

A portrait of an older man with short, light brown hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a dark blue patterned shirt and a dark blue tie. His hands are clasped in front of him, and a silver watch is visible on his left wrist. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

WHY I AM A CHRISTIAN

BILL SUBRITZKY



Why I Am a Christian
Bill Subritzky
1925 – 2015

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FOREWORD

Some years ago a prominent New Zealand lawyer who at one time was a partner in our law firm asked me why I was a Christian.

The following pages give the answer...

CONTENTS

My Early Days	1
Driven to Succeed	5
Getting My Own Way	9
Resisting the Call	12
Money Doesn't Buy Happiness	15
Reviewing the Goal	18
Now I'm Intrigued	21
Putting God in Charge	26
The Adventure Begins	32
A Transformed Family	36
The Beginnings of Ministry	38
Miracle After Miracle	42
A New Season	50
What About You?	56

A blue-tinted landscape featuring a dirt road that curves through a field of tall grass. In the background, there are rolling hills and a cluster of trees on the left side. The overall scene is serene and natural.

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

ROMANS 8:28

CHAPTER 1

MY EARLY DAYS

When I was eight years of age my younger brother Keith, aged four, contracted cancer from which he died some six months later. By then he was just skin and bone. On the day he died I was playing in the adjacent fields when I heard somebody calling me to return home immediately.

I sensed something dreadful had happened and as I ran up the back stairs of our home my mother who was waiting there took me in her arms and weeping said, “You are all we have now.” I knew immediately that my brother had died. While I had an older stepbrother I was now the only child of the marriage.

Many years later my mother told me that on the day my brother died she heard Keith calling from the bedroom, “Mummy and Daddy come quickly!” They raced into the bedroom and to their utter amazement Keith was sitting up looking perfectly well. His colour had returned and for a moment it looked as though his whole body was normal. He was not looking at them. He was looking upwards with great expectation and said, “Mummy and Daddy, I have to go now. Goodbye.” Then he was gone.

The Bible says that the angels of God always behold the faces of the children. Until a child reaches the age of understanding he or she does not stand before the judgement seat. Instead, if they die before that age, they

go into the presence of God without facing judgement.

I have no doubt that the angels had come for Keith. He was looking at them as he died. This was why he was looking upwards with such joy and expectation.

I well remember a lady telling me that she watched her partner die (at a comparatively young age) after a long illness. They were not married. She said she would never forget the scene. He sat up in bed. A look of terror came on his face and he began screaming, “No! No! No!” as he died. Clearly the angels of God had not come for him! Satan’s demonic powers had arrived to escort him into hell to await the final judgement.

Ian McCormack, a New Zealander who died and went into hell for a short time, describes it as terrifying darkness and torment. In His mercy and grace, Jesus had revealed Himself to Ian just before his death so that he had the opportunity to give his life to the Lord.

.....
Jesus drew him out of hell and then showed him heaven. He gave him the option of returning to earth. Ian accepted this because he did not want his believing Christian mother to think that he had perished forever.
.....

After Keith's death my parents, who were not churchgoers, joined a closed Brethren assembly. For the next eight years I attended a house meeting but then decided that I wanted to give up on God. I had not been permitted to listen to a radio or go to the cinema nor had I been encouraged to participate in sport. Christianity to me was a joyless life full of rules about what we should not be doing.

I thought, "If this is Christianity I don't want anything to do with it."

CHAPTER 2

DRIVEN TO SUCCEED

After secondary school I went to university in order to obtain a law degree. My sole purpose in life was to make money. I thought if I became a lawyer I would become rich. My father had been a hard-working man but there was never very much money to spare.

He used to catch fish and sell them from door to door. Sometimes there was not enough money to pay the bills and when the debt collectors called at our house my mother would not answer the door and I had to hide under the bed.

All of this drove me to the conclusion that I must succeed financially in life. This became the driving force in my life for the next 20 years.

During the time I attended university I worked in a variety of part-time jobs in order to pay my way. I had a job as a shift worker from midnight to 6am in the freezing chambers at the Westfield Freezing Works. I biked to and from work.

