meeting. He walked up behind Dean and He put His hands on Dean’s shoulders as the young man was trying to give his testimony. Dean just continued to weep, but he managed to share his testimony. The Lord was so happy; He was like a proud father. Jesus began to look from right to left. I watched as

the Son of God, the risen Savior, the Messiah, Jesus Christ of Nazareth looked into the heart of every individual in the church. Somehow I knew that He was trying their hearts. I thought, "It doesn't get any better than this." Jesus took His time as He looked into every person's heart in the church that day. I have often wondered if we might act a little differently if we knew or understood just how Jesus looks into our hearts at church. That evening as I was watching this supernatural spectacle unfold, I thought once more, "Gee, I wonder what Jesus is doing?" Somehow I knew that He was trying the people's hearts; He was discerning where they were in their relationship and walk with Him. He was seeing and discerning their need, He was looking at them through eyes of love. I thought once more, "It doesn't get any better than this!"

Being Transformed

The glory of God that was rolling off of Jesus at that moment was incredible. Wave after wave of God's love, wave after wave of God's glory were rolling upon and over my body like billows as I lay upon the church floor (Psalm 42:7). I watched as Jesus looked at every single person in the church; His eyes lingering upon every soul. Every time when He would look at one of His children, He would smile and the glory of God would grow more intense. And I

said, "Oh, it doesn't get any better than this. He's answered my prayer."

Then the Lord turned and He looked at me directly and smiled. The glory of God just enfolded me. And then something supernatural happened within me. I realized I was going through deliverance and cleansing. I was being set free and being transformed as I lay there in the presence and glory of the Lord. And then Jesus started walking towards me as He gazed into my heart. I thought, "Boy, it doesn't get any better than this." Then the Lord walked straight across in front of the altar from left to right. Jesus was looking in my eyes, and He stopped and stood over me. I saw the Son of God look deeply into my eyes. The eyes of Jesus Christ are so beautiful! They are like two pools of living water. He has such a love for every tongue, every tribe, every nation that it cannot be articulated with human language. I was staring into the eyes of the Messiah, and all I could discern was His love. Billows and waves of His love flowed from Him effortlessly and God's love rolled across me, changing me. The Lord leaned over me and His shining eyes were now only a couple of feet from my eyes.

I knew that I was being transformed. I was unable to more or even speak, but I could think. I thought, "It doesn't get any better than this." And then Jesus leaned down a little closer and He looked at me very closely and smiled. Even though I was under such a powerful and weighty glory, my

senses were operating at a level I had never experienced. Something was happening to my discernment. From that moment forward my discernment was no longer based upon the natural realm but it was spiritual in nature (1 Corinthians 2:14). Jesus changed my mind. I watched as the Lord Jesus purposefully placed His hands down and I saw the scars on His hands—the nail scars are still there. Somehow I understood that He wanted me to raise my left hand. It was very hard but somehow I managed to lift my left hand into the air.



CHAPTER 8

Suspended Between Heaven and Earth

Jesus took my hand in His hands and He blew upon my left hand. When He did, the power and the glory of God washed over me in a level I have never experienced. I felt the sensation of oil rolling down my arm. I could smell its fragrance. I realized that it was the same heavenly fragrance that I had discerned in my brother's little living room. It was the fragrance of the Lord. Jesus stood over me for the next two or three minutes. I'm not really sure-it may have been much longer, because time as I understood it seemed to be suspended. I really don't know how long it was. I was just lying there, undone, as I gazed into the eyes of the Messiah and I was being totally transformed. Hallelujah! I could have asked Him something. I could have asked Him anything, but I just couldn't speak; I couldn't

move at all. The only thing that mattered to me in that segment of eternity was to behold the Lamb of God.

