

I DID NOT QUIT!



“I DID NOT QUIT!”

DR. Lester Sumrall

**Harold P. Hazen
Editor**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	Editor
Foreword.....	Peter Sumrall
Chapter One.....	The Example of the Apostle Paul
Chapter Two.....	Stepping Out In Faith
Chapter Three.....	Encouragement In the Hog Pen
Chapter Four.....	Threat of Violence
Chapter Five.....	Anointed To Preach the Gospel
Chapter Six.....	Around the World with Twelve Dollars
Chapter Seven....	My Seventh Life and Beyond

Introduction

This book may contain the most important teaching of Dr. Lester Sumrall ever spoken during his anointed career. It was first preached as a sermon, or series of sermons, and is now set down in print as Dr. Sumrall's timeless Biblical exegesis may continue to have impact upon this generation and generations beyond. The writings are from Dr. Sumrall's sermon notes, recorded DVD's and CD's, and from his other published and unpublished works, such as "How To Know The Will of God," the theme of which bears heavily on the premise of "I Did Not Quit!" As with other recent work which has been published subsequent to Dr. Sumrall's Homegoing, the editor has maintained the integrity of his written and spoken words and made only slight revisions and additions which are appropriate and necessary to produce congruity and readability. The remarkable life and matchless ministry of Dr. Lester Sumrall are felt through his vivid word pictures and descriptions of the awesome experiences which God led him through with miraculous power, testifying to his incredible faith. With unwavering commitment which will stimulate and inspire the reader, "I Did Not Quit!" chronicles how Dr. Lester Sumrall *"pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 3:14).

Harold P. Hazen
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Foreword

My father, Dr. Lester Sumrall, wrote over 100 books and preached countless sermons on hundreds of themes but none can be more exemplary of his life than I Did Not Quit!. From the moment that God lifted him from his deathbed at age 17 he labored without quitting for over 65 years until God finally called him Home in 1996. Of the many lessons he taught us and left as his legacy I can never forget my dad's relentless determination and commitment to fulfill God's Commission to reach a million souls for Jesus Christ everyday. He travelled to over 100 countries facing every challenge that the devil could conceive to thwart God's purposes and plans, but he never quit. Many of us may face similar challenges in our Christian lives which threaten to discourage and even cause us to swerve from God's appointed path. I hope you'll be encouraged by my father's true testimony of how all battles can be won and every victory is achieved when you refuse to quit.

Yours for the untold billions yet untold,

Peter Sumrall

Chapter One

The Example of the Apostle Paul

One of the great and desperate crises of my life was the day I left home and parents to go around the world as a missionary. I had preached through several states for three years, but now I was setting out to minister in many countries of the world. I was not especially stirred emotionally about going around the world until at the railway station. I bade goodbye to my parents, brothers, and sister and the train began to slowly pull out of the station.

As my hometown faded back of me and I could hear the roar of the iron wheels beneath me, I realized I was completely on my own. I had no church to sponsor me nor had I communicated with any organization or denomination. I had no source of finances whatsoever. God had called me supernaturally to go and I must go.

In reality, I am not a person with unequaled abilities. However, if I do have a quality that is a little outstanding, it is that I refuse to quit. This tenaciousness possibly came to me through my mother, who was a very strong person. When she went to do something, she wouldn't quit until the work was done. Maybe it is like what the Apostle Paul said to Timothy--that the virtues Timothy received were from his grandmother and mother. Whatever the case, I simply know that built inside of me is a desire never to quit doing what God has me to do.

The words of the Apostle Paul to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:7-8 are very exciting and keep me moving on the inside. Written at the end of his life, when he was ready to go to heaven, he made a dramatic declaration.

"I have fought a good fight..." From the time he was born again, until the time that Caesar Nero took off his head, Paul fought a good fight. He simply didn't quit. I hope that everyone who reads this book will do the same--fight the Devil, fight sin, fight worldliness, and fight controversy. Stand against that which is wrong.

The second statement that Paul made was *"I have finished my course..."* So few people finish their course. Even the Lord Jesus Christ said, *"I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work"* (John 9:4).

There's an opportunity in life to obey God, to work for God. That opportunity eventually will leave and be gone forever. The great Apostle Paul wanted everyone to know that he finished his course, that he took advantage of the opportunities given to him, whether there were beatings, or shipwreck, or misunderstandings, or prison.

The third statement that he made in verse seven was, and I like this one best of all, "*I have kept the faith.*" I have met ministers who did not keep the faith. They got disillusioned--they got hurt too much--and departed the ministry. They did not keep their faith.

Faith is very much like democracy in that it cannot be inherited; rather, it must be reborn. Children are not automatically freedom lovers. This generation doesn't realize that about young people. Parents let their children go to schools that speak against America and its founders, something that could never be done in other countries. Only people who love America should be leaders and teachers. Faith, too, must be born in a person. It must be "kept." Until the day that Paul went to heaven, he kept the faith. He didn't lose it. Believers must continually rekindle the flame of faith. I have the same desire for souls and ministry within me year after year. For more than 55 years, this ministry has kept the faith. We have it now, and we're going to continue to have it.

In verse eight, Paul stated the profits he would soon reap from fighting the good fight, finishing his course, and keeping the faith.

"Henceforth [forever in the future, he says] there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness...." There are rewards for those who are faithful. In my own spiritual life, I have had many opportunities to quit, to just walk off and say, "God, I didn't hear your voice. God, I'm going no further; I'm going to go back." But I haven't done that. If there's a quality in me that's stronger than other qualities, it's the determination, like that of the Apostle Paul, to finish the course and to keep the faith.