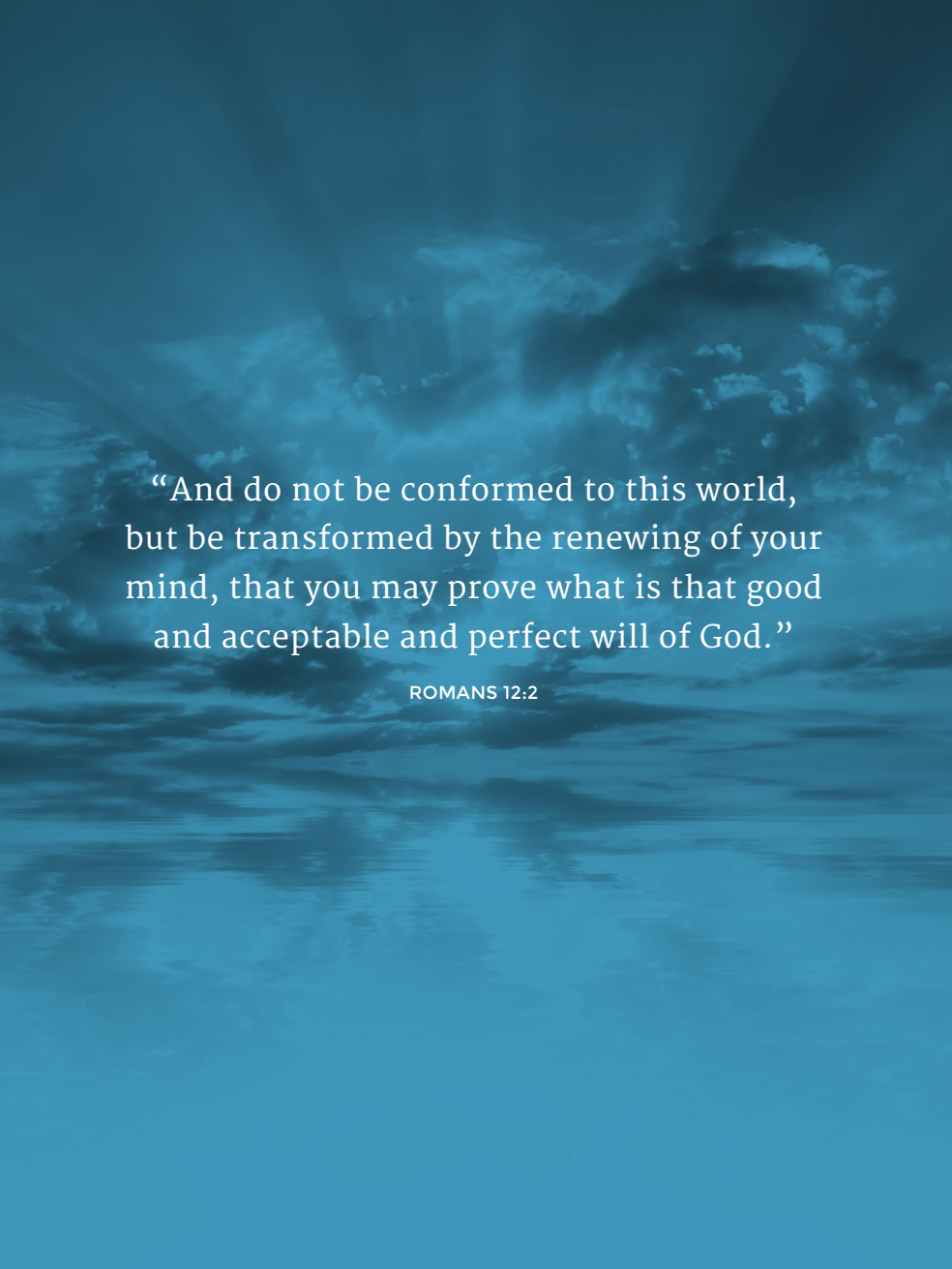
There were some very rough characters working there. One night a fellow worker took hold of me when there was nobody else around and threatened to throw me down one of the lift shafts through which animal carcasses were raised and lowered. He said he would do this unless I allowed him to have sex with me there and then.

I stood there in shock but fortunately the next moment somebody came into the same room and I was saved.

I also dug people's gardens to earn money. There were no student loans in those days.

Finally I obtained a job in a law office. The salary was a pittance but I was glad to work there and learn the practical side of law. I worked for my employer for four days each week in his office and then looked after his garden each Friday.

When I qualified as a barrister and solicitor my employer suggested that I commence the practice of law as a sole practitioner. He said that now I was qualified as a lawyer he was unable to pay me a proper salary. The day after I was admitted as a barrister and solicitor I did so.



“And do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your
mind, that you may prove what is that good
and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

ROMANS 12:2

CHAPTER 3

GETTING MY OWN WAY

I was at university for five years. During that time I met my future wife Pat at a dance. I was immediately drawn to her because of her beautiful hair and dancing ability. I went with her to her parents' home that night and asked her to go out on the following Sunday but she declined saying she was going to church.

I subsequently learned that Pat had been a keen churchgoer from her earliest years. She was the seventh child in a family of 13. When she was 10 years of age she used to round up her younger brothers and take them to Sunday School.

The last type of person I wanted to be with was a keen churchgoer, but I decided to continue going out with her. Some two years later, after I had qualified as a lawyer, we were married.

Our marriage was not an easy celebration because I did not want to be married in a church. The Anglican vicar had told me that he could not marry me without giving me instruction in the Christian faith. I attended his first session and began arguing with him because, coming as I did from a Brethren church, I had a totally different biblical perspective.

Finally he gave up the argument and agreed to marry us.

Shortly after our marriage my mother, who was a very godly

woman, died suddenly at the age of 49. She had prayed for me over many years. She never lived to see the result of those prayers but God answered them in due course.

I worked long hours at my law practice and began to build it up. In those days lawyers were not permitted to advertise their services and so in order to become known, I joined every committee that would have me.

I was on school committees, church committees, council committees and any other organisation which wanted me. Often I was asked what I did for a living and when I replied that I was a lawyer, I frequently obtained new clients.

A few years later, in partnership with a builder, I started a company which we called Universal Homes. This also became very successful. Some years later I bought out my partner.

CHAPTER 4

RESISTING THE CALL

I began attending an Anglican church and served on many committees of the church including the Synod which is the governing body of the Auckland Diocese. I became chairman of a committee consisting of pastors and elders from most of the local churches.

At these meetings I noticed that one pastor did not say much but when he did he showed considerable wisdom. One night he remained behind and said to me, “Bill, unless you are born again you will never understand the Bible.” With that he turned on his heel and walked away. I never forgot his comment.

I became chairman of the Stewardship Council of the Auckland Diocese of the Anglican Church. This council’s responsibilities included encouraging people to increase their giving to the Church. One day I received a letter from somebody saying that I was going the wrong way about it. The letter said I needed to be born again and receive the power of the Holy Spirit. I would then have the wisdom of God as to how we should encourage people to give. I put the letter aside.

