

Joy Cometh in the Morning

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Date: 07 February 2003

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[0 : 00] Amen. Do you know why I'm a crab fan? I've been to a lot of singers and I've never saw the singers or the preacher give the money to somebody in the congregation.

Let's just stand up and let's praise God. You don't know, but we're in the midst of a mighty God and we're expecting miracles here tonight. Amen? Don't get ready to go. Don't get ready to leave too soon. God's got something for you. I promise you He does.

Praise God. Here's what it's all about.

What I've heard them say To do things right That one must take their time That in a hurried pace There is often waste No sense of reason or rhyme But when I think Of my new life And my brand new home You know the first thing that comes to mind Is my time at His throne When it's my time I'm gonna take my time To behold His face Don't you wanna sing?

When it's my time I'm gonna take my time To talk of His amazing grace I'm gonna thank Him for For the love that He bore And not leaving me alone When it's my time I'm gonna take my time At His throne At His throne Oh, there's gonna be some shouting Goin' on over there Imagine millions Upon millions Lord, I can see them Standing in line They're just waiting for One moment or more Of the precious Savior's time And then He's gonna call my name And when I finally reach His presence

[2 : 36] Honey, I'm gonna take A thousand years Maybe two Just to thank Him for The love that He bore And the grace That's brought Every one of us through Oh, when it's my time I'm gonna take my time To behold His face When it's my time When it's my time I'm gonna take my time To talk of His amazing grace I'm gonna thank Him for The love that He bore And not leaving me alone When it's my time I'm gonna take my time At His throne How many gonna be over there with me?

I'm gonna thank Him for I'm gonna thank Him for The love that He bore And not leaving me alone When it's my time When it's my time And He is strong When it's my time And never made me alone And never Come on, get up.

Come on, get up. A man was being buried, placed in another's grave.

The men in charge saw their enemy and they quickly ran away. They threw the body in the ground and it touched Elisha's bones. The dead man rolls up with a shout, great God, there's something going on.

There's something going on in the graveyard like you ain't never seen. Saints are coming up from the ground, can't you hear them sing? With the resurrection power and glory all around.

[5 : 07] There's something going on in the graveyard, the saints are heaven-found. Well, there is a day that's coming that Jesus spoke about.

When all those who sleep in the ground, they're gonna get up out. Well, since we've gone crazy, sometimes we feel alone. But one day they're gonna look for this rowdy bunch and we'll be gone.

Well, there's something going on in the graveyard like you ain't never seen. Saints are coming up from the ground, can't you hear them sing? With the resurrection power and glory all around.

There's something going on in the graveyard, the saints are heaven-found. Come on, help me now.

There's something going on in the graveyard like you ain't never seen. Saints are coming up from the ground, can't you hear them sing?

With the resurrection power and glory all around. There's something going on in the graveyard, the saints are heaven-found. There's something going on in the graveyard, ain't no grave.

[6 : 17] Gonna hold me down. Oh, how many drinks? Yeah. Yeah. One day I'll lay this body down.

Lord, they're gonna dress me up and put me on the ground. But on that resurrection day, when I hear that trumpet sound, the Holy Ghost is gonna get on me and I'm coming out of that ground.

Nothing, nothing, ain't no grave gonna hold me. Nothing, nothing, ain't no grave gonna hold me.

Nothing, nothing, ain't no grave gonna hold me.

Nothing, nothing, yeah. Come on, give him a praise. Come on, give him a good praise tonight. Hallelujah.

Praise his name. Amen. Amen. He's in the house.

[7 : 50] And if he's in the house, everything's gonna be all right. Amen. Nineteenth and Bank. I sang my first song at age five at Nineteenth and Bank.

I remember they stood me up on a Leslie, and I sang on the wings of a dove. I remember at Nineteenth and Bank, my dad, who was not a Christian, he was a pretty heavy drinker, actually. He was one of these kind that would hide his liquor. But he drank a lot. But he would always go to church with us. And one night at Nineteenth and Bank, they was having a foot washing. My daddy was laughing at him. So they invited him to come up and participate. And he did. And he stuck his foot in the water.

When he stuck his foot in the water, God put him on the floor, right on his back. And my dad didn't laugh at him anymore. Nineteenth and Bank, I kissed my first girl out behind the church.

[9 : 04] I have a lot of fond memories at Nineteenth and Bank. Brother Lyle, it was good to hear you sing tonight. I'm expecting God to do something great.

He already has. He's going to continue. I was a little nervous when I got here tonight. Anytime I preach something real new, I get real nervous.

But when y'all got to singing and stuff, it really helped. Sister Jane Thomas here tonight. And Sister Campbell, they're sisters. And you lived on Bank Street, just a few houses down from the church there.

And she was a special friend to me when I was a young boy. And my mom and dad was going through a divorce. And I was having a rough time in my life. Just a little boy. And she befriended me and made me tacos.