Paul's life as an Apostle was filled with opportunities to quit. He spoke of the challenges he faced and overcame: "*We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed*" (2 Corinthians 4:8-9).

But Paul knew, as I did, the enablement of Jesus Christ to carry on in the face of all obstacles. He was indeed an embattled warrior who suffered incredible hardships. But God's Power sustained Paul preventing the circumstances from overwhelming him rather than deliver him from them. When you feel you are at the end of all your resources, you are never at the

end of God's resources. That was how Paul could write,

"And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And He said unto me, 'My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness'" (2 Corinthians 12:7-9).

It was that strength and purpose which God had given me that kept me on that train the day I left home to minister all over the world, while those iron wheels seem to be clamoring "go back, turn back," I remained steadfast in my determination not to quit.

When you are at the end of your rope, when you feel you cannot take another step, when you feel lost, lonely, or forsaken, when the way is too rough, too overwhelming, and you don't know how to cope, DO NOT QUIT!

Chapter Two Stepping out in Faith

The first time God gave me a sign post and a direction about not quitting was when I was seventeen years of age. It was when God first told me to preach. Looking for encouragement and guidance, I asked my father if I should preach and he said, "No!"

Early one morning I walked into the dining room where my father was eating breakfast. I told him that I had definitely decided to preach and that another young man and I were leaving that day for a rural district to conduct a revival meeting in a school building. My father spoke roughly to me and warned me of the privations of ministers in general. He also reminded me of the money that had already been spent preparing me for another vocation. He brusquely told me that without a doubt I would starve if I went out to preach and that I should expect no help from him.

Heartbroken and presuming he was right, I went back to my bedroom, lay on the floor, and wept. I wept and cried before God, ready to quit even before starting. "You will starve!" continually boomed through my mind and heart. The attitude of my father brought sorrow and terror. It was then that God spoke and said to read Isaiah 41:10-11: "*Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness....*"

It began with "*Fear thou not....*" At that very moment, God took fear out of my heart. The fear and terror within me left instantly--fear of the future, failure, and hunger. Triumph rose within. Boldness to move forward in the will of God suddenly erupted. God performed a miracle through the very first part of Isaiah 41:10.

The verse continued, "*I am with thee....*" My daddy was not going anywhere with me--he let that be known very strong--so God took fear out of me. He said, "Im going to be with you." Assurance settled within my very being. The same God who performed the great miracles of the Bible would accompany me as I went out to preach. He would be with me through whatever I encountered. He has been faithful to that promise from the moment I read it.

I looked at the Scripture again and read, "*Be not dismayed....*" Up until then,

dismay reigned within. I didn't know what to do. I had lost courage for God and His will. Fear had risen up to the point that initiative was lost. But God gave me strength to go forward by dispelling the dismay. I was ready to move forward into the call of God, to preach the Gospel, no longer wanting to quit before I even got started.

The next part of verse ten gave the reason why I should not be dismayed. He said, "*For I am thy God...*" He is my God--the God of Moses and the God of Elijah. He would be with me as He was with them.

He continued by saying, "*I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.*" I had been on my deathbed with tuberculosis just three weeks earlier. I knew that I needed His strength and help, to be upheld by God, if I were to preach. When God said that He would strengthen me, I realized that I didn't have to do anything. How positive! How strong! I said, "Yes, Lord, I accept that." I didn't need to take my own vitamins. He was saying, "I'm going to put something inside of you; I'm going to strengthen you." I was so awestruck that I wondered if God had just slipped it into the Bible, that if I closed the Bible and reopened it, that it would be gone. It was such an amazing answer to my need.

God then said to me in verse eleven, "*Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.*" Isn't that amazing? They would be ashamed. It says they would be confounded. He was saying, "They will not understand how you are prosperous; they will not understand how you are successful. They will not understand how you can take on projects and they work out. They will be confounded." This promise was my armor. I would not need to fight my own battles.

As I packed my small fiberboard suitcase to leave my father's house, my heart was filled with love, joy, and faith. Fear and dismay were defeated. Weakness was past. God had undergirded my spiritual life.

There are people you don't fight. If you fight Moses, you have to suffer for it. If you fight Abraham, you have to suffer for it. If you fight Lester Sumrall, you have to suffer for it, because God made that a part of my covenant, my preaching covenant.

Sometimes God may ask you to do things which he does not really want you to do. He simply is asking for consecration. Often a spiritual lay person gets a real hold of God and feels called to preach. God does not want everyone to preach, but if you tell Him you will not preach, then you are in rebellion. If you feel in your heart that you should preach, say, "Yes, Lord, I

am willing. I certainly am willing. I'll do anything you want me to do." He says, "My child, you have already done it. You have already finished it; you have already completed it." When you tell God you are willing to do something, in God's eyes you have already done it.

This is important to remember when making a commitment to someone to do or give something. When you are asked to serve in a particular assignment and you agree then you had better complete it! God has already written it down as "done" which leaves no room for quitting.

The same goes for making financial pledges. Many times people will make a financial commitment to their church or to another Ministry but then their hearts weaken and they don't follow through with their pledge. This is very fool hardy and dangerous. God heard you make the pledge and wrote it down as "done," "finished," and "completed." If you pledged to God, whatever the circumstance, He will provide the means to complete it. There is no excuse or plausible reason for renegeing and you'll answer to God for quitting!

What is your relationship with God the Father in Heaven? Your relationship is this: whatever you are doing as His Child, you are doing so to please the Father. God does not have to tell you everything that is to be done for the simple reason that you are His Child. God does not have to knock you on the head every morning and tell you it is time to get up. Many people want God to beat them around and tell them, "You do this," and "You do that." But He is not that kind of a God; He is a Father.

