

GOSPEL TRUTH

ANDREW WOMMACK MINISTRIES

Feature:

Who Made Satan?

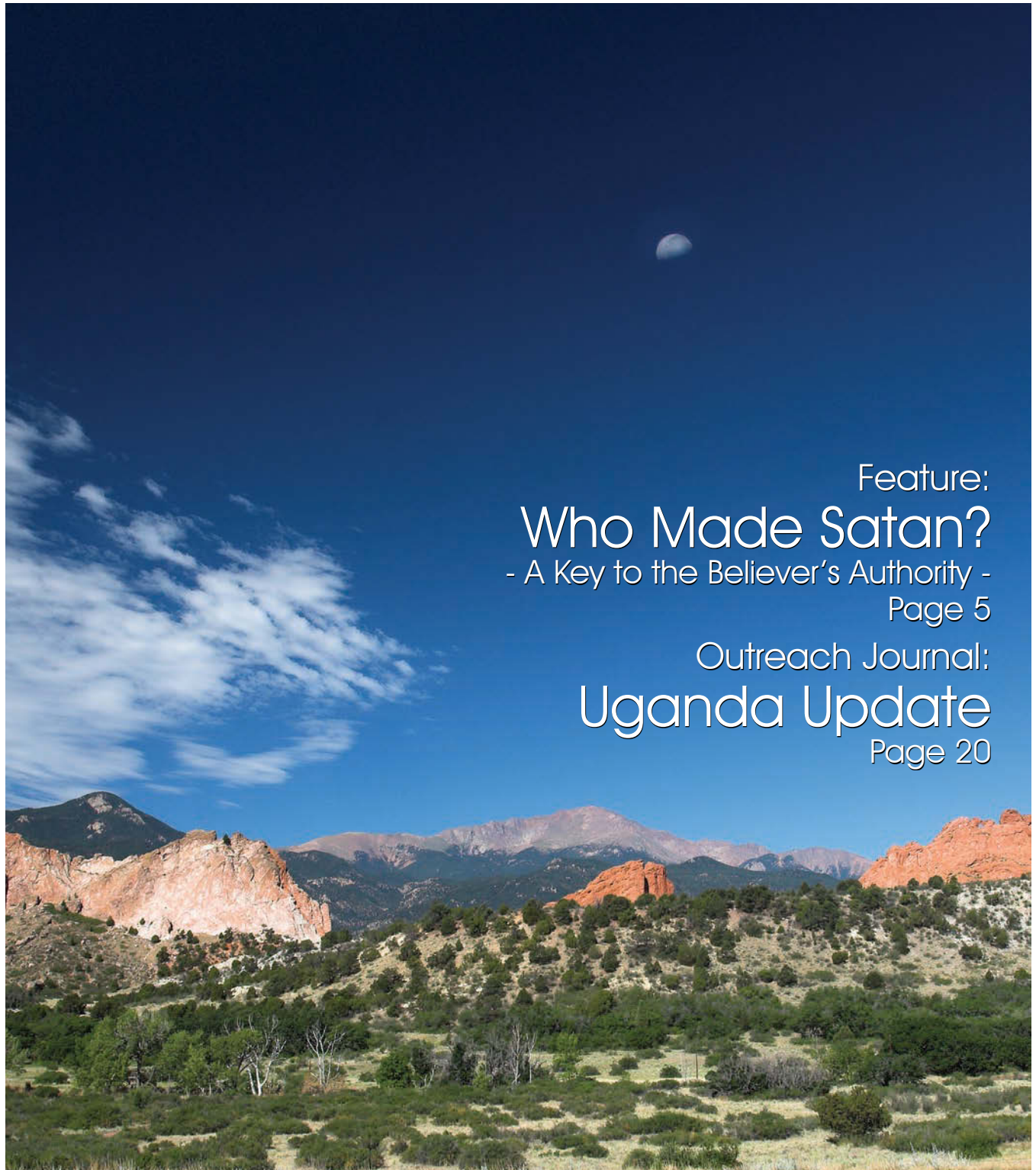
- A Key to the Believer's Authority -

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Outreach Journal:

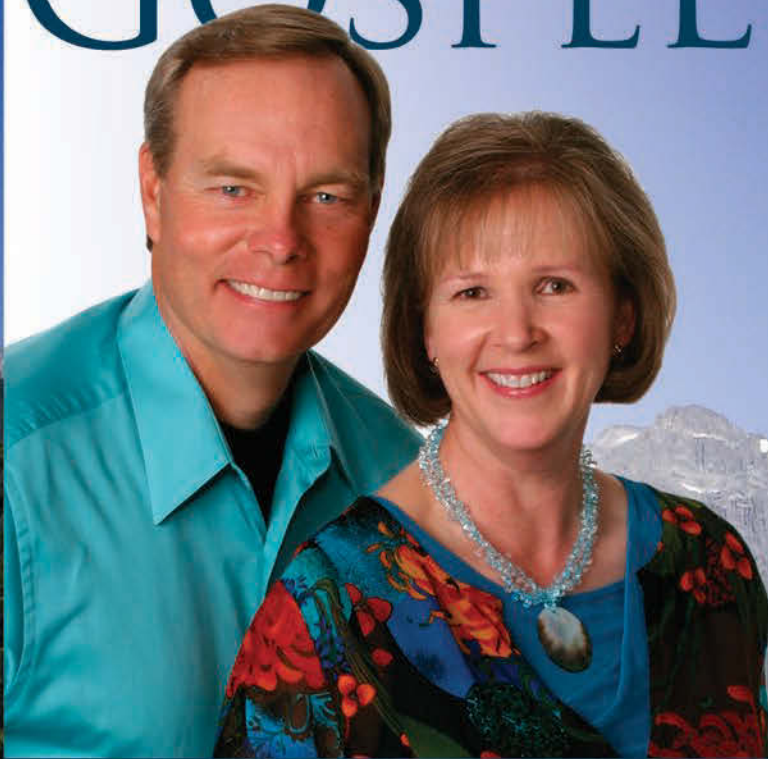
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SPRING & SUMMER 2009

GOSPEL TRUTH



Greetings in the name of Jesus! Jamie and I just want to tell you that in spite of what you have been hearing recently in the media, and may even be hearing from a few pulpits, you are still blessed, and the Word of God is still true.

Good things are happening, but at present, everything is being overshadowed by the negative news about the global economy. Well, don't believe everything you hear. On the page 32 of this magazine, in the *Andrew's Antidotes* section, you will find a few facts that are not being reported. I believe they will surprise you, and when all is put into perspective, you will find that the sky is not falling, and all is not lost.

Be encouraged—Jamie and I are. The last quarter of 2008 was the best quarter this ministry has ever experienced. Phone calls, mail, requests for product, and all other areas that can be measured are up. Income, too, is up, breaking records every month. The great news is, we couldn't be breaking financial records if the money wasn't first reaching your home. You are blessed.

We love you,

Andrew and Jamie

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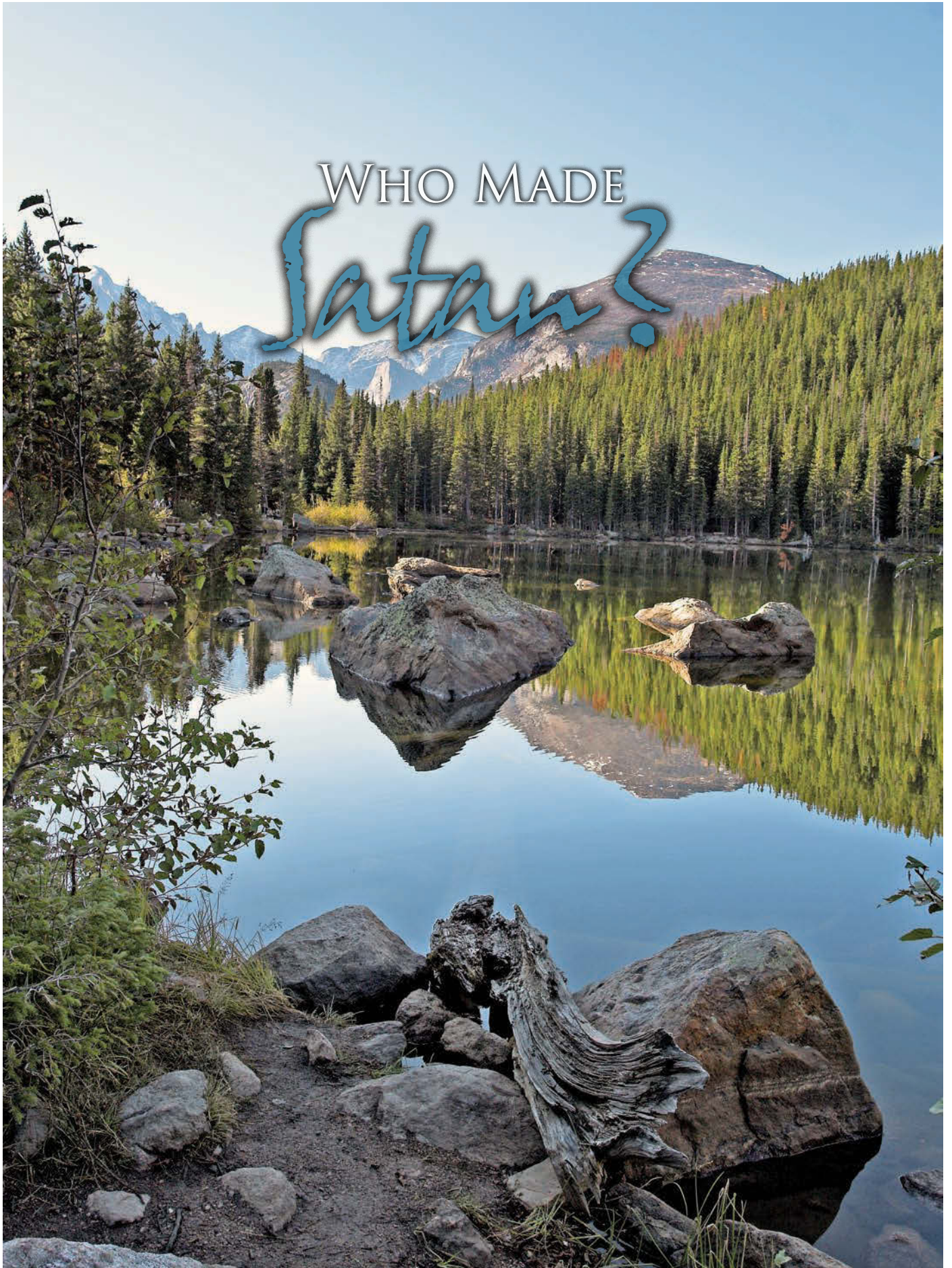
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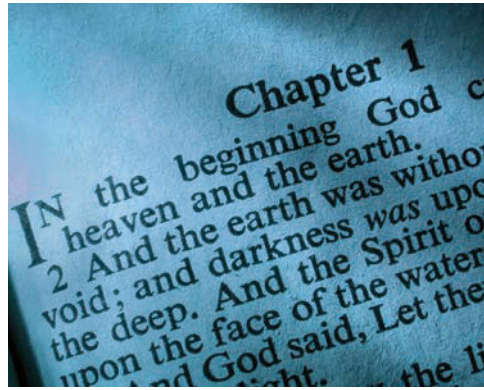
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The photography of Andrew and Jamie on page 2, 16, and 32 by Terry Moore.