Our four children were born in the early years of our marriage. Universal Homes was prospering and I was now achieving my financial ambitions. I soon had a Rolls Royce car, a nice boat and a beach home as well as a large city home.

I belonged to the right clubs and was chairman of a very successful local political organisation. Over a period of 20 years all of its candidates were elected to the local Council which they controlled.

Pat and I went to church regularly but I had no personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We travelled widely and saw much of the world.

During this time Billy Graham came to New Zealand and I attended one of his meetings. When he gave a call for those who wished to give their lives to Jesus Christ publicly I did not believe it was for me because I already went to church. Therefore I resisted the call although deep down inside I felt a desire to respond.

Six years later he came again and in a similar meeting I also resisted the call to go forward. I looked around at the people who were with me, many of them from our own church, and I thought to myself, “What would they think if Bill Subritzky went forward?”

Pride held me back. I missed out on God again. Jesus was not ashamed to die naked on a cross for me but I was ashamed to confess Him publicly.

CHAPTER 5

**MONEY DOESN'T
BUY HAPPINESS**

My relationship with my children was not the best. At 16 years of age Paul had an argument with me and knocked me to the floor. I thought, "I will fix you." I enrolled him in a course called "Outward Bound", which was designed to encourage young men to strengthen their bodies and minds in a strenuous outdoor program in the South Island of New Zealand. It was a six-week course during which the participants climbed mountains, hiked through dense bush and carried out risky manoeuvres. I thought this would give Paul some discipline and responsibility in life.

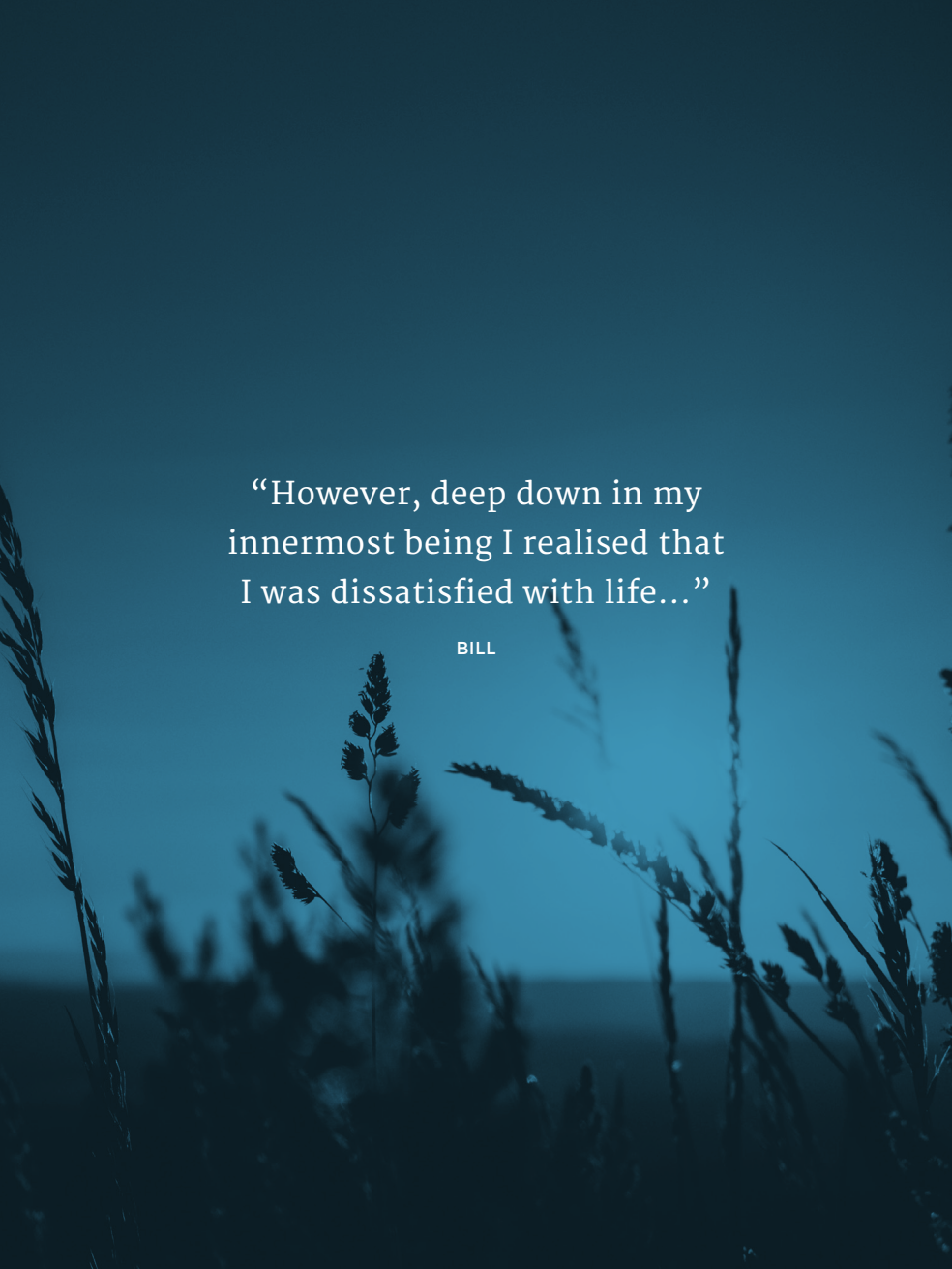
I met him at the railway station on his return. As he opened his mouth to greet me I could see that he was hardened and that he was lean and mean. The course had not helped.