Some people make a commitment to do something and then they pray about it and decide God told them not to do it. God does not tell you to do something then before it is done tell you not to do it. He is not a capricious God, toying with you like a cat with a mouse. If after you have prayed and set out upon a course of action which you believe to be God's call, then by faith you must carry it through to the end. The devil is a liar and he will try to discourage you, throw up barriers, and stop you from completing your assignment. But God said, "I will be with you, I will strengthen you, I will uphold you with My Right Hand."

In Acts Chapter nine we read of Saul of Tarsus, who was "*yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord*" (Verse 1), journeying toward Damascus looking for Christians to capture and bring to Jerusalem. Then he was confronted by "*light from heaven*" (verse 3), and he heard a voice who identified himself as the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus gave Saul some hard instructions to follow, especially since Saul was now blind!

"Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do"

(verse 6).

Saul could have quit right there. He could have said to his companions, “take me home, I am blind, I can’t go to Damascus!” But instead, he obeyed, kept going and waited patiently and with trust for three whole days “*and neither did eat nor drink*” (Verse 9). Now that’s not quitting!

But there’s another person in the story to tell about who also followed orders and heard the Lord’s call to action. Ananias, “*a certain disciple*” (verse 10), was told to seek out Saul of Tarsus and that Saul would be expecting him. Ananias had heard of Saul and he knew of Saul’s reputation for persecuting the Lord’s followers, and of his mission to come to Damascus for the express purpose of capturing Christians. But in obedience and trust Ananias did not weaken and flee, instead believing all he had been told Ananias found Paul and did as he was told. God’s promise to always be with you never fails!

But you must not quit!

If I do not quit, God would make the promises in Isaiah 41:10-11 come to pass. But if I quit, these promises wouldn’t belong to me anymore. Fear would come back. Sickness would come back. God would not be with me. His strength would not be there to uphold me so that I wouldn’t fall down. Those who were incensed would not be ashamed. It would all go in reverse. However, I did not quit. Therefore, these promises have stood true.

Chapter Three

Encouragement in the Hog Pen

I've had a lot of opportunities to quit, and so have others. I knew a preacher who had a large church but decided to quit preaching. He said that God wasn't good enough to him during his first two or three years of ministry. At the time, he was driving a Lincoln Continental, pastoring a thousand people, and had an unlimited salary at his church--but he quit. He said that he quit preaching because he had a hard time during the first two or three years of his ministry.

I said to him, "I don't understand you! Do you think a boy can leave school, become a carpenter, and the first day gets the money of a master carpenter who has been doing it for twenty years?"

He said, "No."

I said, "What right do you have to think that way? What right do you have to think that the day you get out of Bible school is the day that you are going to have the same things as Kenneth Hagin? That's not rational. You're not even thinking correctly when you say a thing like that. You have to grow in God. You have to grow in maturity."

There was a man named Abraham who all of us would like to emulate. While Abraham was praying one day, God said, "Abraham, you know that little 12 year old son named Isaac? He was born to you when you were 100, and now you are 112. I would like for you to take him and offer him up as a burnt offering to me. You are hugging him so much that you have not hugged Me lately. I would just like to know which one of us you love the most. Take him to Mt. Moriah and offer him up as a sacrifice to Me."

God was testing the consecration of Abraham and God will test all of us in order to prepare us for greater levels of service, service that we may not yet be ready for or be willing and able to pursue and persevere.

Abraham had less when he left the Ur of the Chaldees than at the end of his life. Because God increased him, Abraham may have been a thousand times richer when he went to heaven than when he first began his journey. You have to believe that God gives increase over time, that there is a growth

process in spiritual things. But that preacher didn't want to accept what I was saying. Maybe he does now, but at that moment he didn't want to accept these truths and decided to quit.

When I first went out to preach, I went to a little country schoolhouse. Nobody was going to invite me out to preach, and I knew it; therefore, I went to the little country schoolhouse and started my own meetings. After the second day, the farmer that I was staying with asked, "How long are you going to be here?"

I said, "I don't know. I've never done one of these before."

"Well," he said, "at my house and at my table if you don't work, you don't eat."

He even meant that for his wife. She kept the house, did the cooking, plus worked in the field. So, he was not an easy man to be around.

"Well," I said, "I am preaching every day."

He said, "That's not work. I don't count that as work."

I said, "Well, what is work?"

"Feeding my hogs would be work! If you feed my hogs everyday, you can eat at the table and sleep in the bed!"

Well, I could have quit right there. That certainly looked like a good opportunity to quit. Who wants to feed dirty hogs? They had forty or fifty of them. I fed them one time, and then I laid down in the cornfield right beside the hog pens and began to cry.

I said, "God, I've always been the prodigal son. Even before I was saved I was the prodigal son. And now I know I'm the prodigal son because here are the hogs, and I'm staying with them and feeding them."

As I was weeping, God spoke to me. He said, "If you won't quit, I will bless you."

I asked, "Lord, do you mean that?"

He said, "You won't have to feed the hogs after this time. If you won't quit here, I will bless you further there."

I said, "Lord, I am willing."

I got up and fed hogs. I don't know exactly how long I fed them in the days to come, but for weeks and weeks I fed hogs. So, God kept His covenant and His promise because I didn't quit!

There are thousands and thousands of Americans, and those of other nationalities, too, of course, who have quit. I've met preachers who have quit. I've met bankers who have quit.

History is replete with stories of great men and women who have been confronted with astounding odds against them, poverty, illness, oppression, loss, grief, and more adversity than most people could overcome, but they all accomplished incredible feats of leadership, invention, discovery and success because they never quit!