Then the Lord spoke to me, saying (Matthew 28:18-20),

All authority has been given to Me in heaven and upon earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

After He spoke these words to me He just lingered over me for a moment as if allowing His words to sink in. As I gazed into the Lord's eyes, it seemed that His words were piercing and enduing my entire spirit, soul, and body with heavenly power. I was being transformed. I was being delivered and healed. The power of God was incredible, and I just rested in the glory of the Lord. The Lord's words pierced every fiber of my being (see Hebrews 4:12).

Then the Lord spoke to me a second time, saying (Jeremiah 29:11-13),

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you...thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to

you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Again, the words of the Lord pierced my very being and something supernatural was implanted within my heart. It was a supernatural faith. It was a knowing and acceptance of God's unmitigated and unshakable love for me. As Jesus continued to linger over me looking into my eyes, I had an epiphany. Jesus had actually answered my dangerous prayer! I felt the warm tears of joy as they cascaded over my cheeks, rolling down my neck and into the collar of my red flannel shirt.

I thought; "It does not get any better than this." From that moment on something changed in my life. I write this today as a witness. If you do not believe anything that I have written in this little book, believe this: Jesus Christ is not dead. He has risen. He is alive. Jesus is the Son of God, and He loves you with an everlasting love. The scripture is true when it promises you in Romans 10:11-13:

For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

I lay there for several hours unable to move after this encounter with the risen Savior. The Lord has instructed me to share my testimony. That is why I have written this little book. Jesus said that He would be with me to the ends of the earth. By His grace, as of this writing I have traveled to thirty-three nations preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom and teaching the things that He commanded. By His grace, as of this writing I have been privileged to lead tens of thousands to the Lord as Savior. There have been several times that Jesus has appeared to me again; first in America, then in Africa, in the Middle East (Jerusalem), India, South America, and Singapore as well. Yes, Jesus Christ is not dead. He has risen. He is alive. Jesus is the Son of God, and He loves you with an everlasting love. Jesus still visits His friends today when you search for Him with all your heart.



CHAPTER 9

Moose and Gooseberries

The Lord continued to smile at me for several moments like a proud father would smile over his newborn son. Then after a few moments the Lord turned and slowly He walked back over and placed His hands upon the young man Dean's shoulders. Jesus looked once more around the sanctuary of the church. He had looked into the hearts of every person in the service that evening. Then He simply ascended back into the heavenly places through the portal or open heavens. I was totally undone. I lay there and watched as the angels rejoiced in the testimony of Jesus that Dean had shared. Now the angels were very animated and were pointing down into the service at various people.

Several of the angels began to point down at me from their lofty place around the portal and laugh all the more. Again, I believe that they understood that I could see them but, I could not move my body from the carpet at the foot

of the altar. Maybe this was the source of the angel's laughter. Honestly I am not sure, but I was glued to the floor for the remainder of the service.

The scripture teaches in John 1:50 -51, as Jesus said,

"You will see greater things than these." And He said..., "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

And there is also a powerful promise found in Acts 1:10-11:

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Moose and Gooseberries

Perhaps these scriptures illustrate this experience to a degree. Jesus had descended or come down in a like manner. As the evening service concluded, the church was gathering in the fellowship hall for a dinner. It was going to be amazing. They had promised me that they were having moose and gooseberry pie. I had never eaten neither

moose or gooseberries before, and I had been looking forward to the feast since before the service. However, now I was not in the least bit interested in either moose or gooseberries. In fact, I was not hungry for earthly food at all. I was hungry for more of Jesus!

I lay on the carpet as the service was winding up, and a couple of the elders came over to me and encouraged me to get up for the fellowship time and food. I was unable to speak or move my lips. In fact, I was still glued to the carpet. So the three men tried to pick me up. But try as they might Boyd and his friends could not budge me off of the floor, as I seemed to be supernaturally heavy. So they decided that they would just allow me to rest there while they went to eat moose and gooseberries. I rested there in the glory as the tears continued to stream from my eyes pooling behind my neck. As I lay there I thought about the words the Lord had spoken over me and into my life. I knew that I had to share the testimony with the whole world, but how could that happen? I was poor. I was untrained. I was the least likely. But then I realized that that was exactly the kind of people that I have read about in the scripture.