And I played with her kids. And we had a great time. And I'm glad you're here. I love y'all. I'm glad you're all here. I want you to stand with me and read tonight.

[10 : 11] I'm going to read in about four different passages of scriptures. If you want to take notes, I'll give you time to find these. Because I don't have my glasses.

And it'll take a little while for me to be able to see. It happens when you get in the 40s. I want to start with Psalms chapter 30, verse number 5.

If you found that, say amen. If you're not looking, say amen. I'm going without y'all. Psalms chapter 30, verse number 5 says this.

For his anger endureth but a moment. In his favor is life. Now you can quote the rest of this verse with me.

Weeping may endure for a night. But joy cometh in the morning. Weeping may endure for a night. But joy cometh in the morning.

[11 : 12] Daniel chapter 1, verse 1 and 2. I'm going to go ahead and read. In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, came Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem and besieged it.

Verse 2. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim, king of Judah, into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Sinai, to the house of his God.

And he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his God. Psalms chapter 137, 1 through 4.

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down. Yea, we wept when we remembered Zion. We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof.

And there they that carried us away captive required of us a song. Lord, I feel Holy Ghost bumps talking about it. And they that wasted us required of us mirth.

[12 : 20] Sing, sing us one more of the songs of Zion. Verse number 4 says, How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?

Last of all, I want to read from Ezra. Chapter number 3, verse 10 through 13. And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, they set the priest in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the son of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the Lord after the ordinance of David, king of Israel.

And they sang together by chorus in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord, because he is good, for his mercy endureth forever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

Listen to verse 12. But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice, and many shouted aloud for joy.

Whew. So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy. From the noise of the weeping of the people. For the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

[13:47] Heavenly Father, I pray that you would anoint my lips to speak what you would say if you were here. Help God people to not see this man, but help them to look through me and see you, to deliver a message that you've laid on my heart tonight.

God, touch our ears to hear and our hearts to receive. Let the Holy Ghost walk the aisles of this church house tonight. God, stir our hearts in Jesus' name.

And let us realize tonight, that weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. God, we give you all the glory and all the praise.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. And everybody said, Amen and Amen. Praise God. Amen. Is this too loud or is it? I want to preach tonight from this subject.

Joy cometh in the morning. Joy cometh in the morning. I want to make this message a little personal tonight. I want you to look at it as if we are the ones that are being taken captive.

[14:55] Can you imagine how it would be tomorrow if you woke up? And as you woke up, you found that you were being attacked by your enemies.

You found that your enemies, Iraq or some other country, had overtaken us. And they were taking us hostage to their land.

And as they were taking us hostage to their land, as we walked by the church houses, where we used to go to church, and we saw that they had burned them, and tore them down, and taken the holy vessels out of the sanctuary, and desecrated them, and had blasphemed God.

And they were taking us off to their land. And we had been there maybe a few years, thinking that maybe freedom was going to come. But instead of a hope of freedom, we would see another group of our nationality being put into hostage.

And then a few years later, we would see another group brought in, as they were taken hostage. Our Bibles were taken away. Nothing was there that reminded us of God, because in this strange country, we saw the gods of Baal, and the gods of false idol worship.

[16:15] We were in a strange land. That's exactly what happened to the Jews in this time. They were surrounded by the Babylonians, under the leadership of Nebuchadnezzar.

And the first group was carried off to Babylon. Now, you read history, and you study the word of God, you'll find out that in a period of 15 years, there were three groups that were carried off to captivity.

And they had no Bibles. Their scriptures were taken away. The temple in Jerusalem had been burnt to the ground. And the holy vessels that had been sanctified for the master's use had been carried and put in the temples of Dagon and the idol worship places.

They didn't have their Bibles, so what they would do is they would form little prayer groups and so forth around, and they would hide. And by memory, they would write down the scriptures.

And this is what kept their hope alive. This went on for about 70 years. Think about it. I read this verse in the book of Psalms, and it gives me chill bumps to read it.

[17:23] It said, By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat. We wept. We wept when we remembered Zion. We went to Babylon, and we sat by the waters. Can you imagine listening as the old timers were sitting there and maybe sharing stories about how it used to be back in Jerusalem, how it used to be when our families would go to worship together.

We sat there by the rivers in Babylon, and then as they were sitting there reminiscing, some of the Babylonians would come up to them, poking fun at them, and say to them, Sing us one of your gospel songs.

Sing us one of the songs that you used to sing in Zion. And I can just see as these old men begin to look at one another, maybe a big old tear running down their face, and they had hung their harps on the willows, and they said to the men who requested of them to sing, they said, How can we sing this song in a strange land?

We've lost their song. There's nothing to sing about. We don't have the freedom of worship. We don't have the freedom to go to the priests like we used to. We don't have the freedom to be with our families like we used to.