WHO MADE
Satan?





WHO MADE *Satan?*

— A KEY TO THE BELIEVER'S AUTHORITY —

by Andrew Wommack

Most Christians believe the answer to that question is obvious: God created Satan. But that is not really true. God created Lucifer. That may seem like a small distinction at first glance, but once you understand who really made Satan, it will change your perspective of him forever.

You will never again doubt your authority over the devil. You will realize that he is an inferior being, unable to do anything without the cooperation of a human being. Any fear you have of him will disappear as you realize he is nothing but a big zero with the rim knocked off.

I believe that God created everything, including Lucifer. He created Lucifer as a powerful, anointed angel. However, Lucifer wasn't satisfied with that, and he didn't remain the anointed cherub that God created him to be.

Ezekiel 28:13-14 describes him as he originally was in the Garden of Eden:

"Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper,

the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire."

Most people believe that Lucifer took one-third of the angels and rebelled against God in heaven, where he was defeated and then cast to earth. This is all taken from one scripture—Revelation 12:4—and was popularized by Finis Dake in the *Dake Annotated Reference Bible*. I don't believe that is what actually happened.

I believe that Satan was originally on this earth in the Garden of Eden as Lucifer. He was God's number one angel, sent to earth to be a blessing to Adam and Eve.

I believe that Satan was originally on this earth in the Garden of Eden as Lucifer.

Hebrews 1:14 says this about angels:

“Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”

Lucifer wasn’t sent to the earth to tempt Adam and Eve but to bless them. He was an angelic being sent to minister to them and serve them. He was there on a divine mission, still in his perfect state. It was in the Garden that his transgression against God was conceived and carried out.

Ezekiel 28:15 goes on to say,

“Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.”

I have never been able to follow the logic that God sent Satan to earth to tempt man and see how he would respond. As a parent, would you take your two-year-old child and put him or her in a cage with a lion just to see how he or she would respond? That would obviously be irresponsible—the child would be no match for the lion. God wouldn’t do that to us, and He didn’t do that to Adam and Eve.

So, what made Lucifer turn against God? Lucifer watched as God did something for man that He had never done with anything else in His creation. When God created man, not only was he made in the very image of God, but he was then given unconditional authority over this earth.

Genesis 1:26 says,

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

He didn’t say to them, “Now, as long as you follow My leading and as long as you do what I want you to do, I will let you have dominion over the earth.” There was zero qualification for this power and authority. God spoke it, and that was it.

God declares in Psalm 89:34,

“My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.”

In Hebrews 1:3, it says,

“Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high” (emphasis mine).

When God created man, not only was he made in the very image of God, but he was then given unconditional authority over this earth.

What this is saying is that God cannot lie; it’s the integrity of His Word that holds the entire universe together. Unlike human beings who reserve the right to change their minds, God will not violate His Word. When He told Adam and Eve they had dominion, authority, and power to subdue and rule, it was done.

Lucifer understood the integrity of God’s words, and when he heard this, I believe his antennae went up. He saw that Adam and Eve had something he wanted but didn’t have: They had unconditional authority. In a way, they had been made the gods of this world—it was theirs to rule and subdue.

We read in Psalm 115:16,

“The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD’S: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.”

Even though Lucifer may have been God’s number one angel, he still wanted more. He was jealous and envious. He actually wanted to take God’s place.

Isaiah 14:13 says,

“For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north.”

The next verse continues,

“I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”

Lucifer understood that if he could deceive Adam and Eve into willingly relinquishing their authority to him, he could become the god of this world. He could take the authority that was given to mankind, use it to thwart the kingdom of God, and receive the praise and adoration and glory he wanted.

Romans 6:16 says this,

“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”

So who made Satan? We did! The moment Adam and Eve yielded to Lucifer, he became Satan, the god of this world. You might be thinking, *But Satan deceived them. Shouldn't God have stopped him?*

Read 1 Timothy 2:14:

“And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

Adam knew what he was doing.

I believe the moment Lucifer transgressed against God, he lost his angelic power. Satan now has no power

or authority of his own; he only has what he has been able to deceive people into giving him. Now, that is a powerful statement.

Think about what that means to us as believers. When we resist the devil and fight against him, he doesn't have a superior power or authority; he is absolutely dependent upon the cooperation of human beings who empower him with the authority God gave them.

He (Satan) is absolutely dependent upon the cooperation of human beings who empower him with the authority God gave them.

Satan is going about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Pet. 5:8). He is looking to see if you will open the door through things like lust, rebellion, strife, un-forgiveness, fear, and more. When you yield to those things, you are empowering him to destroy you, and I guarantee you that given the opportunity, he will eat your lunch and pop the bag.

I am only scratching the surface on my teaching “Who Made Satan?” and it is only one teaching in my six-part series called *The Believer's Authority*. Until you understand the power and authority God has given you, you will never be able to defeat the devil, receive healing, prosper, and live in victory. Knowing your authority is the key!

To discover all your authority as a born-again believer, order this powerful series today. Don't live under Satan's deception even one more day! To order, visit our website at www.awmi.net, or call our Helpline at 719-635-1111. **GT**



The authority of the believer is an often discussed subject. However, Andrew's perspective of this subject may challenge much of what you think is true.

For example, if the believers have been given authority, then when, how, and toward what should it be exercised? Don't assume the answer; you must understand the battleground and be able to recognize the real Enemy.

It's only the truth that you know that will set you free, and in this book, Andrew brings the truth to light in a powerful way.

The Believer's Authority

What you didn't learn in church

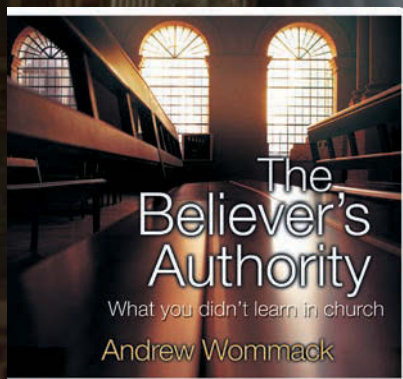
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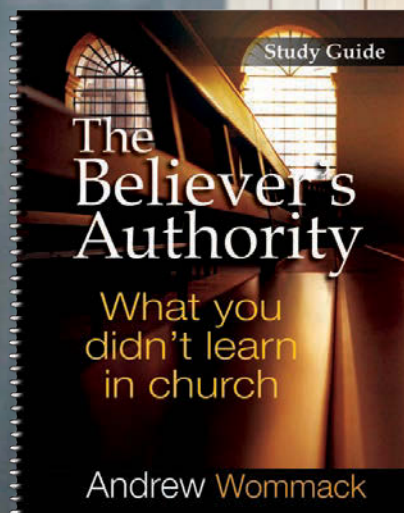
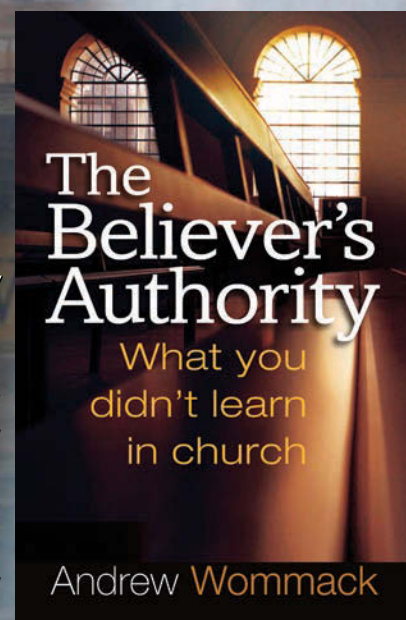
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Included inside the front cover is a CD-ROM. It contains the **Lesson Outlines**, **Discipleship Questions**, and the **Scriptures** used within the lessons. You may reproduce as many copies of these three as you need, to facilitate teaching to others. The other materials are designed primarily for the teacher.

Now Available:

The Believer's Authority

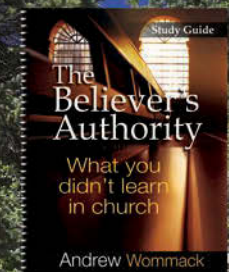
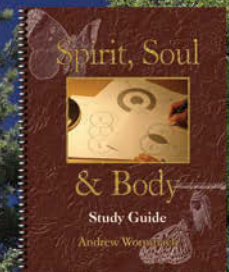
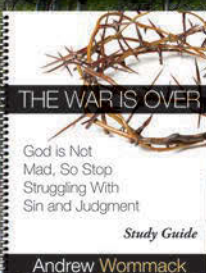
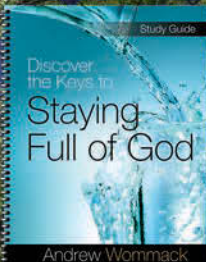
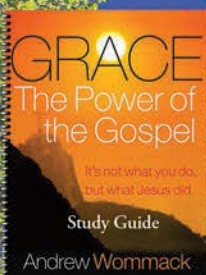
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Healing Journey





AIDS: NO MATCH FOR *God*

June Confort's fiftieth birthday wasn't the celebration she'd anticipated. Instead of ringing in her jubilee year with joy, she spent the day in shock as she learned she had HIV. This day—June 8, 2004—was the day June's journey began, but her story really started much earlier.