In 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 is a great illustration of this Kingdom principle:

But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has

chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.

My Dangerous Prayer

So I rested there in the lingering glory pondering these things in my heart. At least two hours passed, and I was still not able to move. I started to wonder if I would ever be able to move again. Actually, in my heart, it did not matter because the Lord had answered my dangerous prayer. I had sought Jesus with all of my heart, and the Lord had allowed me to find Him. As I rested there I began to thank God that I had not gone to St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands. That would have been the wrong St. John! I was in the right place at the right time, and the Lord had opened the heavens over my life. In fact, the heavens are still open over my life, and for that I give God all of the glory.

As the fellowship dinner was finishing up, a couple of people from the church came and told me that I would need to get up as they needed to lock up. They also said that they had saved me some moose and gooseberry pie. I still could not move, but they insisted and helped me to get to my feet. I was not able to speak at this point. And

walking was a challenge. So they helped me (carried me) to one of the elder's apartments near the church, and there they plopped me on the couch. They propped me up in the corner and went about their business with more fellowshipping. They were speaking of the amazing miracles that God had done in the services—creative miracles, healings, and more. They were speaking animatedly about how everyone had heard the angels singing with the worship team. They were all excited and rightly so!

Glowing

Suddenly a young woman named Jennifer walked by me and glanced at me. I was still not able to move or speak, but I saw her eyes get really wide. She screamed, "Kevin, you're glowing!" Well, I am not sure that I was glowing, but that is what she said. Others came and began to stare at me too! That statement made me feel very weird and peculiar, sort of like a supernatural light bulb. They asked me what had happened. At this point I had not spoken a word in about four or five hours (which was the whole time I was glued to the floor). So now I opened my mouth to speak and something strange happened. As I started to talk I was speaking in a new language. I was speaking in tongues. So every time they would ask me a question, I would answer in a heavenly language. I suppose that I was baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking

in other tongues as the Lord Jesus had stood over me (Acts 2:4). There was no doubt in my mind that this language was real and that it was from the Lord!

That night I dreamed about walking with Jesus and speaking to the Lord again in heaven. I awoke in Springdale, Newfoundland, Canada, the next day praying in other tongues. I decided to go for a walk in the cool of the day. After that night, November 25, 2001, I experienced a total transformation in my life. It was actually birthed on February 25, 2001. That was the day that I fell down at the altar and gave my life to the Lord. That is when He started to move in my life. Jesus took me from poverty to prosperity. I promise you that if you choose to serve the Lord, He can transform your dimes into dollars and release supernatural grace, favor, and blessings into your life too. The Lord can take you from sickness to health. He can take you from hopelessness to hope. Jesus can transform your life too. It does not matter what circumstances you are facing.

When the Lord appeared to me that cold night in Canada, I thought; "It does not get any better than this." And as I have said, from that moment on something changed in my life. My life changed, I changed in a moment and in the twinkle of an eye. I write this little book as a witness to you, the reader. Again, if you do not believe anything that I have written in this little book; believe this: Jesus Christ is not dead. He has risen. He is alive. Jesus is the Son of God,

and He loves you with an everlasting love. He has a future and a hope for your life too. He loves you just the way you are right now. He loves you exactly where you are right now. You do not need to “clean yourself up” to receive the Lord. He took me just as nasty and sinful as I could be, and He will take you just like you are right now.

God promised to you that (Romans 10:11-12)

Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

If you want to receive the Lord’s free gift of salvation, just pray the prayer of salvation found in the prayer index in the back of this book right now.