On the other hand there are just as many accounts of persons who had greatness within them but when circumstance became more than they could bear, they instead finished in defeat.

The words of Hudson Taylor bear repetition; *"A man can be spiritually consecrated and dedicated but of very little use to God if his life is not disciplined!"*

When I first set out on my worldwide journey to minister in many countries the word "Gospel" was so very important to me. The first two letters of the word "Gospel" spell "Go." I promised the Lord I would never stop going and that I would go anywhere and everywhere to preach His Word. I would not quit!

In the city of South Bend, when the Great Depression affected the Studebaker Corporation, the president of the company, Mr. Erskine, shot his brains out with a gun. He quit. He didn't see that he would enter prosperity when Roosevelt's policies got going. He didn't see that in six or seven years there would be a war in Europe and that Studebaker would have 25,000 people working for it. He just quit. And He did worse than that--he halted everything by blowing his brains out. He went on into eternity, and Studebaker for a great number of years marched on into victory. So, businessmen quit.

Divorces mean that you quit. You just quit holding things together. You just quit working on it. And when you quit, you don't win. Quitters never win, and winners never quit. It is when the going gets rough and tough that the tough get going. It is when a person with backbone gets down to zero that he or she says, "I'm not going to quit down here. I'm going to climb the ladder of success. I'm going to climb the ladder of happiness and peace. I

am not a quitter. I will never quit, and I hate quitting.”

A minister once told me that God had called him to the great city of Bombay and that he would have a great evangelistic outreach that would stir the whole city like the revival in Manila, Philippines. I rejoiced with him. He said, “Have lunch with me and my wife and tell us something about India.” I said, “Fine.” We met in a beautiful restaurant and he began first by saying, “God has called me to Bombay. God is going to do great and beautiful things. God is going to save many people.” Tears were running down his face. His wife jumped to her feet and said, “I will not go to India. I will not give up my beautiful home, nor anything. I will not go to India. I’m not going,” and right there she went off and cried. The husband’s whole mission and vision for God came to a grinding halt because of his wife’s refusal to obey God. Soon afterward she died of cancer and he had a heart attack and retired. God’s will is that you walk in His Word as He has identified it to you. When He says to do something, just do it.

I just want you by all means to say, “Never will I quit! I’m going to keep marching forward.” I could have quit when my father said, “You’ll die. Don’t go.” I could have said, “Oh, well, I won’t go.” A lot of kids would’ve quit right there. I didn’t. I walked out of my father’s house that day and began to preach the Gospel. A week later, when I was told I couldn’t have a place to eat and sleep if I didn’t feed hogs, I could have quit again. So I fed hogs. But I could have quit.

Many other things happened in those early days of ministry, things that appeared to be good reasons to quit.

Chapter Four

Threats of Violence

When I travelled near the borders of Burma and Tibet with Reverend Howard Carter of London, many very interesting and exciting things took place.

We knew this was wild and dangerous country. We were told by the British and American consuls before we started that there were killings in the area. We saw blood on the ground where the Communists had killed many people. There were robbers, possibly army fragments from the major Communist Army, which were fleeing from Chiang Kai-shek's forces at the time.

One day as our caravan was moving slowly along a lonely mountain path, three men stepped from the undergrowth with old-fashioned muskets in their hands and pointed them at us and said, "Who are you?" Our interpreter told who we were, and without saying very much these ragged and dirty men said they were part of the Communist Army.

The bandits led us down the path, not on our mules but walking with their guns pointed at our backs. It was a most uncomfortable feeling to have a man with a straggly beard and fierce eyes point an old-fashioned gun at our backs, not knowing at what moment they may decide to kill us.

Brother Carter was a relatively young man, above 40 years old, and I was now 21 years old and had preached for four years. I had enjoyed preaching all through America, Indonesia, Singapore, Hong Kong, and China. Would the end be near the mountaintops of Tibet? Neither of us wanted to die on a Tibetan hillside by a brigand's bullet.

As I walked, God suddenly spoke to me. He said, "Read Revelation 19:6": *"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia; for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."*

At that moment the truth hit my heart. I mused, "If God reigns, He is in control. If God reigns, no one else reigns. That means if this man tries to pull the trigger and it is not my time to go to be with God, it will not work. It will fail." I became so overwhelmed that I turned around and laughed at

the men holding the guns!

After that, they merely took our little money and let us go! Now, after such an experience you would think that turning back made good sense. Even more, it might seem like a good opportunity to quit. Most people who knew of this incident would no doubt agree. Who could blame us for quitting after such a close encounter with violence?

But as our caravan went on into the mud village the people were amazed that we were still alive. What a testimony to God's awesome keeping and sustaining power. Who could give up now?

That was one of the great crises of my life and God came through loud and clear that He reigns today! I did not quit!

Some ladies got saved at one particular meeting. I didn't think the ladies had ulterior motives, but their boyfriends did. They played in a stringed dance band together, and they decided to annihilate me. They brought rotten eggs to throw at me while I preached. Someone told me about it, saying that he saw the rotten eggs. So I said to them, "I want to tell you something, you bunch of hooligans who play those instruments at dances. I'm a man like all of you. If you're really men, divide up the eggs. I can throw, and I can throw straight. I'll squash you. I don't mind egg throwing, but if you want to be honest about how it's done, then divide them up! You are a low-down dirty coward if you throw eggs and I don't have one." Nobody threw an egg, but that looked like a good enough reason to quit.

In another city, a man was run over by an automobile and I mistakenly was told that the man was drunk. During the meeting, and with the wrong information in hand, I told the people that the man went to hell. The next day, three or four of his big sons came to where I was staying and said, "We're going to kill you! You told everybody at the meeting that our daddy went to hell--but he didn't!"