As a child, June suffered physical and emotional abuse from her father. "I never understood why he never loved me but always rejected me," says June. But even though she had these feelings about her earthly father, she didn't feel the same toward her heavenly Father. She believed God loved her and wanted to help her. This hope carried her through her dark adolescence.

Rescued

At age twelve, June snuck out for the night with some friends. She was gang-raped and left lying along a lonely river bank. June's father later kicked her out of the house, and at twelve years old, she was left to wander the streets of Massachusetts by herself. But God never left her side. He led her into the New England Pentecostal Church, which held services in a bar's backroom. She was drawn inside by the sounds of worship, flowing like a soothing balm into the rough city streets. That night she received salvation and the

baptism of the Holy Spirit. Not knowing exactly what she had received, however, she was helpless to change her circumstances.

For the next four years, June was in and out of strangers' homes, trying to survive bitter New England winters and cruel streets. By age twenty-one, she was married and beginning a new life, although she still hadn't fully committed to the Lord. "I didn't know what happened to me when I went into that church. I felt the power of God, but I didn't know what it meant to my life."

All this changed in 1991 when her daughter was born. "I nearly died during my daughter's birth," remembers June. "I lost so much blood, I needed a transfusion of eight units." Her oldest son, Rudy, who had been attending Bible college, began to share with her what her salvation really meant. She became serious about God from that day forward. In 1992 June and her husband of twenty-one years were divorced, but that didn't deter her faith.

The Battle Begins

June learned all she could about God and His Word, and her faith began to grow. Little did she know how much she would need to be grounded in God's Word for the days ahead. Serious bouts of fatigue combined with various other symptoms emerged. One day while working as an RN, she passed out. After an eight-unit blood transfusion, doctors ran test after test to determine the problem. Her tests came back normal. They decided to try one more. "They asked if I would mind being tested for HIV," recalls June. "'Of course not,' I said, knowing there was no way I could possibly have HIV."

But when she sat in the doctor's office on her fiftieth birthday, she learned it was more than possible—it was reality. "The doctors told me HIV can lay dormant for up to fifteen years," says June. She believes she contracted the virus when she had the transfusion during her daughter's birth, but she may never know for sure.

June held onto her faith and began feeling better through special medication. By 2005 she was leading Bible studies and mentoring others. Later that year, her health began failing again. "I tried to work as long as I could, but eventually I became too weak to even get out of bed," says June. "My vision began to fail, I had no appetite, and I lost thirty-five pounds in one month!" By the end of 2005, she was hospitalized.

"AIDS, Be Gone!"

In the spring of 2006, June's HIV had escalated to AIDS. She took medication to mask her symptoms, but nothing could hide her skeleton-like frame and the skin eruptions spotting her arms and legs. One day, as she went for her weekly blood transfusion, she received a grim report: she had only one week to live. She shared this with her best friend, who happened to be a long-time AWM partner. She informed June of a *Gospel Truth Seminar* coming to their area that very week. "I had never heard of Andrew Wommack," says June, "but I knew I had to be there."

June recalls her experience at the GTS: "When I went to the conference, my faith was high. I was totally

believing God for healing. At the end of Andrew's teaching, as he prepared to minister to the sick, he had a word of knowledge: 'The Lord is showing me a woman suffering from eruptions on her skin. It's like the chicken pox, but it's not.' I raised my hand, and Andrew confirmed I was the person God showed him. When I came forward, he laid his hands on me and prayed in tongues. Then he simply said, 'AIDS, be gone in Jesus' name.' I believed I received my healing right away. I knew God didn't get me into that meeting just to see me go home sick."

The next day June ran up to Andrew before he began teaching to show him there were no more skin eruptions anywhere on her body. Andrew smiled and said, "Well, praise God!"

The Call to Colorado

At the seminar, June learned about Charis Bible College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She knew she had to go. "I wanted everything God had for me, and I knew this was the place to start," she says. Although she had no money for tuition or rent, she didn't let that stop her from applying. God proved Himself faithful yet again when she received enough money to cover all her expenses, including tuition, just before heading west.

June began Charis during the fall of 2006. As she learned truths of God's Word concerning faith and healing, the devil was busy trying to get her eyes off the truth and onto her symptoms—symptoms that had been gone for months. He succeeded in his attacks, and June became very sick once again, suffering from numerous respiratory problems.

By January of 2008, June was under the care of in-home hospice three times a week and was connected to an oxygen tank everywhere she went. During the six-month hospice visitations, she continued her classes at CBC, determined to graduate with her classmates that spring.

"After graduating in May, hospice told me I should go see my kids in Canada and say my good-byes," recalls June. "I didn't believe I was going to die, but I did want to see my children. So I flew to Canada."

While in Canada, June became so sick, she couldn't breathe and ended up hospitalized once again. Determined not to give up the fight, she clung to two

scriptures God had previously given her—Psalm 118:17 and Isaiah 54:17. Against all natural odds, she remained diligent to believe and confess God's Word and started to recover. She was given medication to strengthen her immune system and was eventually allowed to return home to Colorado in August.

Healing Verified

"When I came back to Colorado, I went to work for a nurses' temp agency at a hospice in Colorado Springs. This was the same hospice that sent me to Canada to say good-bye to my family. When I saw the nurses who took care of me, they said, 'I thought you were dead!' I said, 'I can assure you I am not!'"

On August 23, 2008 June went back to her original doctor to get another blood test. She had steadily gained weight since she last saw him and was now completely off oxygen and all medication. She must've looked much

better, because he walked right past her and asked the nurse who his new patient was! Even when he was told it was June, he didn't believe it.

His real shock came, however, when he saw her lab results. Upon first review, he thought for sure he had the wrong tests. "He phoned the lab and told them they sent the wrong blood tests," remembers June. "They said they didn't, so he checked again. Sure enough, they were mine. But the tests showed no trace of HIV. The doctor stared at my chart for a while and then simply said, 'Well, you still should take the anti-viral medication because, you know, once you have HIV, you'll always have it.' I looked straight into his eyes and said, 'You can see for yourself that I don't have HIV. Why can't you believe that God performed a miracle in my body?'"

"He glanced down at my chart again, shook his head, and walked away. It didn't matter to me what he thought. I knew I'd never be back in his office again."

GT

HEALING JOURNEYS

— VOLUME 1 —

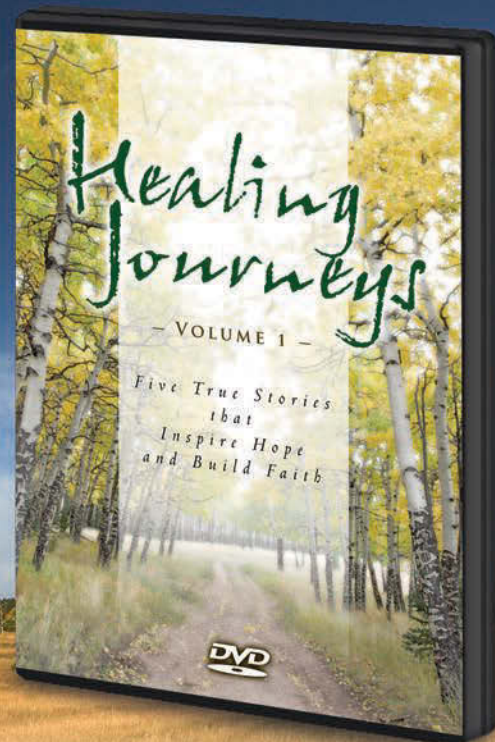
Healing Journeys, Volume 1 contains five stories (including the Niki Ochenski update) of amazing miracles that will inspire hope and build your faith. All are accounts of individuals who came to understand what God had already done for them through Jesus. If you or someone you know needs healing, *Healing Journeys* is for you.

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Berry WSSF/58 7:30 a.m.
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Mobile WWOL/50 7:30 a.m.
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ARIZONA

Holbrook KDTP/11 5:30 a.m.
Phoenix KDTP/48 5:30 a.m.
KPAZ/21 Mon. 11:30 a.m.
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CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles KDAS/48 5:30 a.m.
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COLORADO

Colorado Springs KJCS/38 6:30 a.m.

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Comcast/6 12:00 p.m.

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KRMT/41 6:30 a.m.

KWHD/53 8:30 a.m.
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington WDCA/20 7:30 a.m.
WDDN/23 8:30 a.m.

FLORIDA

Crestview WGOX/18 7:30 a.m.
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Jacksonville WJEB/59 Mon. 1:30 p.m.
Miami WHFT/45 Mon. 1:30 p.m.

Mobile-Pensacola WMPV/21 Mon. 12:30 p.m.
Orlando WDTQ/50 8:30 a.m.

WHLV/52 Mon. 1:30 p.m.
WTGL/45 1:00 a.m.

6:00 a.m.
Panama City WGOM/10 7:30 a.m.

Pensacola WHBR/33 5:00 a.m.

Sun. 7:30 p.m.
Tallahassee WVUP/45 6:00 a.m.

Sun. 7:30 p.m.

Tampa WCLF/22 6:00 a.m.

WSVT/18 8:30 a.m.

Wewahatchka WEWA/17 7:30 a.m.

West Palm Beach WFGC/61 5:00 a.m.
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WTCE/21 Mon. 1:30 p.m.

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Atlanta WATL/36 6:00 a.m.
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WHSG/63 Mon. 1:30 p.m.
WYBU/16 6:00 a.m.

Gainesville W28CD/28 8:30 a.m.
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Honolulu KAAH/26 Mon. 10:30 a.m.
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WCFB/51 6:30 a.m.

INDIANA

Indianapolis WCLJ/42 Mon. 1:30 p.m.
WDTI/69 8:30 a.m.

KANSAS

Hoisington KOCW/14 7:00 a.m.
Kansas City KSMO/62 9:30 a.m.

Salina KAAS/18 7:00 a.m.
Wichita-Hutchinson KSAS/24 7:00 a.m.