Our temple has been burnt to the ground. The holy things of God has been desecrated and blasphemed. How in the world can we sing a song in a strange land?

[18 : 44] And they refused to sing. And then they said to them, Give us myrrh. They were making fun of their worship because the mirth was used in the worship. But they're saying we can't do this for we are in a strange land.

Think about it, friend. It went on for 70 years. We take it for granted. We take it so for granted we pick what services we want to go to.

We just take it for granted. It's always going to be there. The church is always going to be there. They're always going to be there. It's 7.30. The lights will be on. The singing will be going on. Lyle will still be singing this little light of mine.

Brother Van will still be exhorting you to worship God. We just take it for granted that's going to happen. That's exactly what happened to Israel. They took it for granted. And in the book of Isaiah we find that under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, Isaiah warned them the day is going to come. You're going to be carried off into captivity. I want to tell you something, ladies and gentlemen. I don't know what I'm going to tell you tonight. This is a new sermon. This is a new message. I'm just preaching it to you as he gives it to me.

[19 : 52] Come on now. I want to tell you for a long, long time we have taken it for granted that God is always going to be there. Come on. We just turn on the light switch and we think the Holy Ghost is going to fall.

We just think if we strike up the right song that the healing power is going to come down. But I want to tell you something. Israel thought the very same thing. But there came a time when the prophet pointed at them and said there's coming a day when you're going to go into captivity.

You'll be taken and your freedom will be taken away from you and it won't be this way forever.

Come on. Come on. Come on. Come on. Come on. Come on. Come on. Come on. If there's one thing the devil wants to do to us tonight, it is to carry us off into captivity.

He don't care how he does it. He'll use any tactic he can think of to get you held hostage. Come on. He don't care if it's sin, compromise, religion, peer pressure.

He don't care what he uses as long as he demobilizes you. There are a lot of different kinds of hostage. There are some people that are held hostage tonight that are locked up in the county jail.

[21 : 17] But then there are those that are held hostage because they have to stick a needle in their arm to drugs. Some are held hostage to a gambling casino. Some are held hostage to a bottle of whiskey.

Some are held hostage to a lifestyle. The devil does not care how he gets you in hostage. He don't care how he takes you. He don't care how that he demobilizes you.

He don't care how he does it just as long as he gets you to a place in your life that you no longer have that freedom that you once enjoyed. Somebody say amen with me tonight.

Hey, hey, hey, hey. He don't care how he does it. He don't care what kind of tactic that he has to use as long as he gets you where he wants you. Somebody say amen tonight.

Amen. Oh, I saw you folks up here shouting and enjoying the presence of God tonight. Don't you ever let anybody take that away from you.

[22 : 14] Oh, come on now. Oh, because I'm gonna tell you, we went to the UK game the other night, Brother Van. 24,000 people were on their feet. Every time they'd hit a two-pointer, every time they'd steal the ball, every time they hit a three-point play, they got excited and threw popcorn in the air and spilled Coke and jumped up and down.

And the only reason they was doing it so somebody could win a little trophy about this tall. Well, I wanna tell you, friend, if they can get excited about beating Florida, we can get excited because our name has been written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Ask somebody say amen in this house tonight if you believe what I'm saying. Amen. This is not a new thing that people praise God.

There are certain folks that look at us tonight like we're a bunch of idiots. I like reading church history. I challenge every person here under the sound of my voice tonight to go to the library next week and check you out a book on church history.

And when you check the book out, I want you to go back to the year of 1800. The Cane Ridge Revival right down the road in Paris, Kentucky.

[23 : 44] Barton Stone was the preacher. He began to preach. He had traveled to Russellville, Kentucky to a little pastor down there that was having revival.

And the Holy Ghost got on him. And he said, I need to take this back home to my folks. So he took it back to Paris, Kentucky in the little Cane Ridge meeting house which is still standing today.

One of these days, Brother Van, I've been telling my preacher friends, we're gonna get a bunch of preachers together and we're going to that old meeting house and we're gonna have a prayer meeting like you ain't never seen before.

Hey, but about 200 years ago it happened. He took the gospel back to Paris, Kentucky at the Cane Ridge meeting house and began to preach the power, the Holy Word of God under the power of the Holy Ghost.

And something happened. I wanna tell you something, ladies and gentlemen, I've said it for years and Brother Van has said it. When you get on fire, people come to watch you burn. Come on.

[24 : 47] Hey, hey, I never did. I never have in my life seen a group of people following an ice wagon. I never have in my life seen too many people follow the hearse.

Come on. But when the fire truck goes down the road and the whistle's going and the light's on, people come out of their house and stick their head out the door because something's on fire and they wanna see what's burning.

Somebody say amen. Well, when Brother Stone began to preach under the power of God, people started hearing about it and they started coming to the revival.