I said, "I don't know. Somebody said he was drunk."

They said, "He was not drunk. He was looking the other way and a car hit him."

I said, "I'm sorry."

"We're going to kill you anyway" they said. "We've decided to kill you while you preach tonight. That was the place where you said my daddy went to hell."

That was a good opportunity to quit. Even those I was staying with said I shouldn't go preach that night. It didn't matter though. I knew that I could only die once, whether it was in Oklahoma, or Tennessee, or wherever. It didn't matter. I was ready to die.

The pastor I worked with at those meetings didn't even go to church that night. He said that he didn't want to see a public execution, so he stayed home. The song leader also stayed home. At that point, I had no pastor and no song leader that would be there with me.

I went to the meeting that night anyway. I jumped onto the platform and said, "Before I lead the song service, I want to tell you something. I will pronounce death upon the first man that moves toward me to injure me, and you will die! If you don't believe it, try it!"

One lady said, "I saw the gun. He already had it aimed toward you and starting for the trigger." But I didn't know that happened until later.

I led the song service and prayed, and nobody did anything to me. I then started preaching. When I got through preaching, I had an altar call for people to get saved. I looked down through the crowd and saw a young man who didn't stand up with the others. I put my hand on his shoulder and told the young man that he needed God. I told him that he didn't want to go to hell, and that Jesus loves him.

He said, "Don't you know who I am?"

I said, "No."

He said, "I was in the car which drove up to your house this morning. I said I was going to kill you. I've got the gun here to do it."

"Oh," I said. "You are one of the sons. You have to accept my apology. I'm a stranger in the area. I only heard what somebody said, and I am sorry for saying that your daddy was dead and in hell."

"No," he said. "We decided to kill you!"

I said, "Not after you heard the sermon tonight!" And his face dropped.

I took him by the arm and said, "Come on." He walked down the aisle with me and knelt at that altar. When he did, glory hit that place. People began to scream and run to the altar. They knew that he was the man who wanted to kill me; yet, I had him at the altar. I didn't know he was the one when I went up to him. When you're standing outside of a car where three or four

men are talking about killing you, you're not paying too much attention about what they look like. But the one that got saved turned that meeting into something that was glorious. It was thrilling to me. Though my life was threatened, I didn't quit!

Did you know that if you quit, you can't go back to the same place you were previously? You must take your place in line, and it's way back; it's never forward. Quitters never go forward. Quitters go backward. When they want to start over--if they can start over--they have to start at the end of the line. They can't jump in front of somebody else.

When you pull into a parking space, try to find one you can drive straight out of going forward. Then you'll get used to a habit of never having to back up!

In some of the Greek Games the winner was the one who crossed the finish line with his torch still burning. It is one thing to finish, quite another to finish well.

Chapter Five

Anointed to Preach the Gospel

During my early years of ministry, the Lord spoke to me in various ways about what I should do and how. I responded positively by saying, "Lord, I'll do it." I kept right on going. I didn't quit.

I have been in the will of God since I was 17 years old. I do not remember not being in the will of God. The only way to be out of His will is to be in rebellion to His Will. God does not talk directly to people every day; He ministers in your spirit and He ministers through the Word. Moses spent 40 years in the desert before God said anything to him. If you expect God to talk to you every morning, you are going to miss God by a million miles. You would not follow if He did. He would be wasting His time with you. He puts His Spirit within you and your spirit tells you what to do.

There is another time when God used His Word to direct me. I had fasted for two weeks without eating a meal and preached twice a day. I found at the end of the fast I had lost very little weight. I even felt stronger physically.

I asked God to show me my end and the ministry I must fulfill. As I prayed it seemed like a storm entered my hotel room. The Power of God came upon me. The anointing of the Lord came and spoke to my heart that I would find the answer in Psalm 71:18: "*Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have showed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.*"

God had promised me that even when old and greyheaded my ministry would remain the same. I had been anointed to declare, "God is not dead. God is a God of miracles, of tremendous power, and a God that does amazing things!" I was anointed to pray for the sick and see them healed, to pray with the unsaved so they would be converted. I was anointed by God to reveal His strength to this generation.

At that moment I knew I could not quit, I must keep the faith and impart it to others.

After eighteen months of preaching in only countryside places like

schoolhouses and brush arbors, I went to Dyersburg, Tennessee where my brother pastored. I was having a meeting out in the countryside, as usual, when I had another opportunity to quit. My brother, who was a kind of big-shot pastor, and seeing that I was preaching out in the country, didn't want to come out to hear me. What did he do? He sent his wife. He told her, "Go out there and see if Lester can preach." So she came out to hear me preach. She was a preacher herself, so she knew a little about it.

After the meeting, when both of us had returned, I could hear them talking in the room next to me. My brother said, "Baby-doll [that is what he called her], how did he do?"

Coming good and strong through the fresh air register were these words: "Bud [that is what she called him], Lester wouldn't make it in a thousand years!"

He said, "Hum!" And I heard it.

I thought, "A thousand years? I can't preach a thousand years before making it." I began to weep, to cry before God.

I said, "God, I have had such a difficult time. Maybe it's time to quit now. Maybe it's time to quit!"

The Lord said, "No."

And while I lay on the floor weeping before God, crying and hurting all over, God said, "Will you read Luke 4:18?"

I didn't know what that verse said, so I opened my Bible and read. It said,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

I said, "Lord, do you mean that?"

He said, "Yes, I do. My Spirit is upon you. When people meet you, they are going to know that you have my Spirit. My Spirit is on you!"

I said, "Really?"

"Yes. You are not always going to be out here in country schoolhouses. You are in training now. My Spirit is upon you, and I have anointed you."