Epilog

Nearly two decades have passed since that night on November 25, 2001. The Lord has been true to His word. Jesus has taken me from hopelessness to hope. He has taken me from poverty to prosperity. The Lord has taken me from sickness to health. Jesus has literally transformed my life and changed me supernaturally into a new creation as 2 Corinthians 5:17 promises:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This supernatural transformation did not happen overnight, but it happened astonishing quickly when I submitted my life to His will for my life. I have never regretted a second of my life with the Lord. The Lord removed my debt in just a handful of months. It seemed that the Lord really did turn my dimes into dollars. I was faithful to tithe on all of my income. I also learned to give alms and to help the

poor, especially widows and orphans. Today through King of Glory Ministries International we help to feed and care for the poor, widows and orphans in four nations every single day. Helping the less fortunate seemed to accelerate the restoration and transformation in my life. Perhaps this is something that you should pray about too.

Jesus had told me, *“I am with you always”* (Matthew 28:20). He has been. He is truly a friend who will stick closer than a brother. When you choose to live for the Lord, He will stay close to you too. The scripture teaches us in the Book of Hebrews 11:6:

Without faith it is impossible to please Him [God], for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

I purposed to seek the Lord. Then I learned to know Him through the study of His word. I asked the Lord to draw near to me as I fasted and prayed. He rewarded me. He will reward you too when you are diligent to seek Him.

The Lord can transform your life. It does not matter where you are right now. It does not matter what you are struggling with. You cannot make yourself any more “ready” to receive God’s love. It is impossible to “clean yourself up” and prepare yourself to meet the Lord. Today

is the day of salvation because there is no guarantee of a tomorrow.

I have introduced you to an amazing person; a friend who loves you. I am just a nobody seeking to tell everybody about somebody who can save an anybody (whosoever). Scripture is clear that “*whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved*” (Acts 2:21). This little book is all about my friend Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Jesus transformed my life, and Jesus can transform your life too. He will be a friend who sticks closer to you than a brother. The testimony of Jesus *is* **the spirit of prophecy**.

Jesus loves you at all times. He is with you right now in your life and circumstances.

When you open your heart to Jesus as your Savior, the Lord will start to work miracles in your life right now. He will begin to work miracles in the life of your friends and family too. I encourage you to just purpose in your heart to seek the Lord with all of your heart. Prepare for the greatest miracle of all as you pray to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior. Prepare for the Holy Spirit to fill you and to guide you in your everyday life. Prepare to become a new creation in Him.



Prayer Index

Prayer of Salvation

Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God. I believe that You died upon the Cross of Calvary to make payment or atonement for my sins. Lord, because I am a human being I have sins; today, Jesus, I ask You to forgive my sins. I choose to turn away from my sins now and I repent. I confess my sins to You now, Jesus. I am calling upon the name of the Lord. Save me now, Jesus. Lord, I choose to live for You for the rest of my life.

Jesus, I believe that You were crucified of the Cross of Calvary. I believe that You shed Your blood for me to pay for my sins. Lord Jesus, I believe that You were buried in that unused


grave, and I believe that after three days You rose up from the dead. Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God and the Savior of the world. I confess this out loud right now, and I ask You to save me now, Jesus. Send Your Holy Spirit to guide me and to lead me as I learn to walk closer to You, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Dangerous Prayer

Lord, if You are real, then I want to see You. I want to experience Your love and glory first hand. Lord, I want to be like that guy called Saul in Acts 9. Yes, Lord, let a light from heaven shine upon me! Jesus, come and speak to me Face-to-face, like a man does to a friend. Jesus, if You are real, then I want You to come and visit me. I want to be knocked off of my high horse. I want You to appear to me like You appeared to that dude Saul. Show me a light from heaven! Reveal Yourself to me, Jesus. Let me be knocked off of my high horse! Let me have to get up from the road picking gravel from between my teeth. Lord, anoint and empower some guy like Ananias to come and lay his hands upon me that I might may receive my sight and have my spiritual vision activated! O Lord, that I might be filled with the fullness of Your Holy Spirit. Open my eyes to see You, Lord Jesus. Open my ears to hear You speak to me, my God! Help me to see and hear in a new and supernatural way. In Jesus name I pray. Amen!