A few months later he finished secondary school. He told me he was going to become a lawyer so I encouraged him to enrol at Auckland University. He told me he was not going there but rather to Otago University which is at the other end of the country. I asked him why he wanted to do so. He said, "To get as far away from you as I can." What a relationship with my son!

My daughter Janne also went to Otago University. Both of them were now well away from God.

The communication between Pat and me was deteriorating. I told her that when the children were old enough I was going to leave.

However, we remained married.

A blue-tinted photograph of tall grasses against a clear sky. The grasses are in the foreground, some in focus and some blurred, creating a sense of depth. The sky is a uniform, light blue color.

“However, deep down in my innermost being I realised that I was dissatisfied with life...”

BILL

CHAPTER 6

REVIEWING THE GOAL

One evening our daughter Maria, aged 15, spoke to me as she was going out. She said, “Dad, you should come with me and hear the person who will be speaking tonight at our church.” As usual I was absorbed in my newspaper. Much of my business success depended on government policy and I spent a lot of time reading newspapers. My response to Maria was negative.

About two hours later she returned home. I was still reading my newspaper. As she walked through the door she said, “Dad, you should have been there.” I just nodded my head and grunted. Then she said, “Dad, he was a multi-millionaire.” She had my instant, absolute and complete attention. I was always interested in people who made money because that was my own primary goal in life.

I asked her, “How did he make his money?” Her reply was, “By selling turkeys.” He was an American. I thought to myself, “How many turkeys would you have to sell to make \$1 million?”

Then Maria said, “Dad, he spoke in tongues.” My reply was, “He must be a tongue talking turkey millionaire!” I was not impressed. At that time I thought talking in tongues was of the devil.

A few days later a chemist friend told me that his church was praying for me. Then a Seventh Day Adventist who

was a client of mine came and told me that his church was praying for me. All of this troubled me. I did not want their prayers as I thought I was doing all right.

However, deep down in my innermost being I realised that I was dissatisfied with life and in some ways I was bored.

The gap between Pat and me was growing. Our communication had deteriorated even further.

CHAPTER 7

NOW I'M INTRIGUED

Shortly afterwards I was invited to attend a church meeting in a local Anglican church. It was difficult for me to refuse because I was chairman of the local group of church representatives. The speaker was billed as an important overseas evangelist. I decided to go.

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I was not prepared for what happened. The meeting opened with prayer and then singing. Then to my surprise the evangelist began praying for the sick. Up to then I had only heard our vicar praying in a general way for sick people.
.....

The evangelist began to describe the condition of some people in the meeting who needed prayer and invited them to come forward. One lady came out in response to a call for a person who had severe arthritis in her legs. When she came out I recognised this person. I also knew that she was full of arthritis and could barely walk.

In an authoritative voice, the evangelist commanded a spirit of arthritis to leave the woman and asked God to heal her as he laid hands on her. I had never heard of a spirit of arthritis. Immediately following the prayer the woman raised her hands and began to run down the aisle shouting, "I am healed!" She was completely changed and showed every evidence of being healed. This shocked me. I had never seen God heal somebody like this.

The evangelist then prayed for several other people for healing and most of them seemed to experience a major physical change. He then began to preach but I did not take a lot of notice of what he was saying. However he appeared to be very happy and have a joy about him that I could not understand.

My perception of committed Christians was similar to what I had seen in my childhood in the Brethren Church. There was always a very serious demeanour and little joy. When the evangelist said that he played golf and tennis I began to like him.

At the end of his message he made a call for those who wanted to receive Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. It didn't occur to me that I should respond to this call because I was chairman of the Stewardship Council of the Anglican Diocese of Auckland. I served on many important church committees, was secular adviser to my bishop and involved in many other church activities.

.....
However, I was ashamed of the name of Jesus Christ. Sometimes people would comment that I was a Christian and I would almost shrivel up inside. I had no power of God in my life.
.....

The evangelist said he would pray for the sick after the meeting. Both Pat and I had considerable knee problems

because of injuries from water skiing and snow skiing.

Having seen the result of prayer on the lady with arthritis I mustered up enough courage to suggest to Pat that we both receive prayer for healing. She agreed. Because of pride I was not prepared to receive prayer while others were present so we waited until the evangelist had finished praying for everybody. That was 2am.

The only people present at that stage were the evangelist, the vicar, Pat and myself.

The evangelist asked me, "What can I do for you, brother?" I did not like the expression, "brother", as it was not used in my church. He was from England.

I then gave him a long explanation of the problem with our knees. He listened patiently and then said, "Brother, if you spent more time on your knees you would have less problems." It took a moment or two for his words to sink into my mind. I then realised he was telling me that I should spend more time praying.

In New Zealand a common expression used to describe a person from England is the word, "Pom". I thought to myself, "You cheeky Pom". However I allowed him to pray for me. He then prayed for Pat. The next day we found we were healed.

This was enough to cause me to want to hear him again. I learned that he was going to speak the following Tuesday night in Hamilton, a city which is approximately 120 km from Auckland.

CHAPTER 8

PUTTING GOD IN CHARGE

On the following Tuesday night, I had an early dinner and then made my way out to my car which was parked in our driveway. At the same time I noticed that Pat was going to her car. Our communication was virtually non-existent but she said to me, “Where are you going?” I said, “Hamilton.” She said, “I’m going there too.” With that she got into my car and we went together.

The meeting was held in a large hall with several hundred people present. Again the evangelist described certain physical conditions which related to individual people and sure enough they came forward. There were some major healings and I could not deny that I was seeing the power of God.