Finally, there were so many people there that they couldn't all get in the church house. So Brother Stone said, that's all right. Let's just take it outside. So they took it outside the church house, out there in the open lawn.

And the first thing you know, the Baptists were coming. The Presbyterian were coming. The Methodists were coming. All the denomination of that day began to come to the revival.

[25 : 50] Not just hundreds, but literally hundreds and thousands. If you read the book, you'll find how they rode for miles and miles on horseback and in wagons and they would stand, my Lord, a preacher would preach as far as his voice would carry and then another preacher would get up on a tree stump and he'd preach as far as his voice could carry and literally thousands gathered on that hillside and the Holy Ghost came down and moved in Paris, Kentucky 200 years ago.

Let me tell you some of the demonstrations that happened. They were running, jumping up and down, jerking, barking like dogs, which is probably speaking in tongues they just didn't know how to interpret it.

So they just said, well, sounds like he's barking to me. There were prayer meetings going on all night in the wee hours of the night. One man walked up, rode up on his horse and began to blaspheme what they were doing.

The power of God knocked him off of his horse for 12 hours, I think it was. That man lay on the ground but when he got up, he became a believer in Jesus Christ.

This happened 200 years ago. One of the greatest moves of God that has ever come to America. They can say what they want to about all the revivals but honey, they didn't have Cadillacs to drive here.

[27 : 27] Come on. They didn't have Learjets to fly there in. They had to get in the old mule or get on the old horse and get in the old buggy and ride there and literally thousands of thousands of people showed up.

I want to tell you there was a mighty move of God and there was no name tags. The name tags were falling off and it was just people that believed in God come together with one mind and one accord and when they did something happened, God moved and people were touched and believers were born into the kingdom of God.

The devil has hated that ever since that happened and he has sought to demobilize us and to calm us down and tone us down.

Most churches in America, I won't say most but I'd say a great number, our social clubs. There's more emphasis put on the boys clubs than the girls clubs.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The willing worker bands. Thank God for all the programs. They're all good and I'm not against programs. I thank God for them.

[28 : 44] But you have a pie slicing, they pack the building. But have a prayer meeting. Nobody comes. Become a social club.

The majority of Americans profess to be Christians. Did you know that? The majority of Americans profess to be church-going Christians.

If that's the case, why in the world are we allowing abortion to take place in our country? If that's the case, then why in the world can't our kids pray at school?

If that's the case, then why in the world do we have to take our Ten Commandments down? If that's the case, then why in the world can't they carry a Bible on campus and carry a Bible to the ground? Because most of Americans are Christians. Come on. That's what the statistics say. Well, I want to care. The devil don't care what you call yourself. He don't care what kind of name you got over the door.

[29 : 54] He don't care how many social clubs you got. He don't care how many times you gather. He don't care how big your building is. He don't care how thick your blacktop is. He don't care how many gatherings you have.

He don't care about how many youth camps you have. But honey, I want to tell you what makes the devil mad is when you go into the church house and you say, devil, get out of my way. I've come here tonight for one reason and that is to praise and worship the King of Kings and the Lord of Glory.

I've come to lift him up tonight in this house. And the devil has tried to put us in bondage to where everything else is okay but get a little excited about Jesus.

It's not okay. Hello? On the old television programs back in the 50s they even had prayer before they ate.

God was revered as something that was awesome. Now if someone in the political ranks mentions that they are a Christian or they believe in God they are left to scorn.

[31 : 02] I don't know where I'm going tonight but I'm saying this. I'm saying enjoy your freedom. I said enjoy your freedom. He who the Son sets free he is free indeed.

Don't try to wrap me up. Don't try to tie me down with some kind of old legalistic mess or some kind of old tradition some kind of thing that's called don't you dare try to put me in bondage.

I have been set free and I've got every right in the world to praise the almighty God. Hallelujah.

Somebody praise him if you know where I'm coming from tonight. And they were in bondage and they cried and they reminisced they begin to watch the family members die out.

It bugs me when I hear some of the old timers talk about the good times they had. About the miracles they saw.

We can't seem to have them anymore. That bothers me. Hello. Hello. I'm sure it bothered them as they saw the old timers dying out saying we hoped we'd get out of here before he died.

[32 : 32] We hoped he'd get to see another move of God. But after 70 years 70 years Nebuchadnezzar his kingdom had fallen in the fifth chapter of the book of Daniel Nebuchadnezzar's grandson was now the king.

And you know the story he had thrown a party invited all of his friends to come right in the midst of his party God wrote a note on the wall. You know why Israel was in bondage?

Because they got their mind off of God. And when they got their mind off of God and they become ritualistic and formalistic God moved the hedge. God said I'm going to let the devil come in for a while.