KENTUCKY

Louisville WBNA/21 10:30 a.m.

LOUISIANA

Shreveport KSHV/45 8:00 a.m.

MAINE

Portland WLLB/15 8:30 a.m.

MASSACHUSETTS

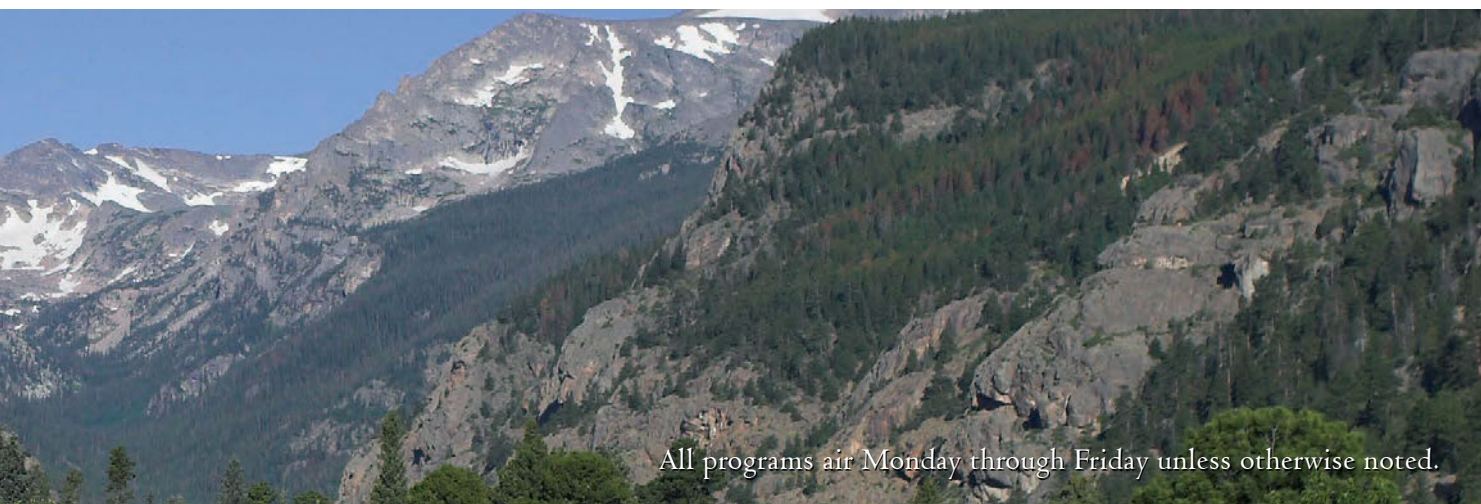
Boston WYDN/48 8:30 a.m.

MICHIGAN

Detroit WADL/38 12:30 a.m.

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis WDMI/62 7:30 a.m.



All programs air Monday through Friday unless otherwise noted.

	WUCW/23	7:30 a.m.		KWHB/47	11:30 a.m.		EWCW/20	6:00 a.m.
MISSOURI			OREGON			Norfolk	WFXR/27	6:00 a.m.
Columbia	KNLJ/25	7:00 a.m.		<i>Cable FM only</i>		Richmond	WHRE/21	Mon. 1:30 p.m.
		Sun. 6:30 p.m.	John Day	KNTS 89.7	9:15 a.m.	Roanoke	WRID/48	8:30 a.m.
Kansas City	KCDN/35	7:30 a.m.		KSPR 101.5	9:15 a.m.		EWCW/20	6:00 a.m.
	KSMO/62	8:30 a.m.	Portland	KNMT/24	Mon. 10:30 a.m.		WFXR/27	6:00 a.m.
St. Joseph	KTBJ/16	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	PENNSYLVANIA			Staunton-Waynesboro	WAZM/25	10:30 a.m.
St. Louis	KDTL/64	7:30 a.m.	Altoona	WKBS/47	7:00 a.m.	Tazewell	WJDW/48	7:30 a.m.
Springfield	KSFX/20	8:00 a.m.	Brookville	W45BT/45	7:00 a.m.	Winchester	WAZW/48	10:30 a.m.
West Plains	K38HE	7:30 a.m.	Elliottsburg	W12CA/12	7:00 a.m.	Wytheville	WJDG/23	7:30 a.m.
NEVADA			Harrisburg	W35BT/35	7:00 a.m.	WASHINGTON		
Las Vegas	KLVD/23	5:30 a.m.		WGCB/49	9:00 a.m.	Seattle	KTBW/20	Mon. 10:30 a.m.
	KEEN/17	6:30 a.m.	Middleburg	W18BC/18	7:00 a.m.		KWDK/56	5:30 a.m.
NEW MEXICO			Philadelphia	WELL/8	8:30 a.m.	WEST VIRGINIA		
Albuquerque	KAZQ/32	6:00 a.m.		WGTW/48	Mon. 1:30 p.m.	Charleston	WTSF/61	8:30 a.m.
		12:30 p.m.	Pittsburgh	WPCB/40	7:00 a.m.	Clarksburg	W21CJ/21	7:00 a.m.
	KNAT/23	11:30 a.m.	Sharon	W29CO/29	7:00 a.m.	WISCONSIN		
Santa Fe	KNAT/23	11:30 a.m.	SOUTH CAROLINA			Milwaukee	WWRS/52	Mon. 12:30 p.m.
NEW YORK			Greenville-Spartanburg	WGGS/16	7:30 a.m.	Sky Angel - IPTV		
Buffalo	WDTB/39	8:30 a.m.	Spartanburg	WSQY/51	8:30 a.m.	Angel Two	Channel 102	6:00 a.m. (ET)
New York	WKOB/42	8:30 a.m.	TENNESSEE				Channel 102 Sun.	7:30 p.m. (ET)
	WRNN/48	Mon. 1:30 p.m.	Chattanooga	WELF/23	Mon. 1:30 p.m.	The Church Channel	Channel 134	6:00 a.m. (ET)
	WTBY/54	1:30 p.m.	Knoxville	WDTT/24	8:30 a.m.			12:00 p.m. (ET)
NORTH CAROLINA			Memphis	WBUY/40	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	TLN	Channel 113	6:30 a.m. (ET)
Apex	WACN/34	8:30 a.m.		WDNM/59	7:30 a.m.	WPCB(Cornerstone)	Channel 128	7:00 a.m. (ET)
Asheville	WAEN/64	8:30 a.m.	Nashville	WHTN/39	6:00 a.m.		G25, T1	
Charlotte	WAXN/64	6:00 a.m.		WIIW/14	7:30 a.m.			
	WDMC/25	8:30 a.m.		WPGD/50	12:30 p.m.			
Greensboro	WCWG/20	6:30 a.m.	Pigeon Forge-					
Raleigh-Durham	WFLI/22	6:00 a.m.	Sevierville	WJDP/28	7:30 a.m.			
	WACN/34	8:30 a.m.	TEXAS			The Christian Channel		
	WWIW/66	8:30 a.m.	Amarillo	KCIT/14	7:00 a.m.	Star Choice, Ch. 399		11:00 a.m. (ET)
OHIO			Austin	KNVA/54	8:00 a.m.	Rogers Digital, Ch. 396		11:00 a.m. (ET)
Cleveland	WCDN/53	8:30 a.m.	Beaumont	KITU/34	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	MTS TV, Ch. 21		11:00 a.m. (ET)
	WDLI/17	Mon. 1:30 p.m.	Dallas-Ft. Worth	KDTN/2	7:30 a.m.	Source Cable, Ch. 122		11:00 a.m. (ET)
Columbus	W23BZ	7:00 a.m.		KDTX/58	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	Telus, Ch. 158		11:00 a.m. (ET)
	WCLL/19	8:30 a.m.	Harlingen	KLUJ/44	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	Cogeco, Ch. 186		11:00 a.m. (ET)
	WSFJ/51	Mon. 1:30 p.m.	Houston	KETH/14	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	SaskTel, Ch. 282		11:00 a.m. (ET)
	WTTE/28	6:00 a.m.		KLTJ/22	7:30 a.m.	The Church Channel		
Dayton	WKOI/43	Mon. 1:30 p.m.	Paris	KPTD/49	7:30 a.m.	DirectV, Ch. 371 / G25, T27		9:00 a.m. (PT)
Toledo	WLMB/40	10:30 a.m.	San Antonio	KHCE/23	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	G23, Olympusat / G14, T1		9:00 a.m. (PT)
Youngstown	Joshua Channel	7:30 a.m.		KMYS/35	6:30 a.m.	G15, T22		9:00 a.m. (PT)
		11:00 p.m.		KQVE/46	7:30 a.m.	Daystar Int'l		
OKLAHOMA			VIRGINIA			AMC 4, T3 / G10R, T5		7:30 a.m. (CT)
Oklahoma City	KOCM/46	7:30 a.m.	Front Royal	WAZF/28	10:30 a.m.	INSP	G15, T17	7:00 a.m.
	KOCB/34	6:30 a.m.	Harrisburg	WAZH/24	10:30 a.m.			10:30 p.m.
	KTBO/14	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	Harrisonburg	WAZT/10	10:30 a.m.			
Tulsa	KDOR/17	Mon. 12:30 p.m.	Luray	WAZC/16	10:30 a.m.			
	KTZT/29	7:30 a.m.	Lynchburg	WWCW/21	6:00 a.m.			

CANADA SATELLITE TV BROADCAST

The Christian Channel		
Star Choice, Ch. 399		11:00 a.m. (ET)
Rogers Digital, Ch. 396		11:00 a.m. (ET)
MTS TV, Ch. 21		11:00 a.m. (ET)
Source Cable, Ch. 122		11:00 a.m. (ET)
Telus, Ch. 158		11:00 a.m. (ET)
Cogeco, Ch. 186		11:00 a.m. (ET)
SaskTel, Ch. 282		11:00 a.m. (ET)

The Church Channel		
DirectV, Ch. 371 / G25, T27		9:00 a.m. (PT)
G23, Olympusat / G14, T1		9:00 a.m. (PT)
G15, T22		9:00 a.m. (PT)

Daystar Int'l		
AMC 4, T3 / G10R, T5		7:30 a.m. (CT)

INSP	G15, T17	7:00 a.m.
		10:30 p.m.