Isn't that amazing? The word "anointing" has a lot to do with the word "ordination" or "setting apart." "I have anointed you to preach the Gospel to the poor," He said.

I asked, "Just poor folks?"

He said, "No, those who don't know Me are poor. You can be a millionaire, but if you don't know Me then you are poor in spirit. All the heathen are poor in spirit because they don't know Me. They are poor spiritually. I'm going to anoint you to preach the Gospel to people who have never heard of Me before, to people who don't know Me now, to people who are down and out, and to people who have no friends. I am going to let you preach the Gospel to those who are poor in spirit and who have nothing in their souls."

God also showed me that I would be sent to heal the brokenhearted. It touched me very deeply that my ministry would be one of healing. I would be used to heal broken hearts, spirits, and minds. There are many people who have been crushed, who feel cast away and are disappointed, and God was sending me to restore their joy. God said, "I am going to send you to heal the broken hearted." And God has helped me to heal tens of thousands of brokenhearted people.

I also was being sent to preach deliverance to the captives, to those captive to alcohol, drugs, perverted sex, and anything that brings bondage. Millions of people desperately need deliverance, but how can they hear without a preacher? They will never be set free unless the Good News is preached and deliverance is emphasized. Because I didn't quit, many people have been delivered from the oppressions of sin.

Through Luke 4:18, I knew that I was to bring recovery of sight to the blind. You may say, "I do not believe in miracles. I do not believe in the power of God. I do not believe Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever, that these great things ended with the Apostles." God was sending me to you, so that you can see the delivering power and anointing of God. He wants to open the eyes of the spiritually blind.

Lastly, I was told to bring liberty to those who are bruised. There are many hurt people. It may be that some even taught Sunday School, were deacons, or sang in the choir. But somehow they were bruised by other people. They have decided that they cannot do God's work anymore. They need to have their chains removed; they need to be set free through the power of Jesus! Because I didn't quit, ministries have been restored through the work of God in my life.

Now, you can't imagine how hurt I was to hear those things said by my sister-in-law. Maybe I wasn't a great preacher at the time--I don't know. She had been preaching at least twelve years, and I had been preaching for just over one year. There was a difference in experience, but she concluded that I wouldn't make it in a thousand years. I was at the bottom of the ladder, but I didn't quit. I just didn't quit! I said, "Alright Lord, I am going to keep on. I'm going to keep on."

At that moment I knew I could not quit, I must keep the faith and impart it to others.

Chapter Six

Around the World with Twelve Dollars

It is very interesting that it was at that meeting in Dyersburg, Tennessee that God showed me a vision of the nations and said, "I have called you to the nations of the world." No doubt, it was because I had refused to quit. But that vision was the beginning of a whole new chapter in my walk with God, and it opened up even more opportunities to quit.

Eighteen months after that life-changing vision, I was in San Francisco ready to go around the world to preach the Gospel. I didn't grumble with the Lord, but I said to Him, "You know, all the money I have in the world is just twelve dollars. I have no denomination to assist me. I have no people that have promised me anything. I had no churches committing themselves. It's just you and me Jesus."

I had spoken at a local church there in San Francisco, but they gave me no offering for my ministry. Local churches do that quite often. They have a person come in and say, "Thank you," and that's all they give you.

The day after the meeting, the pastor took me to the boat. On the way, he said, "I see you have no funds. It looks to me like you are going to go to China and starve to death."

Well, my father told me that same thing a few years earlier. I was now twenty years old and I hadn't starved yet, so I laughed at him. I said, "I won't starve to death in China. I will preach the Gospel in China and God will preserve me."

But then I began to cry. Here was a man three times my age--he was at least sixty and I was twenty. I said, "Lord, the man says I am going to go and starve to death. He didn't help me any. All I have is twelve dollars to go around the world on."

It was then that the Lord said, "Read John 15:16."

I didn't know what the verse said, so I opened my Bible to see what he wanted to tell me. It said, "*Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you,*

and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

You can't imagine how positively that affected me. The sovereign, powerful, and anointed Word of God hit me on the inside. I said, "God, my life is your choice. You chose me. I didn't choose you. You chose me, anointed me, and ordained me to do this work." I had been ordained by an earthly organization, but the angels also did an ordination service. He said, "You are ordained to go, and you will bear fruit in your ministry, fruit that will remain."

Whew! That would have been a good place to quit. I had no money with which to go around the world, and a very wonderful preacher said that I wouldn't make it, that I'd starve to death in China. That man was in agreement with my father, except God said, "Don't quit here. Don't stop here. Don't settle down here. Keep moving. Keep moving for Me." And so I determined that I would continue doing the will of the Lord.

I got on that boat and sailed to the land of Australia, to come up from the bottom of the world to preach to the whole of the orient. In Australia, I went to the largest Full Gospel Church in the nation. It was in Melbourne and Dr. Greenwood was the pastor there. He allowed me to preach for a week. However, at the end of that meeting, when they took up the offering for the church, they never mentioned my name and they gave me no money at all for my ministry. I preached a whole week and was given no money. The people of that church and the pastor in San Francisco were not bad people. The Lord may have stopped them from giving just to see if I would quit.

I was scheduled to preach the next morning in another city, but I didn't have money for the train. I stayed up all night praying and crying, but I got no answer. The next morning, I packed my suitcase and set it by the door. The friends that I stayed with knocked on the door and said, "Breakfast is ready."

I said, "I don't want any breakfast."

I told God, "God, I will never leave this room without a ticket! I'll die here, but I won't die walking the streets saying, 'where's my ticket?' And I won't stand at the railroad station watching the trains pull out saying, 'where's my ticket?' The ticket comes to this room, or I die right here!"