Come on you never miss the water until the well runs dry. Come on I'm going to let them see what it's about. I want to know how they feel now. They went to church but they didn't really feel anything. They didn't really their hearts wasn't really in it. Read the first chapter of Isaiah he said I'm sick of your worship I'm sick of that your heart is not in it. God said to the devil I'm going to let you have them for a while and he withdrew his hand and Nebuchadnezzar come in and begin to carry those Jews back to captivity.

[34 : 00] But in Daniel chapter five when that hand began to write on the wall oh I believe somebody had been praying come on now. I believe somebody was saying God we've messed up.

Would you help us get out of this place. I know we let you down but we need some help because as that hand began to write on the wall and the king said bring them in that they can interpret this thing to me.

And everybody came in and they couldn't interpret it. But somebody said there's a little boy by the name of Daniel and in him dwelleth the spirit of the holy gods. And he can tell you oh I want to tell you why Daniel could read that handwriting.

There is a language that the devil cannot understand. But there is a language that only the spirit of God can interpret it. And I believe when Daniel walked into that building and looked at that handwriting he said I understand who it is.

That's my daddy's handwriting. Hey somebody say amen in this house. Well glory. Yeah. Yeah.

[35 : 07] Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Hey. Hey, hey, glory. I just believe Daniel might have said, hey, reason the soothsayers couldn't read it, the astrologers couldn't read it, they don't know him.

But I know him, come on, that's my father. He walks in me, he talks in me, his spirit dwelleth in me and he began to read him what was written on the wall, said many, many, tackle your parson to be interpreted, to say this, king, your kingdom has been weighed in the balance and you're found wanting.

The Medes and the Persian are gonna come in tonight and they're gonna take your kingdom away from you. And Belshazzar's knees begin to knock and his countenance change and he become white as a ghost.

But that night, the Medes and the Persian, they say dammed up the river and went under the grate and took the city away from old Belshazzar. And it wasn't just a coincidence that it happened.

It wasn't just the fact that the Medes and the Persians were a little more powerful than the Babylonians. God had already started a plan, come on. God had heard some cries and God had heard some prayers and he was sending somebody in.

[36 : 33] If Nebuchadnezzar, listen, oh Lord, are you getting all this tonight? Nebuchadnezzar, God tried to get his attention, didn't he?

Don't matter. Thought if I kept my coat on, y'all wouldn't know it. He tried to get Nebuchadnezzar's attention. Come on, when them three boys was put in the fire and the man that put them in, they were put in there because they wouldn't bow down to Nebuchadnezzar's God and they were threw in the fire or they were taken to the fire.

There was something that stood out to me about this story the other day. The men that were taking them to the fire, you brought this to my attention. The men that bound them up and were taking them to the fire were overtaken by the intensity of the heat and they fell out as dead men.

Come on now. Before they got to put them in the fire. Can you imagine what must have happened? Oh, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego began to talk among themselves. Well, they brought us down here to put us in the fire.

They couldn't stand the heat and they fell out. You want to run away or you want to just go through the fire? And they said, honey, let's go through the fire. Hey! Hey! Hey! So they opened the door of the furnace and they started singing.

[37 : 59] He never promised that the cross would not get heavy and the hill wouldn't be hard to climb. Oh, somebody praise him in his house tonight. Heaven, he knows he'll take you through the fire.

Somebody praise him. Oh! God tried to get Nebuchadnezzar's attention then and got it for a little while but it didn't last very long.

One time God had to put a plague on him that he turned into a beast and he put him out on the pasture field and here was a man that grew feathers and claws like eagles and ate grass like the auction but he still was hard-headed and wouldn't listen to God so God said, I'll try somebody else. Yeah. Yeah! Come on. Yeah! So another king would come and then Belshazzar came along his grandson and he was hard-headed and wouldn't listen to God.

Come on. Come on. Finally God said, I'll send the Medes and the Persians down there and take them and they did. Come on. Amen. Jews didn't realize what was happening.

[39 : 13] Sometimes God's working on your behalf and you don't even know you're sleeping while you're sleeping. You've been praying and you've been saying, God, why hasn't this prayer been answered?

But while you're sleeping, oh, you ain't understanding why it ain't happening. Me and my wife been praying about something for the last three months.

Every night before we go to bed we pray, God, work on this behalf. Work on this behalf. But when you're gonna quit praying when it happens, when something changes, come on now.

But while we're sleeping and while we're resting, God's fighting the devils and the angels are wrestling with the powers of hell to make sure that everything comes to pass. Come on now.

While those Jews were sleeping, God was sending the Medes and Persians in there to take over that kingdom. So one day there would be a man by the name of Cyrus.

[40 : 08] They would say to Zerubbabel and Ezra, take those people. I don't think it's right that I hold you any longer. Take my, my, my, my, my. I want you to begin to gather up the people of God.