Internet access to the TV programs is available
at www.awmi.net/tv

Gospel Truth North American Radio

INDEPENDENT RADIO STATIONS

ALABAMA

Mobile WMOB 1360 AM 8:00 a.m.

ARIZONA

Phoenix KXXT 1010 AM 8:45

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles KTYM 1460 AM 10:15 a.m.

COLORADO

Colorado Springs KCBR 1040 AM 10:00 a.m.
Denver KLT 670 AM 6:45 a.m.

FLORIDA

Cocoa WMIE 91.5 FM 7:15 a.m.
Jacksonville WYMM 1530 AM 8:00 a.m.
Daytona Beach WKTO 88.7 FM 10:30 a.m.
11:00 p.m.

GEORGIA

Atlanta WAEC 860 AM 10:30 a.m.
Augusta WRMK 100.3 FM 10:30 a.m.

IDAHO

Twin Falls KAGF 105.5 FM 12:00 a.m. /
6:00 a.m. / 11:00 a.m. / 9:00

p.m.

ILLINOIS

Rockford WHJG 93.3 FM 3:30 p.m.

KANSAS

Kansas City KCNW 1380 11:00 a.m.

LOUISIANA

New Orleans WVOG 600 AM 12:15 a.m.
Shreveport KSYB 1300 AM 9:45 a.m.

MARYLAND

LaVale WWPB 101.1 FM 5:00 a.m.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston WROL 950 AM 11:00 a.m.
New Bedford WFHL 88.1 FM 6:40 a.m.

MICHIGAN

Grand Rapids WFUR 1570 AM 8:30 a.m.

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis WLKX 95.9 FM 9:15 a.m.

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson WTWZ 1120 AM 11:15 a.m.

MISSOURI

Joplin KKLL 1100 AM 12:45 p.m.
Springfield KOZO 89.7 FM 3:30 a.m.
St. Louis KXEN 1010 AM 9:00 a.m.

NEBRASKA

Omaha KCRO 660 AM 5:45 a.m.

NORTH CAROLINA

Albemarle WSPC 1010 AM Sat. 7:00 a.m.
Sun. 10:30 a.m.
WZKY 1580 AM Sun. 8:00 a.m.
Cherryville WCSL 1590 AM 1:00 p.m.
Winston Salem WBFI 1550 AM 12:15 p.m.

OHIO

Canton WOFN 88.7 FM 4:30 a.m.
Cincinnati WCNW 1560 AM 9:00 a.m.

OKLAHOMA

Lawton KJRF 91.1 FM 9:45 a.m.
Oklahoma City KMSI 88.1 FM 3:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.
Tulsa KNYD 90.5 FM 3:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

KDIM 88.1 FM 3:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

OREGON

Portland KKPZ 1330 AM 9:30 a.m.
Umatilla KLWJ 1090 AM 11:30 a.m.

PENNSYLVANIA

Cashtown WFKJ 890 AM 3:30 a.m.

TENNESSEE

Knoxville WKXV 900 AM 6:00 p.m.

TEXAS

Austin KFIT 1060 AM 11:30 a.m.
Brownwood KBUB 90.3 FM 11:15 a.m.
Corpus Christi KCTA 1030 AM 11:00 a.m.
Dallas-Irving KVTI 91.7 FM 11:30 a.m.

VIRGINIA

Falls Church WFAX 1220 AM 9:00 a.m.
Yorktown WYCS 91.5 FM 4:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston WJYP 1300 AM 9:30 a.m.
WMON 1340 AM 9:30 a.m.
WSCM 1410 AM 9:30 a.m.

INTERNET RADIO

Prince of Peace Radio 2:00 a.m. / 10:00 a.m. /
6:00 p.m.
www.princeofpeaceradio.net

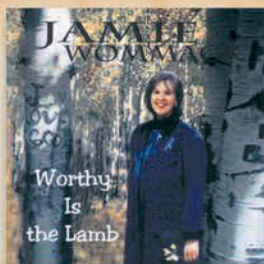
By Faith Radio 6:30 a.m. / 1:30 p.m. / 7:00 p.m. /
11:30 p.m.
www.byfaith.tv

Sky Angel - IPTV

Oasis Network, Ch. 214 4:30 a.m.(ET)
11:30 a.m.(ET)

Internet access to the radio programs is available
at www.awmi.net/radio

Worship with Jamie as she takes you into the presence of God

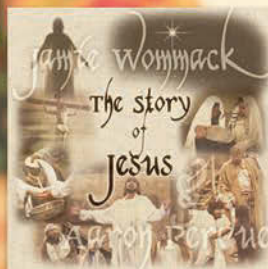


Worthy Is the Lamb

Relationship with God through grace best
describes the music of this album.

Item Code: S07

Suggested Donation \$15



The Story of Jesus

Jamie's new album tells the story of Jesus' love and grace in worshipful song.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Nicola Appelbe

Russia is a land of dichotomies. The stunning, gold-capped onion domes of the orthodox churches are a bright contrast to the bleak rows of gray, crumbling concrete apartment buildings that are home to the average citizen. The high-fashion, old rich read *Snob* magazine in their opulent homes, daily passing alcoholics lying in the streets. The Russian people are passionate about life, beauty, and art but have been stripped of hope and security through a dark and violent history of barbaric rule, seventy years of godless communism, and a highly unstable economy that encourages people to “live it up now because we might not have it tomorrow.”

On the streets of Russia, during a 2001 Charis Bible College teaching trip, Nicola Appelbe from North Carolina was struck by the emptiness in the eyes of the people. She had been praying about the next step after her graduation in 2002, and during that trip, God called her to Russia. After a brief argument with Him (being accustomed to the Western style of living), she gave in, arriving the following January. She joined the teaching team at Charis Bible Training Center, St. Petersburg, Russia, fell in love with



Ministry to the orphans of St. Petersburg



the Russian people, learned the language on the streets, and enjoyed mentoring the students.

Nicola soon became aware of dozens of orphanages in the St. Petersburg region. At one orphanage, little ones with runny noses, dressed in hand-knit sweaters and tights, desperately clamored for her attention. She began visiting other orphanages with a friend, sharing God’s love with the children. At the same time, she started giving to some of the *babushkas* (“grandmothers”) who daily collect beer cans from public trash bins to supplement their meager pensions. She built relationships with elderly neighbors that last to this day.

Last summer, while reading James 1:27, “*Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction,*” God led Nicola to start Hope for Tomorrow. It is a ministry that reaches out to the orphans and elderly in various government facilities in Russia, Kyrgyzstan, and other countries with humanitarian aid, teaching, and demonstrations of the love of God, who is their hope for tomorrow. **GT**

Power of Partnership

POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

IT COMES TO YOUR HOUSE FIRST

Dear Friends,

Your partnership with Jamie and me has always played a critical role in what has been accomplished through AWM. For example, in 1999 I appealed to a small band of partners who had become acquainted with me through twenty-three years of radio ministry. I asked them to fund our expansion into television. Around 1,500 partners responded with \$135,000. That was enough to "grease the wheels" and launch the Gospel Truth television program.

Then, when the Lord spoke to me in 2002 about how I had limited Him with my small thinking, I went back to our partners and asked them to help me take the limits off God. During the next fourteen months, we had the biggest influx of partners this ministry has ever had. That enabled us to broadcast the Gospel Truth on enough new stations and networks to make it possible for 50 percent of American households to watch the program.

In the latter part of 2003, as we pressed to finish the renovation of our new building debt free, we had over 2,500 new partners join with us, and that task was accomplished. Praise the Lord! Can you see the pattern here? Nothing happens through the ministry until our partners hear from the Lord and give. And the great part is that for them to give, God first has to send the blessings to their houses. What a deal!

Now in 2009, I feel it is time to grow again. We are taking the daily broadcast across eleven time zones of Russia, which will reach 140 million homes. We are opening new Bible schools in Europe and Asia. And I believe this year is the year that we will totally cover the U.S. with the Gospel Truth television broadcast and begin the process of saturation.

All of this takes money, and so I ask you to pray about partnering with this ministry. It is only through the faithfulness of our partners that we've been able to get this far, and I know it will take their continued efforts along with thousands of new partners to go where the Lord is sending us.

The benefits to the ministry from partnership are obvious. But often, people don't realize how partnership benefits them. That is why I created a teaching series called *The Power of Partnership*. If you would like to consider partnership or actually become a partner, Jamie and I want to send you this two-part teaching free of charge. It will bless you as you learn how partnership opens the door to special blessings.

In advance, thank you to those who will take on the challenge of sending this nearly-too-good-to-be-true news to the whole world. And a special thank-you to all of our faithful partners who have already done so much to share the good news. Great is your reward in heaven.

We love you,

Andrew and Jamie

Andrew and Jamie

To receive your free copy of *The Power of Partnership*, call our Helpline at 719-635-1111, or complete and mail the order form enclosed in this magazine.

The genealogy in Matthew is from Abraham to Jesus, while Luke traces Jesus' ancestry from Jesus all the way back to Adam. The genealogies are the same from Abraham to David, but from David to Jesus, they are totally different. Both these genealogies were accepted by the early church despite their differences, which is proof enough of their accuracy.

The answer appears to be that Matthew traces David's line through Solomon (Mt 1:6), while Luke traces the royal lineage through Heli, another son of David (Lk 3:31, 32:14). This would bypass the curse on Jehonias's seed listed in Jer 22:30.