An hour after breakfast, about eight o'clock in the morning, a knock came on the door. The lady of the house said, "A gentleman is here to see you."

It was an Australian gentleman. I let him into my room. He was crying, and I

asked, "What is wrong with you?"

He said, "I couldn't sleep last night."

I said "Well, I didn't either."

He said, "I wept last night."

I said, "I did, too."

I really didn't know the point he was trying to make, but he looked at me and said one of the funniest things I've ever heard in my life. He said, "We all know you're rich."

I didn't know where they got the idea that I was rich, unless from the positive tone of my preaching they determined that I had everything I could possibly need. In reality, I don't know any other way to preach. God called me to be a positive preacher. I was to invite people to Him and to preach that prosperity is for everybody if they would accept it.

When the Australian man said that I was rich, I didn't call him a liar or say that I had no money. I just looked at him and smiled. He said, "I couldn't sleep last night. God told me that because you are a stranger in this country, you didn't know that the train which you are to ride today is by special reservation only; it is a reservation train and nobody rides it without a reservation."

I said, "Well, I didn't know that."

He said, "Also, The Lord told me you don't even have a riding ticket, a ticket to ride this train, much less a reservation."

I said, "No, I don't have that either."

He said, "I told God that if you did have these things--that if I was wrong with what I heard from Him--then I would never trust Him as long as I lived. In order to prove God, I went to the station and in your name bought a ticket to where you are going to preach. I bought you a special reserved seat for you to sit in. Here they are!"

I said, "Sir, don't tell anybody, but I didn't have money for a ticket. That's the reason I didn't have one. I had no money for a ticket."

Whew! That Australian and I were in ecstasy. He carried my suitcase and I carried my briefcase. We went out, jumped on a bus, and went down to the

railroad station with plenty of time to spare. I got on that train, and with tears running down my face we waved goodbye to each other. I am so glad that I didn't say to God, "Because I didn't get an offering, I quit!"

A lot of people quit over money. They do! Preachers quit over money. Businessmen quit over money. Homes break up because of money. Don't ever let money break up something. Money is a commodity used on earth to help you day by day, but it is not God. God will supply all that you need. He may not supply all that you want because doing that could take you to hell. He will supply all that you need, especially if you do His work and put your trust in Him. But Money must not become your master, and your lord, and your god. You are breaking the first of the Ten Commandments if you allow it to become that important. We are to have no other gods before Jehovah. He will not permit that.

Paul the Apostle lived under a compelling conviction that God had set him apart and anointed him for one supreme purpose in his life. He had no question in his mind that serving Christ and finishing the task was to have authority over all other calls upon him. That transition was settled when Paul met Jesus on the road to Damascus. But Paul further explained his calling in his letter to the Philippians, Chapter 3:8-17:

"Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample."

To Paul, he was yet on a journey. He had not reached the end of it, had not achieved the ultimate purpose, and was still "pressing toward the mark..." He does not compare himself to others, only to Christ as the supreme example for which he would continue to strive as long as he lived. He recognized he was called to be like Christ but fully aware of his shortcomings, and yet not discouraged to give up or quit. He had "this one thing" to do, and was undaunted in his quest.

D.L. Moody once said, "I'd rather have a man who says 'this one thing I do,' rather than a man who says 'these one hundred things I dabble with!'"

Why? Because if a man is called to do one thing and sticks to it, he is much more likely to finish it and not give up, than someone who is only dabbling around with a whole bunch of things.

In Australia, I didn't quit. I went straight through Australia and had a wonderful time. I raised up a new church in Brisbane. I then went on to Java. By that time I was traveling with Dr. Howard Carter from London, England, and we went on to Singapore and Hong Kong. We always had enough money to buy the next ticket. God provided it.

I never discussed personal finances with Howard Carter, though we lived together at least ten years. We arrived in Hong Kong and agreed together that, because of some special missionaries, we would go to Tibet. I had only one dime in the whole world. One dime was all the money I had in the world, but I didn't speak up and say that I wouldn't be going, that I would stay in Hong Kong. Inside of me I said, "I'll go where you go, and I'm going to stay where you stay. God will have to supply my needs."

That would have been a good place to quit because I needed the equivalent of hundreds of American dollars in order to go into Tibet for three months--

to rent mules everyday, to take food along with me for the whole journey, and to come back to civilization. I needed it, and God did a miracle because I didn't quit.

A Chinese lady, who was the wife of a Chinese general in mainland China, had come to Hong Kong for a very delicate surgery. She came to the church service, and I prayed for her and God healed her. She went back to the hospital and they said, "We cannot see the cancer at this time. We have records of it here, which we saw when you first came, but we cannot see it now."

They were waiting for her body to get strong enough to operate. She came back to the service and I prayed for her again. She went back to the hospital and they said, "There is not even a tumor there, or swelling. It is clear now."

She came back and told me about it and went again to the hospital. They said "It looks like baby skin, now. It's fresh, new, more beautiful than any other skin, so you don't need to come back any more. And you certainly do not need any kind of operation."

God spoke to the lady, who was wealthy, and said, "I want you to pay for my servant to bless the Chinese. Since you are healed, give him all the money you would have paid the doctors and give him all the money you would have paid the hospital for the operation and long recovery."

So, she gave it to me. She gave me more money than I ever had in my life. It was American money. I don't know for sure how many one hundred dollar bills she gave me; it may have been about twenty-five or thirty. In those days, a one hundred dollar bill was like a thousand dollar bill today. We went through China preaching for a whole year, and because of one little lady we never fell short of money. And so, I never quit. It was a good opportunity to quit in Hong Kong because I didn't have the money to keep going; I only had ten cents in the world. I could have said, "I am quitting here." But I didn't quit there. I marched through China victoriously for God.

