

The Power of Our Testimonies

Text: Revelation 12:10 *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. ¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

Introduction: Your testimony carries the power of God to transform the hearer. As we come to the Christmas season every testimony both manifested God's power and inspired action in the hearer.

1. Mary's testimony to Elisabeth releases the Holy Spirit to fill her:

Luke 1:26 *And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷ To virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. ²⁹ And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. ³⁰ And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. ³¹ And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³² He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ³³ And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. ³⁴ Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? ³⁵ And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God*

Testimony: ³⁶ *And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing shall be impossible.*

Result: ³⁸ *And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. ³⁹ And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; ⁴⁰ And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.*

Testimony: ⁴¹ *And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb;*

Result: *and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: ⁴² And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. ⁴³ And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.*

Mary prophesies:

⁴⁶ *And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, ⁴⁷ And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.-----*

2. Peter testifies of his experience with Jesus, the open vision and the Holy Spirit is poured out on the Gentiles

Testimony: Acts 10:38 *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: ⁴⁰ Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; ⁴¹ Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. ⁴³ To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.*

Result: ⁴⁴ *While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. ⁴⁵ And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, ⁴⁷ Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?*

3. The Samaritan woman shares her testimony with the men in the town and they came out to meet Jesus

John 4:39 *And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.*

4. Israel drew strength and fortified faith through rehearsing the Testimony of the Law, Parting of the Red Sea delivering them from the Egyptians, etc.

From the Old Testament through today Jews celebrate testimonies of God's faithfulness!

5. Now it is time for you to share your testimony!

- Let's hear the testimony from Gabrielle Jorge

6. Share what the Lord has done for you relating to others pain and success!

- Personal Stories Foster Connection

Romans 12:15 *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.*

Quote: People may forget what you said, people may forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel - Maya Angelou

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 *ESV Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction*

7. Sharing Our Stories Encourages Others

Hebrews 10:23 *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) ²⁴ And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works ²⁵ Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

8. From your greatest struggles comes His greatest anointing – Tell your story

- Joseph testifies to his brothers

Genesis 50:20 *You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.*

Romans 15:13 *Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.*

Conclusion: Sharing our testimonies not only glorifies God but also builds faith in others, fosters connections, encourages transformation, and serves as a powerful tool for evangelism. Let us not shy away from telling our stories, for they are powerful testimonies of God.

Worship God through our first-fruits, tithes, offerings, and sacrifices:

Prove that God is faithful as you sow your finances and tell your testimony!

Malachi 3:10 *Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. ¹¹ And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. ¹² And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.*

Speaking in error!

¹³ *Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?*

¹⁴ *Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts? ¹⁵ And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.*

Testimony: ¹⁶ *Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. ¹⁷ And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. ¹⁸ Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.*