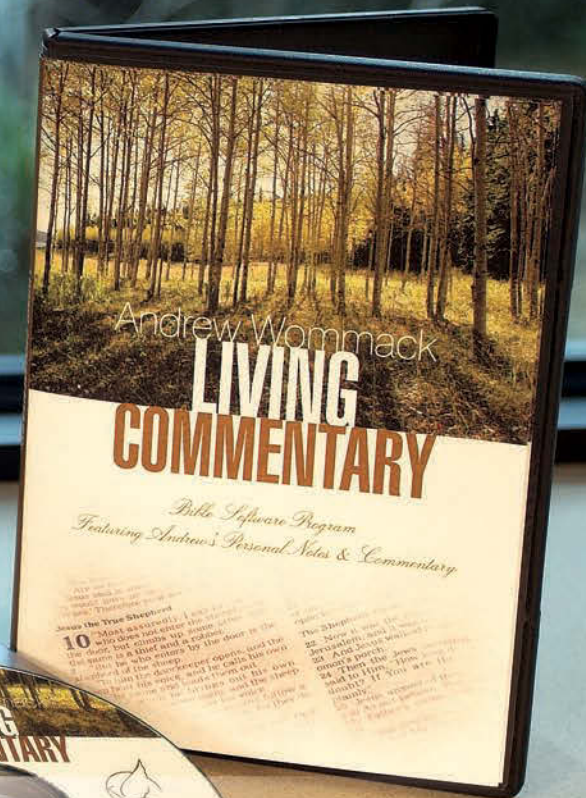
The justification for two genealogies is that Matthew records Joseph's line while Luke records Mary's line. Luke does say Joseph was the son of Heli, which would appear that Luke is also tracing Joseph's lineage, but that would not have to be the case. There is a biblical precedent for a man's first son to be reckoned to the mother's lineage if her father had no sons (Lk 3:31, 32:14, 33:31, 34:31). This could explain the substitution of Joseph's name for Mary's in Luke's account. This is especially appropriate since Jesus was the seed of the woman (Ga 3:13), not the seed of man.

Life For Today Study Bible Notes

Introduction To Matthew

The New Testament has its roots in the Jewish laws and prophecies of the Old Testament. Therefore, it is very appropriate that the gospel of Matthew comes first among the gospels for it was written to present Jesus as the promised Messiah, King of the Jews, and Son of David.

Matthew



Andrew Wommack LIVING COMMENTARY

People often ask me what I believe and think about specific scriptures. As much as I would like to answer their questions, there just isn't enough time to respond to them individually nor teach on the subject.

However, through decades of study, I have written over 9,000 personal notes and commentary on thousands of scriptures, and that number is ever growing. I know the revelations and insights contained in them will help answer a lot of these questions and will provide a great study tool as well.

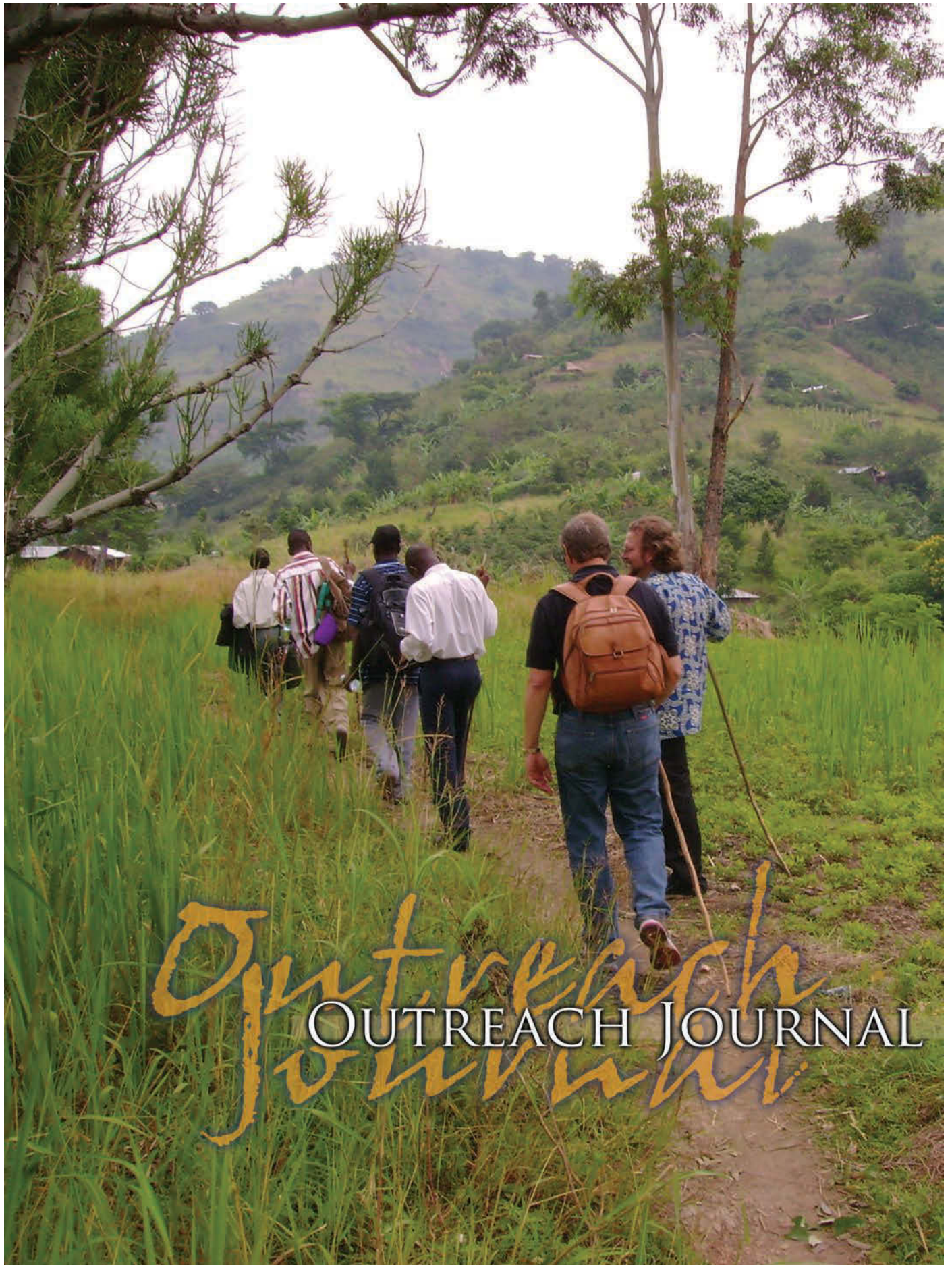
Therefore, I recently asked my staff to compile these into a Living Commentary Bible software program. And now, here it is. I believe it will bless you.

Andrew Wommack

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Outreach
OUTREACH JOURNAL
Journal



UGANDA *Update*

Andrew began ascending the steep hill on his way to a remote village in the Rwenzori Mountains. Sweat dripped from his forehead and ran down the back of his shirt in this hot and humid climate as he, along with David Hardesty (General Manager of Andrew Wommack Ministries) and Stephen Bransford (Director of Television), hiked through the rough terrain of the last silverback gorilla habitat. On they traveled, past family farms of coffee, bananas, vanilla beans, tomatoes, potatoes, squash, the biggest avocados you've ever seen, and tropical fruits of all kinds. Andrew could see from this abundance that no one is starving in Uganda.

As they walked through these primitive farms, Andrew stopped to visit families along the way. He passed out dried beans, rice, and other commodities the people don't ordinarily get unless they travel to town. Most importantly, he gave out Gospel tracts that were treasured like fine gold. Many needed prayer for healing, and many were healed instantly.

Approaching the top of the ridge, they began to hear the drums and the chanting song of the worshipers awaiting their arrival. The little girl leading them to the village joined in singing with the congregation and danced her way to the church. It was a wattle-and-mud structure without any electricity. They had attached a car battery to a PA system with loud speakers blaring their praise outside the hut.

The drums and singing continued as Andrew entered the building. It was much hotter than outside, so dark you could hardly see, and packed with these wonderful people. A far cry from the plush churches of America, but what a privilege to minister to people so hungry for the truth and so open to receive from the Lord. This was truly a blessed time.

"It was so great to see Andrew received here with open arms," says Leland Shores, the director of the ministry in Uganda. He moved there three years ago as a graduate of Charis Bible College-Colorado and began by bringing the Discipleship Evangelism (DE) Program to the pastors of that country. "I'm not reinventing the wheel," he says. "The lessons I received from Andrew at CBC are the lessons I pass on to the pastors in



Andrew and David Hardesty on the hike to Rwenzori Mountain village

Uganda. They, in turn, pass them on to their own congregations.”

This approach exactly fulfills the mission statement of Charis Bible College: “Equip faithful men and women for the work of the ministry by teaching spiritual truths, imparting biblical knowledge, providing practical ministry opportunities, and grounding them in the message of God’s unconditional love and grace.”

It was July of 2008, and this was Andrew’s annual trip to Uganda. He was there to minister to the people and see for himself how this outreach ministry was progressing. He wasn’t disappointed.

Leland arranged a *Ministers’ Conference* that nearly 2,000 attended. Andrew ministered for three days to the country’s spiritual leaders who would take this message across Uganda. During the ministry time, they were so hungry for a word from God that David and another man had to lock arms to give Andrew room to minister as the people pressed close to receive a touch.

Later, in a suburb of Kampala, he ministered to a group of pastors who had completed the DE

Program that Leland had taught. There Andrew felt led to lay hands on every minister and impart the gift of teaching. He prayed for hours, late into the night, imparting the teaching gift and prophesying concerning their future ministries. Leland later said this was the most awesome ministry experience he had ever witnessed.

Leland also arranged a meeting with the First Lady of Uganda, Janet Museveni. Andrew was able to share much of his testimony with her, and she was greatly touched by the work and vision to reach the people of her country. She was most impressed with Leland’s commitment to her people. Leland would soon be married to Carole, the daughter of a Uganda finance minister who, along with Carole’s mother, runs an orphanage of a hundred children in Entebbe. Leland is committed for life to these people, and she could sense that. She expressed several times her desire and intent to attend Leland’s meetings. What an open door the Lord has given in this country!

The *Gospel Truth* television program is broadcast twice a day from the 50,000-watt station in Kampala. Lighthouse Television, a twenty-four-hour Christian

Praying for a young mother





Minister's Conference in Kampala



Praying for a deaf man after the conference

Ministry in a mountain village church



television station, was established by Bob Nichols, pastor of Calvary Cathedral in Fort Worth, Texas, and the senior board member of AWM. This is a television station that was originally owned by the communists for propaganda purposes, but is now in the hands of believers. Pastor Nichols made this broadcast possible. It literally reaches the entire nation of over fifty million people. Andrew was surprised at how many people from all over the country recognized him from the program. The good news is reaching the nation and changing the culture.