The evangelist gave his message and made a call for those who wished to give their lives to Jesus Christ. Again I decided that I did not need to go forward. I went to church already and held important offices within the church. I did not consider the call referred to me.

On the way home I felt a desire to go to the next meeting which was going to be held by the evangelist the following night in the same hall. I cautiously asked Pat whether she would be prepared to come and she immediately said, “Yes.”

Because it was the time of the school and university holidays our four children were at home.

The following night all six of us went to the meeting.

Again the preacher called out people for healing and there were some amazing miracles of healing. Then he gave a message encouraging people to surrender their lives to Christ. As he finished he made a call for people who wished to do so to raise their hands.

He carried on a long time inviting people to do so. So long in fact that I began to get very uneasy and wished he would stop. He was beginning to describe a person similar to myself who needed to respond.

.....
I felt the urge growing within myself to respond, the same urge I had many years earlier in the Billy Graham meetings. This urge grew stronger and stronger. I wanted to get out of the meeting but my family were on one side of me and there was a wall on the other side.
.....

As I felt this desire grow I knew I could not resist it much longer. There was an emptiness within my life and I knew it. The preacher then said for the umpteenth time, “Every head bowed and every eye shut. If anybody else wishes to respond please raise your hand.”

I just couldn't hold out any longer.

The urge to respond to God became overwhelming. I felt

that if I did nothing I would almost burst. I looked around to make sure that every eye was shut and every head bowed and then I raised my hand up and down so quickly that nobody else could see it. However God saw it!

I then noticed that Pat and all our family were raising their hands.

The preacher asked everybody who had raised their hands to come forward. I had overlooked this possibility. The game was up. I now had to stand publicly before others and confess Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour.

The Bible says that if we confess Jesus with our mouth and believe in our heart we shall be saved. That night, as I did so, something began to happen in my life.

After the preacher had led us in prayer, he asked for those who wished to be baptised in the Holy Spirit and receive the gift of tongues to go to the side of the meeting and receive prayer. This was not for me. I did not believe that the gift of tongues was for today. I had criticised those who did so.

Then Maria turned to me and said, “Dad, you need this!” I did not know that some time earlier Maria had gone on her knees in her bedroom and received Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour. She also spoke in tongues.

I loved Maria deeply. I could not resist her words. As she

encouraged me to receive this gift I went to one side along with the others. Pat and the rest of our family followed.

There were about 40 people and most of them were women. As the preacher began to pray with them, some made strange sounds and fell over while others wept. I wanted to run but Maria was watching me.

The next thing that happened was that the preacher was laying hands on me and saying, “Open your mouth, brother, and speak out”. As I did so a strange language poured out of my mouth. I was stunned. The preacher gave a great shout of “Alleluia!” and jumped in the air. He must have thought that God had cracked the toughest nut in New Zealand.



CHAPTER 9

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

As I drove home that night I was bewildered. However the next morning when I looked out the bedroom window, I could not believe what I was seeing. I had never seen the grass so green, the trees so beautiful and heard the birds singing like that.

.....
As I drove to my office and looked at the blue sky I realised I was looking at the earth with new eyes. I realised I was born again. I felt that God had brought my soul out of prison. The presence of God filled the car.
.....

Immediately I wanted to tell others of my experience. As I went up in the elevator to the office, I looked around deciding to whom I could relate my experience. There was another lawyer there with whom I served on many church committees. I was hoping that the remainder of the people would leave at the other floors so that we would be alone.

Finally we were the only ones remaining in the elevator. I said, “Ron, I want to tell you I am born again and speak in tongues.” He looked at me in shock. As the elevator reached his floor he backed out just looking at me.

Obviously I wasn’t getting very far with my first attempt to tell others of my experience. However, I decided to speak to my two principal legal partners. I called them into my office and related how I had been born again and received the gift of tongues.

They looked at each other, said nothing, but went along the corridor to another office and had a conference. Obviously they decided that something was seriously wrong with me.

Now I knew the reality of Jesus Christ in my life. I knew I could pray to Him and that He would hear me. For the first time in my life I could pray to God with confidence. He was real.

I closed the office door, went on my knees and said to God, “Please do the same to my legal partners as you have done to me, and You had better start on that Catholic one as he will be the easiest.” (Talk about helping God!) I knew that my legal partner, Terry Way, was a very open type of person and I thought he might listen.

About a week later he came into my office and said he had been invited to a Catholic charismatic prayer meeting. I urged him to go. Six weeks later he rushed into my office one morning to tell me that he had been born again and spoke in tongues. Now there were two of us. I had read in the Bible that if any two be in agreement as touching anything on earth as we pray in the will of God, it is accomplished in heaven.

We began to pray together for our other senior legal partner, Maurice Tetley Jones.

At Universal Homes I commenced a prayer meeting which many of the staff attended. We made it clear to our house

buyers that we were a Christian company. This meant that we had to keep a high standard of integrity.

We gave each of our purchasers a Bible.

Over the next 10 years the company prospered mightily.

CHAPTER 10

A TRANSFORMED FAMILY

The most important event which occurred after I gave my life to Jesus Christ was the fact that our marriage was totally renewed. Trust returned and from that time forward we never had a serious dispute. I have often thanked God for Pat and I am grateful no other man got her.

Our children were also restored. Paul was immediately changed and has become a real man of God. He now directs Promise Keepers in New Zealand, an organisation dedicated to encouraging men to be men of God. Over the past 20 years a total of over 90,000 men have attended Promise Keepers conferences and as a result thousands of marriages and families have been restored.