Prayer of Expansion

Oh, Lord, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me today. Father, I ask that that You would keep me from evil, that I might not cause any pain! Father, I am asking that You would place Your mighty right hand upon my life. Lord God, I ask that You would bless me indeed today as You know what I have need of even before I ask. Lord, I ask that You expand my sphere of influence that I might share the Good News and the Gospel of Jesus with someone who needs to hear of Your goodness and mercy today. Lord, protect me and keep me from evil. Lord, help me and keep me from causing anyone any harm or pain by my words or actions today. Lord, I love You and I thank You right now for expanding my life in Christ today. In Jesus mighty name I pray. Amen!



Contact the Author

Kevin and Kathy would love to hear your testimonies for possible use in future publications. To submit testimonies contact them by e-mail at info@kingofgloryministries.org.

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About King of Glory Ministries International


King of Glory Ministries International is all about the commission of Jesus Christ. The words of Isaiah 61:1-3 can be used to concisely summarize the call of the ministry: Verse 1 reads:

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

We have sought to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom to the lost in many nations. As of this writing we have visited over thirty-three nations and five continents to proclaim the truth of Christ's total salvation and healing message—or the Gospel of the Kingdom that Jesus instructed His disciples to proclaim. (See Matthew 4:23, 9:35, 24:14.) We have preached to hundreds of thousands of people and seen tens of thousands make the decision to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We continue to minister in large outreaches as opportunity allows and as the Spirit leads. Kevin and Kathy also minister in churches, King of Glory International Schools, and conference meetings in various nations. We send the Gospel to over forty nations every month through our digital mentoring outreach: The Moravian Falls School of Higher Learning with over 300 hours of free teaching online, **www.moravianfallsschoolof-higherlearning.org**.

The other critical calling of King of Glory Ministries International is to minister the love of the Father to widows and orphans. This humanitarian aspect of our call can be defined in the scriptures of James 1:27 and Psalm 68:5. James 1:27 tells us this: *"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."* God has birthed in Kevin and Kathy a heart to minister in deed and not word alone. We also see this aspect of the

Father's heart in Psalm 68:5: "*A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation.*" (See the Orphanage Tab on our web page <http://www.kingofglory-ministries.org> for more information about this important aspect of King of Glory Ministries International.)



About the Author

Kevin and Kathy Basconi are ordinary people who love an extraordinary God. They co-founded King of Glory Ministries International. They have a heart to share the Gospel with the poor and the Love of the Father to widows and orphans. They have visited thirty-three nations preaching the Gospel and demonstrating the Kingdom of God in churches, conferences, and crusade meetings. The ministry is punctuated by many miracles, healings, and signs and wonders that confirm the word of God. They live in the mountains where they pursue a lifestyle of intimacy with Jesus. Kevin is an internationally published author and award winning artist. He the author of several books, including the trilogy *Unlocking the Hidden Mysteries of the Seer Anointing books 1, 2, and 3* and *The Sword of the Lord*. Kevin's bestselling books, *Visitations of Angels and Other Supernatural Experiences Volumes 1, 2, 3, and, 4*, are available through King of Glory Ministries International. Kevin has been graced by God to see into the spiritual realm for over a decade and often sees and discerns angelic activity.

Kevin is called to equip the Body of Christ to operate in the “seer anointing” and to help people understand how to enter into the presence and glory of God. You can find more information about Kevin and Kathy at **www.kingof-gloryministries.org**.

Kevin is an ordained minister accredited with World Ministry Fellowship of Plano, Texas. King of Glory Ministries International is also connected to the apostolic leadership of Pastor Alan and Carol Koch of Christ Triumphant Church located In Lee’s Summit, Missouri.



Other Books by Kevin Basconi

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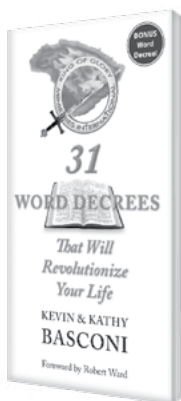


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