The success of the work there has led to the opening of a bookstore at the busiest intersection in the center of Kampala. Members of the Uganda team man the store and pray for everyone who comes in. This is the ministry in action. And in 2010 CBC of Uganda will begin classes under the leadership of Leland. The future is bright for the people of Uganda as the message of God's unconditional love and grace impacts the hearts of these wonderful people.

Andrew could not be happier about what he witnessed in Uganda. And he knows that none of this would be happening if it were not for your financial support making it possible. Whenever you give specifically to the Uganda Outreach or to *AWM World Outreach*, you are a part of touching the lives of these people. Thank you!

GT







RIPPLES FROM ACROSS THE POND: A CLOSER LOOK AT CBC-UNITED KINGDOM

From the moment Charis Bible College opened its doors in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1994, Andrew knew he wanted to plant extension schools. He understood that to accomplish the Lord's plan for his life, he would have to multiply himself by teaching others to teach others. He also knew that many people, especially those in foreign countries, would never be able to attend school in Colorado.

The question, then, was where to start the first foreign school. The location became obvious the more AWM-United Kingdom grew. The ministry in the U.K. was changing lives throughout the region, and people wanted a way to get connected. "We heard of so many people who wanted to attend CBC but couldn't because of the distance," says Andrew. "We knew there was a huge need there for a school." It became apparent that the U.K. would soon be home to the second CBC.

In 1997 CBC-U.K. opened in South Chard, England. Wendell Parr, who is now the director of CBC and *AWM World Outreach*, was the first director. He and his wife, Linda, moved to England to launch the first extension school, knowing they would return to America in two years. Although South Chard has strong spiritual roots, the town proved too small and inconveniently located to sustain the school. About three years later, it was moved four hours north, to Coventry, England—inside the AWM-U.K. headquarters. It wasn't long, however, until

the school's attendance surpassed its accommodations, and the college had to relocate again—this time to Walsall, England, where it is flourishing today.

Throughout these first few years of growth and geographic unrest, the school also experienced a regular "changing of the guard" within its leadership. This reaffirmed to Andrew how imperative it is to have CBC directors who wholeheartedly share his vision. "People who come to our Bible schools expect the staff to be a representation of me," explains Andrew. "Because of this, the schools' directors must have my heart, vision, and employ my methods. This way, students will receive the exact same revelation and message regardless of what school they attend." To help ensure this consistency among his schools, Andrew requires all potential CBC directors to first graduate from CBC and then complete the third-year apprenticeship program.

After CBC-U.K. moved to Walsall, God spoke to Andrew about a new director. The then-directors' two-year commitment was coming to a close, and they were returning to America. "I really wanted someone from the U.K.—someone who had a real heart for the area. I felt God spoke to me about hiring a man named Paul Flanagan, whom I had previously met. When I approached Paul about it, he told me that the Lord showed him five years ago that he was going to be CBC-U.K.'s director. He didn't tell anyone but just waited on God to bring it to pass."

Under Paul's leadership, the school has grown 40 percent in two years and now has over 100 students. But with the current seating capacity of the facility, there's still plenty of room for expansion!

Since the inception of CBC-U.K., Charis Bible Colleges have also sprung up in Russia and Ireland. The Ireland school was started by Grady O'Brien, a CBC grad who completed his apprenticeship in the U.K. This year, a student who graduated from the U.K. school will be opening a new school in Hungary. And with nearly twenty nations currently represented at CBC-U.K., the

potential for planting new schools around the world is enormous, as these graduates eagerly return to their home countries to share God's truths.

Other nations soon to birth CBC extension schools include India (2009) and Uganda (2010). "We don't want to start new schools simply because a need may exist in a certain area," notes Andrew. "We have to make sure we have the right person who truly has a heart to be there. As multinational as our U.K. school is, I'm expecting that schools will soon start springing up everywhere!" **GT**



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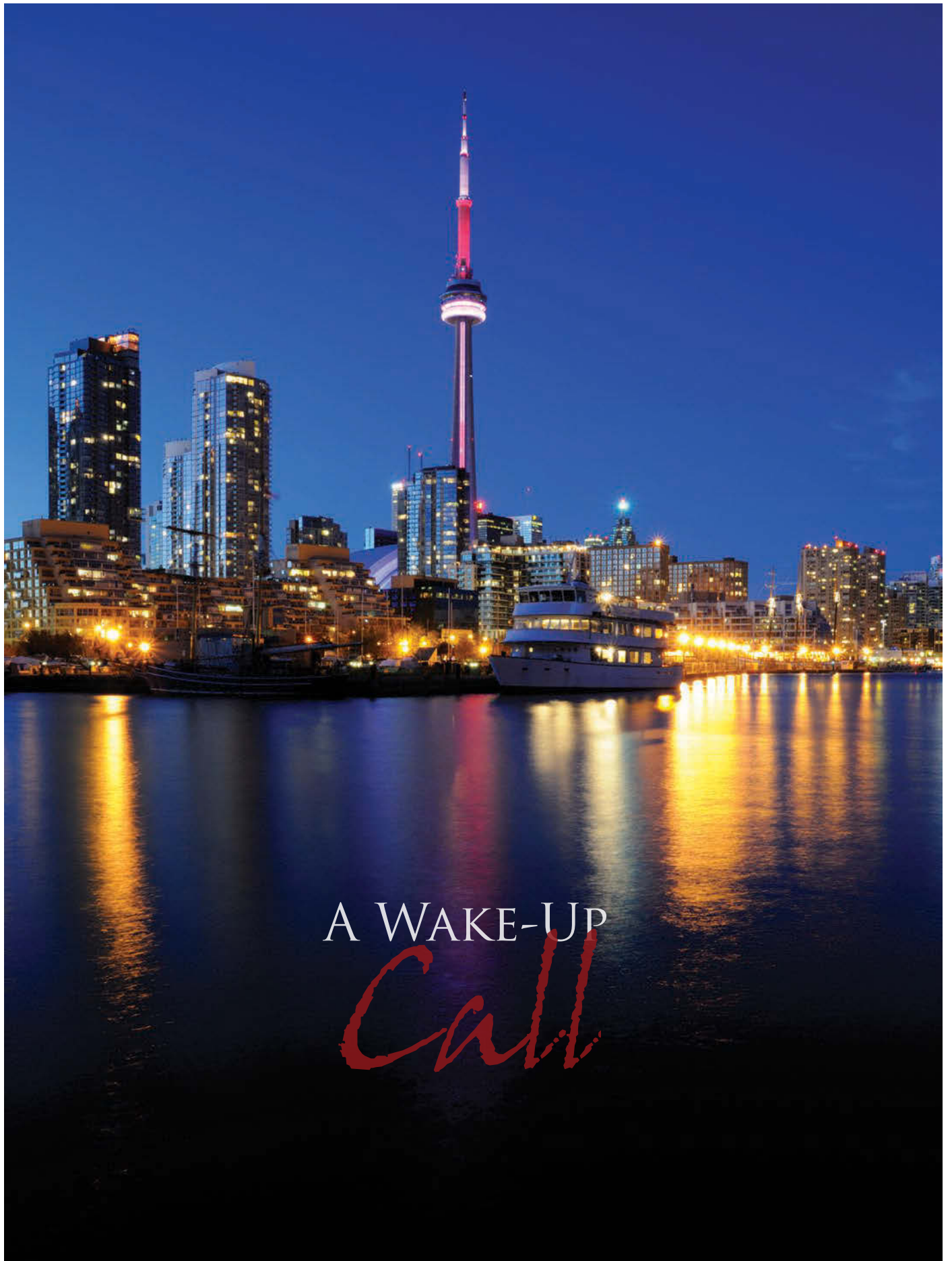


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A WAKE-UP
Call



A WAKE-UP *Call*

During the course of a weekend, God completely turned Ron Driediger's life right-side up. Adopted at age two, Ron grew up in Ontario, Canada. He began experimenting with drugs as a teenager, and by his early twenties, he was literally running for his life from someone who wanted him dead.

He flew to Dallas to meet up with a high school friend—a student at Christ for the Nations Institute. High on drugs, Ron spent the night at a hotel, tormented by a demonic presence. As he cried out to God, a cloud of peace filled his room.

The following day, Ron's friend took him to a church service at CFNI. Ron committed his life to the Lord and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The next day he registered for his first semester of Bible college.

Falling Away

A few years later, in 1985, Ron married Susan, a girl he had met several years prior in Ontario. Susan had also received ministry training at CFNI. As newlyweds, they immediately began pastoring a small church near Toronto, Canada. Instead of taking a salary from their

church, Ron and Susan worked for Ron's parents at the foster care program his parents founded. God had turned Ron and Susan's hearts toward this ministry, and before long, they had started their own foster care program in Toronto called Bridgeway Family Homes.

The Driedigers loved the Lord and served Him with all their hearts. As pastors, they saw the effects religion had on those they were shepherding, but at the time, they didn't know it was religious "Christianity" that had caused the devastation. Ironically, they, too, were shackled with these same chains of religion and didn't recognize it. Because they never had a true, intimate relationship with the Lord, built on His love and grace, they eventually began to drift from God and left full-time ministry.

"For fifteen years we experimented with several business ventures, which produced varied levels of success," recalls Susan. "We fell into the routine of

raising our four children, and soon the monotony of our lives led us on a continuous search for something new and exciting.” Over time, their walk with Jesus became less and less of a priority, until they just walked away from Him altogether.

Tearing Down Religious Walls

Their wake-up call came in 2004, when, at age forty-nine, Ron was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s mantle cell lymphoma. Shocked, devastated, and fearful, Ron and Susan called out to God for help. An aggressive round of chemotherapy ensued, and for the next six months, Ron’s health showed some signs of improvement.

It was during this time that Ron tuned in to the *Gospel Truth* on satellite television for the very first time. This was also the first time he had ever heard the true Gospel preached. Reluctantly, Susan began watching



as well. She had always been skeptical of television preachers and was certain Andrew would be like all the others she had seen. But Andrew proved her wrong. Immediately she noticed something very different about him. “I could just tell that he and the Lord were friends. This is something Ron and I never experienced in our walk with God.”