Our son John is also a director of Promise Keepers. He has gone on strongly with the Lord.

All of our four children have made commitments to Christ. We have 16 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Each month we have a family meal and everybody comes. Usually there are 26 people present.

.....
None of this would have happened unless Jesus Christ had become the Lord and Saviour of our family.
.....

CHAPTER 11

THE BEGINNINGS OF MINISTRY

Within a week of our new birth in Christ, Pat and I decided to start a prayer meeting in our home. At the first meeting five people attended. Then numbers began to grow rapidly. As we all prayed together the power of God became very evident. We held these meetings each week for the next eight years.

We had a large home. We brought in 200 chairs and installed closed circuit television so that everybody could see what was happening. We began to learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit such as casting out of demons, discernment of spirits, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, public messages in tongues and the interpretation of tongues, wisdom and words of knowledge. We learned about the anointing of the Holy Spirit which is the manifest presence of God.

As people began to be saved and healed, the meetings became well known. We saw some great miracles of healing.

Over the next eight years many tens of thousands of people came to those meetings and thousands came to know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Pat and I began to hold meetings as evangelists. We spoke in many countries around the world in hundreds of meetings and saw many thousands come to Jesus Christ.

Many visitors who came to our home remarked that there was

a special peace around it. We know it was the presence of God.

We worked together in perfect harmony under the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Our other principal legal partner, Maurice Tetley Jones, attended the meetings. After some time he also went down on his knees and confessed Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour.

We now had a Christian legal practice. Many people who had severe marriage problems came in for counselling and their marriages were saved.

When I decided to follow Jesus Christ on 10 March 1971, I made a decision to turn 180° from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to the power of God. Without endeavouring to be critical, I find that many people do not make this complete turn away from sin with the result that they still have many struggles in their lives.

.....
When we do decide to make this complete turn around then sin loses its power over our lives. With the help of the Holy Spirit we are able to walk a life that is pleasing to God. As we do so, the peace of God fills our lives.
.....

The Bible says that the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

“God offers the same privilege to everybody
who is prepared to listen and submit
themselves to Him by asking Jesus Christ
to be their Lord and Saviour.”

BILL



CHAPTER 12

MIRACLE AFTER MIRACLE

Since being born again I have known the presence of God every day in my life. Time and again I have seen His great miracles in response to prayer.

When I decided to sell my companies the Lord provided the buyer at an excellent price. This has enabled us to carry on the ministry in which we are involved without having to ask people for money. We have been able to travel and minister in many countries and cities when those inviting us could not afford the cost of our travel and other expenses.

In 1987, 10 days before the great worldwide share market crash, the Lord audibly spoke to me as I was preparing a message I was to give at a small community in North Auckland, New Zealand. The message was based on the scripture from John's gospel chapter 10, where Jesus says, "My sheep hear My voice." The audible voice of God told me to sell all our shares in the share market. If I had not heard this voice I would have lost virtually everything.

When my father was 77 years old he had a major illness. The doctors gave up on him. He lapsed into unconsciousness. His lungs and kidneys failed.

I thought to myself, "Well, my father has lived a reasonably long life and perhaps it is time for him to go." A few days later, I had a clear impression from God that He was speaking to me and saying that my father was unsaved. He

had been away from the Lord for many years.

As a result of this impression I prayed for him every morning for the next eight weeks and every day I visited him in hospital. The doctor constantly told me that my father would die.

One morning, eight weeks later, as I walked down the corridors of the hospital God spoke to me audibly and told me that He had healed my father. He also said that He had given him seven more years.

As I approached the room where he was staying, the doctor stepped out of his office and said, “Come and see your father.” When I walked into the room, instead of my father being unconscious and attached to many tubes, he was sitting fully conscious on the side of the bed. He jumped up and said, “How are you, Bill?” as though nothing had ever happened.

.....
I asked the doctor how my father was healed. The doctor said that they pulled every tube out of his body expecting him to die but instead he immediately recovered.

At that time I had removed my name from the Auckland telephone book. This was because many people were telephoning me for prayer and other requests and I could not cope. Then my father, who lived in the same district and

had the same initials and surname as mine, began to receive these calls.

Then I discovered that he had begun to pray for people and he had given his life to the Lord. After that I often visited and prayed for him personally. He continued to enjoy good health.

Seven years later, almost to the day when he had earlier been healed, he went to the hospital for a check-up. I well remember the Monday afternoon that I visited him. He was sitting on the side of his bed, swinging his legs and telling me that he was thinking of marrying his housekeeper!

However, at 3am the next morning, the hospital telephoned me to say that my father had sat up in bed, given a little cry and he was gone. God had fulfilled His word exactly!

In 1986 I visited Ethiopia with a representative of World Vision to see its work among the starving people in a remote part of the country. We stayed the first night in the capital Addis Ababa. It was still a communist country with very few links to the outside world.

By what can only be described as a miracle, Pat managed to telephone me saying that our son John would probably not live the night as he was in hospital with peritonitis. You can be sure that I got on my knees and prayed about this.

That night the Lord gave me a scripture from Deuteronomy 33:26 and 27.

.....
*“There is no one like the God of Jeshurin,
Who rides the heavens to help you,
And in His excellency on the clouds.
The eternal God is your refuge,
And underneath are the everlasting arms,
He will thrust out the enemy from before you,
And will say, “Destroy!”*
.....

John survived that night and by the next morning was completely healed. When I arrived home, Pat told me she had also prayed and she said, “The Lord gave me a scripture for John that night.” It was the same scripture, Deuteronomy 33:26 and 27!