I don't think it's right that you don't have a place to worship. I'm gonna set you free. Not only am I gonna let you go, I'm gonna bless you with more than you had when you came in here.

Hey! I want you to go on back to Jerusalem and begin to work the work of God all over again. When they left, they began to take offerings up for them.

They took more with them than they had. And I believe it was about 15,000 of them. Can you see them being let free to go back to Jerusalem?

They get back and they see where the old temple used to be. Whew! There were some old fellas in the group. Had to be way over 70.

[41 : 09] They must have been in the 80s, maybe 90s, some of them. They were in that crowd.

They were the seniors. I can just see them asking some of the old fellas. Do you remember where it was?

Yeah, it was right in here. See, there's the foundation of the temple Solomon built. Whew! All of a sudden, they began to put things together.

You know, you gotta get it together first before God can move. On the day of Pentecost, they had to take care of business first. Come on, they had to replace Judas and take care of all the business.

But when they got through taking care of business on the 10th day, the day of Pentecost, something happened. Come on. So when they left Babylon, they had to go back and start taking care of business.

Ezra did his part. He started going through here and said, well, you've intermarried and you can't go. You've defiled yourself. You can't go. Come on. You've done this and that. And they began to gather them all together.

[42 : 06] Come on. And the teachers of the law began to get what scripture they had written out and getting that all together. And finally, they got to the point they had a groundbreaking ceremony.

And they began to lay the walls of the city. But here's what touched my heart more than probably anything I read. As they began to lay down the foundation for the walls of that city, those old men that were beat down, those old men that some of them had worked so hard and maybe they couldn't even walk.

But something got all over them when they saw that temple being built again. And the Bible said they wept aloud. Hallelujah. And they began to shout and magnify God until it sounded like the noise of an army.

Oh, listen to me, ladies and gentlemen. Oh, you might have messed up. The devil may have put you in bondage. You may be in prison now. But I got good news for you. That devil is a liar and he can't hold you forever.

For greater is he that is in you than he that is in this world. The prison doors are fixing to come open. The captives are about to go home.

[43 : 15] They shouted and they worshiped. It sounded like the sound of a battle as they began to weep because the temple was being built again.

My, my, my. I read that scripture. How can we sing in a strange land? Is there anybody in this house tonight ever been a backslider?

Let me see your hand. One of the most horrible places you'll ever be in your life. Come on. When I read this scripture, my mind went to 9th Street Bar, Owensboro, Kentucky.

A backslider. In there with my old buddy, with our old guitar, singing them old songs, swinging doors, a jukebox and a bar stool.

All that foolishness. Just having a big time. We thought, all of a sudden, somebody at the bar turned around and said, do you know Amazing Grace?

[44 : 38] A dagger about that long just went through my heart. He said, could you sing Amazing Grace? And I thought about what they said. We can't sing that song in this strange land.

I was probably so intoxicated, I didn't even care what was going on, but when they asked me to sing Amazing Grace, something hit me. And I said, there's no way in the world I'd sing that song in this place.

And I felt what they must have felt. They had lost their song. There's not a more miserable individual in the world than one that has lost their song. Come on. They used to go to church and sing. They used to go to church and shout. They used to have the victory. They used to know what it was all about. They saw the sick healed. They saw the demons cast out.

They saw the blind. My God, they saw God move in a mighty way. But the devil had come along and stole their song. And all they had was memories of what used to be. Honey, I don't care who you are, how loud you shout, or how many years you've been in the church.

[45 : 40] The devil wants to steal your song. He wants to knock the props out from under you. He wants to take you down. He wants to take it all away from you. But I want to tell you something, ladies and gentlemen.

There is a God. I said there is a God that we can cling to. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. God, help us not lose our song.

I don't know who this is for tonight, but there is somebody here in bondage. There is somebody here, God the devil has gotten right where he wants them.

Yeah, they are still going to church. They are still going through the religious form, but he has got them right where he wants them, right under his thumb.

[46 : 47] In the name of Jesus, that is going to change tonight. Hallelujah. In the name of Jesus, that is going to change tonight.

God sent me to tell you tonight, you don't have to stay in prison. You don't have to stay in bondage. Just as a king came to defy King Nebuchadnezzar.

Nebuchadnezzar said, you're in bondage and you're going to stay there. But another king rose up and said, no they won't. I'm going to set them free. I got news tonight. The devil has said, we're going to be in bondage.

But another king 2,000 years ago, not just a king, but the king of kings rose up and he took the keys away from Satan and he took his power away from him and he said, you can be free tonight with whatever binds you.

Stand with me, would you? Ever head bowed, never eye closed? I want you to pray with me, everybody in this building.

[47 : 58] God wants to move tonight. God wants to touch in this house. Lord, you know who's in bondage and you know what it is that's giving them trouble.