Through Andrew’s teachings, Ron and Susan began to learn that God did not cause—or even allow—Ron’s sickness and that they had the authority to do something about it. Over the next two years, they regularly watched the *Gospel Truth* and attended *Gospel Truth Seminars* when

possible. “We had the privilege of meeting Andrew and several members of his staff. We were inspired by the peace and joy they walked in. We knew it was the real thing,” says Susan. As their faith was built up by hearing the true Word of God, Ron came to the place where he knew in his heart he was healed. All pain and symptoms soon disappeared.

Although the Driedigers now understood that it was God’s will for Ron to be completely healed, they still had to battle their old mindsets. “We had been taught that everything happens for a reason and that God allows trials in our lives to perfect us,” says Susan. “Because of this, we became passive and receptive to whatever the Enemy would throw our way.”

They were caught off-guard one day when Satan began attacking Ron with symptoms. Instead of resisting the symptoms immediately, they chose to wait on God to heal him again, believing it would happen in God’s timing. This time it was too late. Cancer began to ravage Ron’s body, and he soon realized he didn’t have much time left. Ron was discouraged by his condition, but he was very encouraged about the new truths being revealed to him from God’s Word. Susan remembers, “We didn’t know exactly how to appropriate God’s promises yet, but we found life in the things we were hearing. The truth Andrew was preaching was setting us free from condemnation, dead works, and misconceptions about God’s love.”

One Final Wish

By the beginning of 2007, it was obvious that Ron’s health was quickly failing. His final wish was that his fellow Canadians would be able to hear the same life-changing truths that had brought spiritual freedom to him and Susan. He contacted several Christian television networks throughout Canada regarding airing of the *Gospel Truth*. He also pledged the first year of broadcasting costs to AWM so that finances would not hinder his dream from becoming a reality.

Ron fell into a coma in the spring of 2007 and went home to be with the Lord on May 15. By that time, Susan knew enough about God and His Word to realize that the difficulties she and Ron had with receiving God’s healing were due to their own shortcomings, not

God's. "I know that God is always good, always giving, always willing. He cannot lie and never fails us. His love never ends. None of this was His fault," Susan declares emphatically.

Since Ron's death, Susan has worked to complete the vision he had for Canadians to encounter the true Gospel. She worked with AWM to establish board members and register the corporation of Andrew Wommack Ministries Canada. In December of 2007, the ministry was official. And in September of the following year, the *Gospel Truth* began broadcasting on The Christian Channel. Susan is hopeful that this is just the beginning and plans to help Andrew expand broadcasts to more networks in the future.

Friends with Jesus

Once Susan understood how to walk in her authority in Christ, she began witnessing His miracle-working power in her family. She has been delivered from years of dependence upon antidepressants; her daughter, Ally, received healing of a brain tumor only three days

before her scheduled surgery; and a supernatural peace continually resides in her home and over her children.

"God has blessed us in so many ways, including surrounding our family with wonderful, godly friends," says Susan. "But perhaps the greatest blessing is that the friendship I originally saw that Andrew has with Jesus is now mine. That alone can get me through anything."

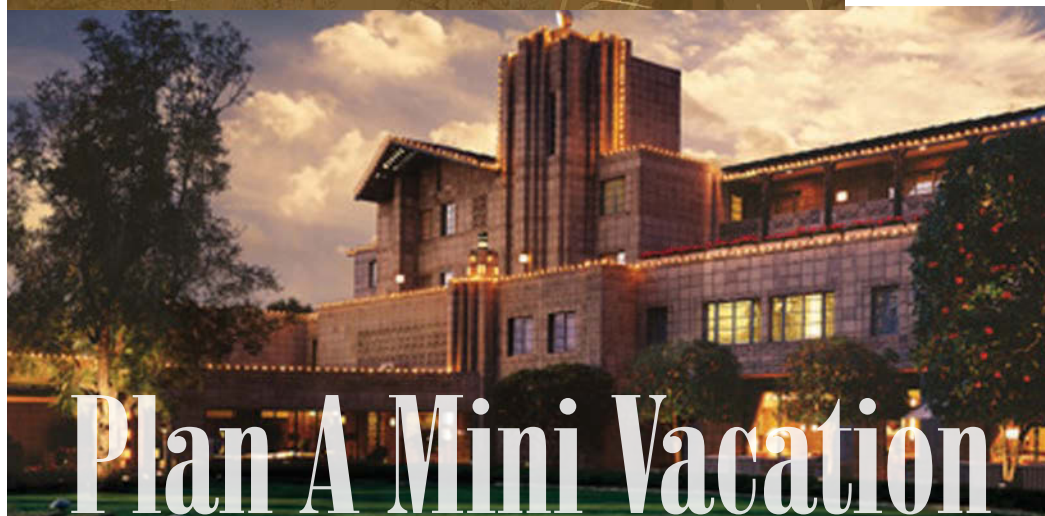
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IS THE SKY REALLY FALLING?

Many are comparing our present financial conditions to the Great Depression. With recent national headlines like “Obama: Catastrophe Coming if Rescue Isn’t Passed,” “Obama Warns of Turning a ‘Crisis into a Catastrophe,’” and others of similar context bombarding the American people, it is hard to see beyond the doom and gloom being spewed by the media. Unfortunately, bad news sells, and good news isn’t recognized as news at all. If we examine the “facts,” we find things aren’t what they seem.

According to Michael Brandl, senior lecturer in economics and finance at the University of Texas, an economic “depression” is when the economy shows a decline year after year and when the unemployment rate soars to 20 or 25 percent. In 1982, the year of the last notable decline, or “recession,” in U.S. history, the unemployment rate rose to 10.8 percent. The reality today is that the current unemployment rate is 7.6 percent. That means that the majority, roughly 92 percent, of Americans are still working. Although the unemployment rate has risen slightly, it is possible that the increase is being driven by media-induced fear.

Let’s look at another common area of economic measure, the gross domestic product (GDP). Since 1970 the GDP has only fallen more than 1 percent once, and that was in 1982 when it fell 1.9 percent. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, the GDP decreased by only 0.5 percent in the third quarter of 2008—a half of 1 percent. While the decrease in the fourth quarter of 2008 is anticipated to be higher—3.8 percent—the final percentages will not be released until the end of March 2009. Yet headlines in January of 2009 were screaming, “U.S. GDP Shows Biggest Drop in 27 Years,” planting further seeds of worry, fear, and doubt. As the media portrays this decline as a harbinger of the next depression, I think it is only fair to point

out that in the early 1930s, the GDP plummeted more than 20 percent.

The media has been relentless in its focus on home foreclosures. Mortgage foreclosure rates have risen. But the truth of this economic matter is that the buying frenzy between 2000 and 2005 caused home prices to more than double. Incomes did not parallel this trend. At the same time, financial institutions made money more accessible to buyers by easing mortgage qualification regulations. Slack lending practices can be blamed for many of the foreclosures we are seeing today. The mortgage foreclosure rate during the Great Depression was approximately 50 percent. In August of 2008, the national foreclosure rate was 4.4 percent. It may be higher now, but it’s not even close to what it was in the 1930s. The truth, even though it may be painful, is that the U.S. has needed a major adjustment from the unsound lending practices of the last few decades. For example, illegal aliens and others who had no way to pay back their loans were receiving subprime home loans with government guarantees. That’s beyond bad business—it’s wrong.

From 1929 through 1933, about 10,000 out of the 25,000 banks in the United States disappeared (source: Business and Media Institute). It’s nothing like that today. Currently our nation supports approximately 8,400 banking institutions. The recently updated Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Failed Bank List shows a total of 58 bank closings between October 2000 and January 2009. Speaking of the FDIC, there were no federally insured deposits during the Great Depression, but today the FDIC guarantee is up to \$250,000 per account. That simply means there will be no runs on the banks as there were during the Great Depression.

According to stats provided by Don Daszkowski, President and CEO of Business Mart, Inc. and the Franchise Buyers Network, America's largest annual day of purchasing—"Black Friday" (the day after Thanksgiving)—showed 172 million shoppers spent 10.6 billion dollars in 2008. That is a 7 percent overall increase in consumer spending from 2007.

Can you see a pattern here? The world likes to exaggerate (literally, lie) and present the worst-case scenarios because bad news sells. I can't do much about the world, but I would like to use my influence to affect believers. We are not to let our hearts be troubled:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1).

The media's portrayal of this economy is a ploy of the Enemy. His only trick is, and always has been, deception. Our action or reaction to this attack boils down to our kingdom mindset. As believers in Christ, we are heirs to the kingdom of God, and we have promises from the Lord that He will supply our needs according to His riches IN GLORY by Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19). We aren't limited by this world or this "kingdom's" economy! Let those who only trust in money panic. In God we trust.

"I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust" (Ps. 91:2).

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes" (Ps. 118:8-9).

"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation" (Is. 12:2).

"Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength" (Is. 26:4).

"The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him" (Nah. 1:7).

We should be rejoicing!

All of this is to say, THE SKY IS NOT FALLING. Chicken Little is out there again predicting the worst, and I'm amazed at how many people are buying into this. I expect this from unbelievers, but many Christians are just as worried as those who don't have the promises of God.

I'm not saying you shouldn't make adjustments. If you bought into this world's philosophy—getting all you can and getting it by mortgaging your future—then come to your senses, and follow the principles of God's Word.

The mainstream media would have you believe, as Chicken Little did, that the sky is falling and that the world's economy is crumbling beneath your feet. It is not! **GT**



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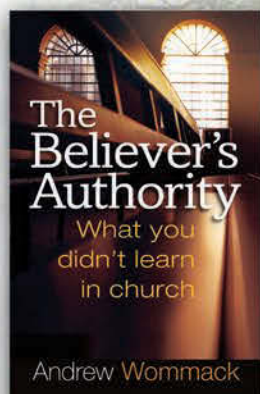


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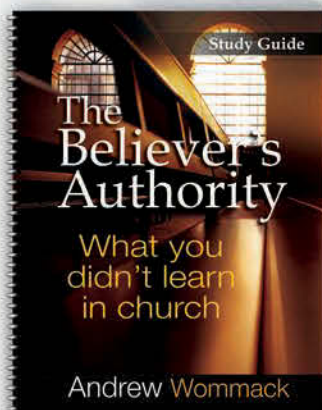


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