Out of the thousands of scriptures of the Bible, God had given Pat and me exactly the same scriptures even though I was on the other side of the world!

Many years ago I was invited to preach in the Anglican Cathedral in Singapore. As I spoke, I felt that the Lord was giving me a vision of a dark angel of death over the spire of the cathedral. I paused in my message and told the Bishop about the vision.

The Bishop responded that he had no problem about

accepting it was from God because during the Second World War the Japanese had brought 20 Australian nurses into the grounds of the cathedral, shot and buried them there. Their bodies had remained there until after the war.

We then decided to march around the outside of the cathedral and reclaim the grounds for God. As we were marching a rushing, audible wind, as loud as a 747 jet aeroplane, started at the top of the spire, came down across the grounds towards the procession and caused everybody to be thrown to the ground. It was like the wind referred to in the Bible when the power of God fell on the early disciples on the day of Pentecost.

The Bishop called out, “What is happening to us?”

.....
As we returned to the cathedral to complete the service we realised God had spoken to us and shown us afresh His great power by driving the dark angel from the cathedral spire.
.....

It is significant that following this event every Anglican church in Singapore experienced great renewal in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Singapore Diocese today is still one of the leading Bible believing churches in the world with a very strong membership.

For some 14 years during the Christmas holidays, in conjunction with a Christian organisation called “Youth

for Christ”, we held a youth camp on our farm property in the Bay of Islands north of Auckland. There was an average attendance of 1400. Many young people were born again at those camps.

One night at the very first camp, as I was addressing the crowd and encouraging them to repent from sin, I heard a similar wind to that in Singapore coming towards me from the back of the meeting.

At the same time I heard a similar wind coming from behind me. Both winds were extremely loud. They met in the middle of the meeting and immediately young people were thrown backwards as well as forwards from their seats. There was chaos. People screamed. Some ran for kilometres. Others ended up on the roof of the building. The organisers were devastated.

It took a day to restore order.

Two days later we listened to dozens of testimonies given by young people who said their lives were instantly changed when that supernatural wind came. Many of them were from poor families and you could only weep as you listened to the miraculous way in which God had changed them. They were released from drugs, immorality and many other sins.

Recently I invited people who had experienced long-

standing healings in our meetings to give their testimonies. As a result we have produced several DVDs of testimonies, many of them confirming that the healings have lasted over 20 years.

You can read many of these testimonies on our website:

www.doveministries.com

CHAPTER 13

A NEW SEASON

In 2011, after many happy years of marriage, my wife Pat suddenly passed into glory. She did not suffer for very long. I had taken her into hospital in Kerikeri the night before and when I arrived early the next morning she said she had had a troubled night.

She then said she did not feel well. Then she suddenly said, “Bill, I am dying.” I rushed and laid hands on her for a moment and she looked perfectly well but then was gone.

The angels of the Lord had come to escort her into heaven.

.....
I had walked into that hospital as a married man and 15 minutes later I walked out a widower.
.....

I drove back to Auckland over the next few hours. My reaction was a mixture of grief and joy.

Joy because I knew she was now with the Lord whom she had loved and obeyed all her life but grief because I was on my own. It was a mixture of praising God and weeping.

Her funeral was a time of celebration because we all knew that she had been promoted into everlasting life where there is no more sadness nor grief nor pain nor suffering but eternal joy.

I returned to the house which had been our home for over 60 years. We had raised our children there and seen them grow

into adulthood and bring their own children to that same home.

Over the next few months I occupied myself with meetings both in New Zealand and overseas. There was always that gap in my heart, that feeling of lostness although I always knew the presence of the Lord around me.

I continued to preach and see many people come to Christ and also receive healing and deliverance.

After a few months I felt a desire to remarry. Pat had always told me that if anything happened to her I should do so. She was quite firm about this. She always said, “Bill, you need a younger wife.”

As I thought about matters I began to think about Kaylene who worked in the office of Promise Keepers which was situated adjacent to our house.

As I walked past that office each morning on my morning walk I began to call in and have a cup of coffee with her. I said nothing about marriage.

Sometime later while travelling in my car with my daughters Maria and Janne, Maria suddenly said, “Dad, you should marry Kaylene.”

Kaylene was among those who accompanied me to Malaysia

where I was conducting meetings that were attended by several thousand people.

In the final meeting after teaching on how to hear the voice of God I encouraged everybody to bow their heads, close their eyes and listen to what God might be saying to them.

.....
At that moment Kaylene looked up at me on the platform and clearly heard the word “marriage.” She was shocked and looked around at the person behind her in case it was that person God was referring to, but it was a young lad. She then looked at the person in front of her and it was the Bishop.
.....

She realised it was God speaking to her. At the conclusion of the conference she went with a group of others to another island and during the next few days had the time to pray about the matter.

She told nobody about the voice she had heard which she believed was from God.

Finally after praying about the matter myself, I approached her and we both found a readiness in our hearts for marriage.

We were married a year later. On the day of our marriage a close friend of Pat and myself, Barbara, approached me and said that one week before Pat passed away Pat had told her and Beth, another friend, that if anything happened to her I should marry Kaylene.

She knew Kaylene because she had spoken to her at Promise Keepers.

This was a wonderful confirmation.

Furthermore, Kaylene was known to quite a number of members of our family because she had worked with them at Promise Keepers. All my family enthusiastically supported the marriage.

Since our marriage we have travelled to Israel and stood on the ground where Jesus stood and walked on the ground that He walked upon. It was an incredible experience.