They're sick of it. They're tired of it. They thought they were going to have to live with it for the rest of their life, but the devil's a liar. The devil's a liar. In Jesus' name.

Ever head bowed, nobody looking around. Who tonight in this building would be honest with this preacher? Raise your hand and by that say, I know where you're coming from.

He's got me where he wants me tonight. I need to move up closer. I'm not happy with where I'm at. I need help. I want to come out. Raise your hand high right now. Come on, come on.

Get them up high. Oh, you lying devil. Hallelujah. I plead the blood of Jesus to this house right now. Come on. Hallelujah.

[49 : 00] Hallelujah. I want every person that raised your hands to get out of your seat and get up here right now in the name of Jesus around this altar. This is your night. This is your message. I didn't know where it came from.

I didn't know who it was for, but this is your night tonight. That devil is a liar. You're going to get up from this altar with victory in your soul tonight. My, my, my, my, my, my, my.

Glory. Some of you prayer warriors, come on up here and help us tonight. Oh, God. Oh, God. Oh, God. And the name of God. In the name of Jesus, not by mind nor by power, but by the Spirit of God.

In the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus, devil you are alive. In the name of Jesus, devil you are alive.

In the name of Jesus, devil you are alive. You are alive. Oh, touch us to the Lord.

[50 : 44] Touch us to the Lord. Oh, Jesus. My God, my God, my God. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Glory, glory, glory, glory, glory. Hallelujah, hallelujah. God, lay your hand on these young girls tonight.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. Come down in a mighty way. Come down in a mighty way. Come down in a mighty way. Come down in a mighty way.

Come down in a mighty way. ■ Oh, God.

Oh, God. Praise him tonight.

[52 : 29] Hallelujah. Praise his name. Praise his name. Praise his name. Oh, God. Reach out and touch the Lord as he goes by.

You will find he's not too busy to hear your heart cry.

Oh, he is passing by this moment. And all your needs he will supply. Just reach out and touch the Lord as he goes by.

Yes, she walked the dusty roadside on his way to raise the dead.

The disciples, they gathered around him hungry for that living bread. And listen, I must touch him, cried a little woman.

[53 : 55] If I don't touch him, I know I'm going to die. But she reached out and she touched his garment. Sing it with me.

Just reach out and touch the Lord as he goes by. You will find he's not too busy to hear your heart cry.

Oh, he is passing by this moment. And all your needs he will supply. Hallelujah. Sing it with me.

Oh, and now he's passing by this moment. And all your needs he will supply.

Just reach out and touch the Lord as he goes by. Hallelujah.

[55 : 35] Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Praise God. Praise God. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Has he touched you tonight? Lord, if he hasn't touched you yet, it's not too late. There's still time because he's still passing by.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. As he walked the dusty roadside. On his way to raise the dead.

The disciples had gathered around him. So hungry for that living bread. Listen.

Listen. I must touch him. I must touch him. Cry the little woman. Lord, if I don't touch him, I know I'm going to die. But this is what she did.

[56 : 31] She reached out and she touched his garment. As Jesus passed by. Oh, just reach out.

Sing it with me. And touch the Lord. As he goes by. You will find he's not too busy to hear your heart cry.

Oh, he is passing by this very moment. And all your needs he will supply.

Just reach out and touch the Lord. As he goes by.

Oh, thank you, Jesus. Could you raise your hands and say thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus.

Thank you, Jesus.

[57 : 36] I'm free. I'm free. I'm free. I'm not in any bondage. I'm free tonight. If you're free, tell him. Thank God I'm free.

I'm free. I'm free. Raise your hands and praise him. I'm free. I'm free. You don't have any hold on me. I'm free tonight by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus.

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Amen.

Amen. Amen. How many gods know that God's calling the church back to repentance? Amen. Oh, sure. We're going to shout. We're going to dance. We're going to do these other things. But God's wanting to get us back to our first love.

Amen. They still had a church at Ephesus. Amen. But they left their first love. We need to get it back. Amen. Hallelujah. And begin to really repent and call upon the name of the Lord. How many is going to be here tomorrow night?

[58 : 34] Amen. How many is going to bring somebody with you? Amen. How many is going to get here in time? Let's pray a little bit for service so that God will really be able to move. Amen. How many thinks that'd be alright if we actually had a little prayer meeting in church?

Amen. Amen. Ain't no telling what God's allowed to do if we start praying. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Woo. Thank you, Jesus. Brother Jeremiah, I want you to preach again.

Amen. Amen. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. You folks can be seated. Always leave a mountain more. Brother Billy, it's more blessed to give than to receive. Folks, I don't believe in selling stuff in church.

But before you leave tonight, Brother Gerald's brought some stuff out there and this isn't stuff. This is blessings if you'll take it and listen to it. See, for anybody to do what he's done and to bring anointing in here like he's brought in here tonight, he's been with God.