In Manchuria, we got to the border of Russia and decided to go through Siberia, Russia into Poland. It took us two to three months to get a permit. We went to the Russian consulate every day to tell them to give us a permit to go through. They had all kinds of excuses as to why we shouldn't go through, but we didn't quit going back. We told them we were going through Siberia on the express train for nine days to Moscow. We didn't quit going to the consulate. We were obstinate. When they didn't want to talk to us, we just smiled and said, "You've got to talk to us! We want to go through! We won't harm anybody! We won't hurt anybody! We just want to go through!"

Finally, the Russian government broke down and said, “We will let you through.”

At a time when Stalin was killing millions of people, when Russia was going through a bloodbath, we rode first class on the Trans-Siberian Express train for over five thousand miles. We stopped at camps where thousands were imprisoned. At those camps, you could see the people going in and out of the train. They would take food off the train and bring manufactured goods onto the train. We could see them as we went through Russia.

By not quitting, we were able to see what God could do. We got to walk with God. We got to talk with God. We got to be with God. And so, I continued down the road of life, a road with so many opportunities to quit.

One time, when God told me to pastor in South Bend, Indiana I thought it was the end of all things; I thought that I should quit there. One day I received a paper with 69 signatures on it saying, “We do not have a place of divine deliverance. Will you pray regarding this need?”

I did not know what to do. It had been a number of years since I was a Pastor in South Bend. I delayed responding for several months. A certain Christian woman whom I had known for several years spoke to me one night telling me God had told her to tell me to obey him and Pastor in South Bend. In the meantime I received other very attractive (in the natural) offers. But God finally spoke to me through Jeremiah 33:9:

“ And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it.”

I do not believe I have ever done anything for God that has been fought against more fiercely by the devil, and by people, than that levied against our church in South Bend.

But I did not quit!

Even when God told me to be a missionary, I said, “How can it be that you want me to do that, when I am not prepared for that?” But I did not quit! I didn’t stop, and it was a success.

When God told me to go to Manila, Philippines, it looked like the end of the trail and the end of life. It would have been a great place to quit, but I did not quit! I went ahead with what God told me to do, and He gave us the greatest revival we’ve ever had. In just six weeks time, 150,000 people

converted to Jesus. A whole nation was stirred by the power of God.

No one received salvation during my first days in Manila. I had been in that nation for five or six months and nothing was happening. It looked like no one would ever get saved. But God moved in a mighty way. When I did not quit, I won. And if you don't quit, you'll win too.

Young people quit school and don't finish. Whatever you start, complete it. Don't quit. If the place is hard, stick it out! If people are against you, hold fast! God will deliver you from all of your enemies and from all of your oppressors. No condition in the world is going to stay forever, good or bad. There are going to be changes, and it will be for the better for those who will not quit and will stay faithful to the Most High God.

God eventually asked me to go back to the States and I obeyed.

Chapter Seven

My Seventh Life And Beyond

I was down in South America, in the city of Brasilia, Brazil raising up a church when one day God clearly showed me my “last job” that I was called to finish for Him. God was showing me my future.

He revealed to me that I was to show His strength to this generation. God was telling me to go throughout America with the Gospel by every means possible--through radio, television, tapes, writing, etc. He said to show them His greatness, how wonderful and good He is. I was to witness for Him, talk for Him.

I said, “God, that’s my last job?”

He said, “That is your last job, the last job that you must do. But that’s not all. You also must show My power to everyone that is to come.”

I asked, “Who is that?”

“The young ministers of the land,” He said. “Show the power of God to the young ministers of the land. Tell them that I am real and that they can trust Me, that I won’t let them down, that I will stick closer than a blood brother. Tell them that they can afford to trust me and that I will bless them.”

And then God spoke something else to me. He said, “If you are faithful to me, I will bring you into television and I will give you a million souls by television.” But I didn’t know anything about television. As at other times in my life, it looked like a good opportunity to quit. But I did not quit!

God began to give us television stations. Because I didn’t quit, we now speak to millions of people through television.

We also are on shortwave radio. The hardware alone cost us \$1.2 million. The money that we needed was hard to get. I went all over America asking

for help. We simply decided that we were not going to quit.

I have now lived seven lives. My first life, my life in sin, was from age one up to age seventeen. I then started my second life until I became a missionary. I'm living in my seventh and final part right now. When it's over, I want the testimony of the Apostle Paul. I want to be able to say, "I have finished my course. I have been faithful unto God. There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness in heaven."

Out in front of us today is a great world, a world that needs to hear about Jesus. I don't want to ever quit, and I am coming to you, begging you, neighbor, friend, don't ever quit! Moses was not a quitter. Elijah was not a quitter. Gideon was not a quitter. Don't ever let God down! Don't ever turn back!

Remember as you run the race of life as a Christian that it is a marathon, not a sprint. Good marathon runners never enter a marathon race unless they intend to finish it. God intends for you to "run well and finish strong!"

As the writer of Hebrews says so well in the famous "faith chapter":

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned

the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

By faith Jacob, when he was a-dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and

worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not

accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect (Hebrews 11:1-40).

I wrote something in my Bible on the fly leaf. It says, "When all the possibilities are against me...I still have all of the impossibilities before me."

You do, too.

(BACK COVER STATEMENT)

Have you lost everything and feel that it's too late to start over? Do the doctors say there's nothing they can do to help you get well? Is everybody counting you out and giving up on you? Your family? Your Friends?

DON'T QUIT! The devil is a liar. You must know that you are not at the end...but at the beginning.