Our ministry has taken us to Papua New Guinea, where we saw the mighty hand of God moving in healing. Many people were set free from bondages in their lives as well as others coming to Christ.

We held a crusade in Samoa attended by many thousands of people. The power of God fell on the people during the meetings and we watched in awe as people were thrown out of their seats under that power and were healed.

Our visit to Fiji was also a great experience. On the final night of the crusade meetings nearly every person seated in the stands came forward to commit or recommit their lives to Christ.

Many miraculous healings occurred.

We have also held many public meetings throughout New Zealand during this time. Some of them have been filled to overflowing with people standing around for hours outside the building anxious to receive a touch from God. Again the salvations and healings have been numerous.

It has been a joy to see how God has moved mightily in power through Kaylene. She is a gifted speaker and has a wonderful anointing of the Holy Spirit.

As she proclaims the Word of God many women have been moved to give their lives to Christ and also to receive healing and deliverance.

We have a wonderful marriage. Kaylene is totally committed to the Lord Jesus Christ and I could not have a better person as a wife.

The Lord has given her a great anointing which He uses to bring many people to Christ.

She is amazing in every way, always happy, full of joy and full of the love of the Lord. God has given her a wonderful ministry.

She is an incredible blessing to me and encourages me in every way.

I just thank God for her and rejoice in the goodness of God.

CHAPTER 14

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

When we give our lives fully to Jesus Christ the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit comes to live within us. With the Holy Spirit there is great power and believers can experience what is called the anointing of the Holy Spirit. This is the manifest presence of God within us. We often experience it as heat or a feeling similar to actual power and He gives us the ability to tell others about God without experiencing any fear. This is how the early Christian Church developed.

In addition, God has promised that He will never leave us nor forsake us if we will follow Him. With the power of the Holy Spirit within us we can pray for the sick and cast out demons and see great miracles.

Before I was born again I was a hardened lawyer. I did not believe in anything unless I could feel it and touch it. When I gave my life to God, He opened my eyes to the supernatural and revealed His presence to me. I have found His promise to live within us to be absolutely true.

I read my Bible every day and there is always some fresh aspect of truth revealed to me. As Kaylene and I pray every day for our family and others we find our prayers are answered. We also have communion together every day during this prayer.

God is real. The Bible says that not many mighty, not many noble, not many wise men inherit the Kingdom of God. We have to become

like little children and submit ourselves to God if we want to enter His Kingdom.

The point is that we can enter His Kingdom right now by submitting our lives to Him. I have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ and I know Him as a loving Father who takes care of me and to whom I can go in prayer during times of difficulty.

This is what I mean when I say I am a Christian. I am a son of God by adoption through Jesus Christ. He has sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in me as a believer and I know His presence all the time. Jesus Christ said He would send the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and to be our helper and this is exactly what He is, our helper.

God offers the same privilege to everybody who is prepared to listen and submit themselves to Him by asking Jesus Christ to be their Lord and Saviour.

I would never want to go back to the way I lived before I was a Christian. I was not an evil person; in fact I tried to do a lot of good. Good people do not necessarily get into heaven. Our works will not get us there. It is our faith in God that matters. If good works alone could get us into heaven, it would not have been necessary for Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to be beaten, bloodied, scourged, mocked and then hung on the Cross to die. As the Lamb of God, He took upon

Himself all of our sin and gave those who believe eternal life.

This is a gift from God. We cannot earn it. We receive it by confessing our sins to God, humbling ourselves before Him and asking Him to become the Lord of our life.

Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day and sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. You can know His presence in your life if you are prepared to submit yourself to God. The only way to God is through Jesus Christ. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

If you died tonight, do you know whether you would be going to heaven or hell? Every breath we take is one that God gives us. Our life is but a vapour and can end at any moment. Are you ready to die?

When my spirit leaves this body at death, I cannot take my possessions or money or anything. Naked I came into the world and naked I will go out.

The only inheritance that matters that I can leave in this world is my children. If they continue to live on as Christians then they can leave children who also know God.

The only other inheritance I can leave is “spiritual children.” That is people whom I have led to the Lord and who are born again of the Spirit of God and walking in true holiness before God. They will also enter heaven.

It is all so simple we almost miss it.

Are you prepared to submit your life to Jesus Christ and be born again of the Spirit of God? He can give real meaning to your life as well as healing. If so, I would encourage you to go on your knees and say this prayer:

“Dear Heavenly Father, I come to You in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ. I confess all of my sins. I believe You sent Jesus Christ into the world to die on the Cross for me in order to pay the penalty for all of my sins and to give me the gift of eternal life.

I believe Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day and is seated at the right hand of God. I turn to You now, Jesus Christ. I turn away from all sin and I ask You to be my Lord and Saviour. Thank You Lord, for saving me.”

If you have said that prayer with belief God will answer it. You need to be in a church which believes the whole Bible and you need to read the Bible every day. You also should be baptised in water as soon as possible.

You should also seek the baptism with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. This will give you power to witness to others about Jesus Christ, and the power to heal the sick as well as cast out demons. You will know the power of the Holy Spirit and God’s love will fill your life.

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WWW.DOVEMINISTRIES.COM

All Welcome



WHY I AM A CHRISTIAN
-
BILL SUBRITZKY

Bill Subritzky (1925 – 2015), was a well-known evangelist.

He had a worldwide healing, deliverance and teaching ministry. He was often asked why he was a Christian. In this book Bill describes what drove him to be a successful lawyer and businessman. He explains that when he made a decision to put God in charge, his life and family were transformed and miracles occurred. It is a compelling testimony to the overwhelming love and power of God.

“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

JOHN 3:3

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