[59 : 45] Amen. How many knows that you don't find very many people in this whole wide world that's got this kind of an anointing on them? Amen. Well, he's just preaching for the money. You know that's a lie.

The devil would tell you that, but that's a lie. Amen. Because he gave every nickel of it away tonight. Amen. Then what is he preaching for? The apostle Paul said, I can't not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do after I have preached to others.

He said, I keep my body under and bring it under subjection. Amen. The time after I've preached to others, I myself might be a castaway. Brother Gerald don't have to preach. He don't need your money. Why you take up an offering?

Because I know it's more blessing to give than it is to receive. I know that for a fact. I know that when we give, God blesses us back. Amen. See, what did Brother Gerald give tonight? He drove his car, left his family, brought his wife all the way up here, and came in here and preached to some people.

What for? Does he need notoriety? He's already the most famous singer in gospel music. Amen. Why is he doing this for? He's doing it to uplift the people of God.

[60 : 51] He said, if you've done it under the least of these, my brethren, you've done it under me. Amen. Honey, you weren't preaching. We were receiving your message, but you were preaching for Jesus tonight. Amen.

Oh, Lord. Brother, I don't know what you do. Remember what John Wesley talked about? He said, after salvation, he said, there's something called a second blessing.

There's a second blessing. What was that second blessing he's talking about? Honey, there's a baptism of the Holy Ghost. Can you say amen? Amen. How many of those, there's two different types of tongues?

I'll just tell you this real quick. It won't cost you anything. One tongue you were born with. With that tongue, you lied. You cursed God.

How did you do all that? You said all kinds of blasphemous things. James 3 tells you. It said, because that tongue is an evil and can't no maintainment.

[61 : 46] It is an unruly member and it is set on fire of hell. But aren't you glad that if you have partook of the second blessing that there is another tongue, the heavenly tongue that comes down from God out of heaven.

Amen. We can't stop that first tongue from saying things they shouldn't say and doing things they shouldn't do. Unless you get the second tongue and the second tongue will control the first tongue. How many believes that? Because I don't talk like I used to talk. I used to think that there was glory in cussing and every time I learned a new word, I made sure that at least 50 or 100 people heard that new curse word I knew.

Because I wanted to be the best cusser around because that kind of made you macho, you know. Amen. Until I got introduced to the sweet Holy Spirit of God.

And he changed everything. He changed everything. Amen. Hallelujah. That old unruly member. Hallelujah. A bridle was put in his mouth and a woe was given.

[62 : 46] Amen. Amen. Now at G's when the Holy Spirit says G and at Hall's when the Holy Spirit says Hall. Amen. For you that don't know what that means, that means turn right or turn left. Or giddy up.

Come on. Man, I heard that. Did you hear that? Did you hear that? Did you hear that? Did you hear that Holy Ghost speaking through? He was talking in English, but he was speaking in tongues tonight.

Because that wasn't Gerald Crabb talking. That was the Holy Ghost speaking through him. Did you hear it? Did you hear it? On the day of Pentecost there was I think 11 different denominations or people from different countries there.

And they all heard him speak and praise God in their own language. And you say, Amen. Wasn't that powerful? Wasn't this message powerful tonight? My Lord.

He said God was giving it to him as he preached it. And I believe God really poured it on him. Amen. So please, when we leave for tonight, tell somebody. Tell somebody. Tell somebody.

[63 : 44] Hey, you ain't heard any preaching. You think you heard preaching? You ain't heard preaching like this in a long time. Amen. Hallelujah. You ain't heard preaching like this. And if you've ever heard preaching like this, it's a miracle. God has blessed you.

God has blessed you. If he has ever allowed you to get to sit in a service and hear a preacher preach under the power and the anointing of the Holy Ghost. See, he came like Paul did. Paul said, I didn't come with the enticing words of man's wisdom to show you how smart I am.

He said, but I came in the demonstration of the Spirit and with power. Can you say, Amen? You know, if President Bush gives a speech, they count how many standing ovations he gets. I wonder how many standing ovations the Holy Ghost got the night when Brother Gerald was preaching.

When we were all up jumping up and down. Amen. Let's give the Lord one more standing ovation. Amen. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Praise God. Praise God. Okay. Tell somebody. Tell somebody. Get excited about it. You get on fire.

[64 : 48] Somebody come watch you burn. Amen. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. We'll probably start the night about the same time we did tonight. Because, have you ever been to a black church?

Doesn't remember what time the posted time of service starts. It just starts when everybody gets there. And it gets over when everybody says, that's enough. We're going home now. And that's the way we were.

We don't want to say, Brother Gerald, you got 15 minutes to preach. And then you're going to have to cut it off now because, you know, we got programs to do. So, Brother Gerald's got some, some, uh...