

Sowing Seeds of Faith Newsletter

Straight Arrow Ministries

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Featured Product

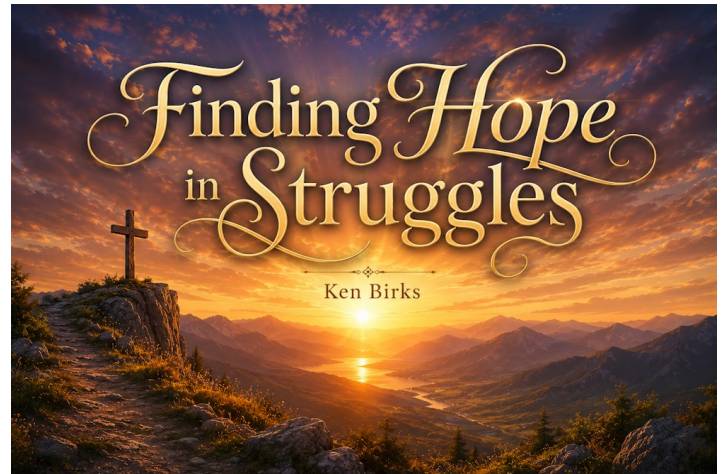


From the Prologue

The afternoon air tasted like rust and rain the first time we hopped a freight train together in Tucson, Arizona. It was a brazen attempt as we jumped on while it was still picking up speed, leaving the freight yard.

Two Vietnam vets — bruised by war, chased by memories, and hungry for anything that felt like freedom — running toward nowhere in particular. The world was shifting under our feet, the 1970s humming with rebellion, confusion, and a strange kind of spiritual electricity. We did not know it then, but God was already on our trail.

The train groaned beneath us as it picked up speed, steel wheels screaming against the rails. City lights blurred into streaks. Wind tore at our clothes. And for a moment — a wild, reckless moment — it felt like the entire world had cracked open and invited us in.



Featured Devotional Poem

Finding Hope in Struggles

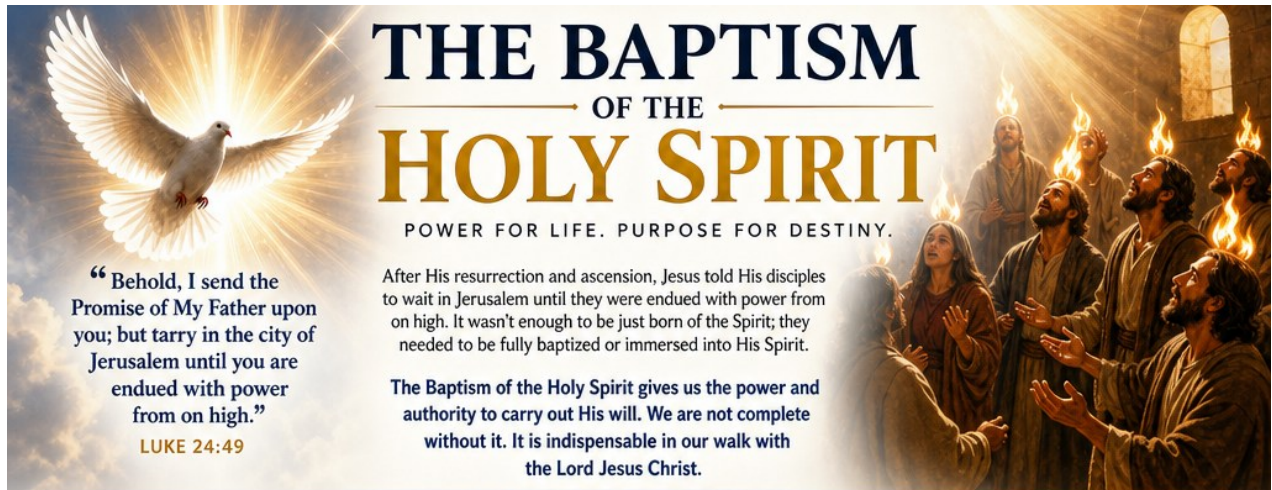
Shrinking from difficulty, senses awakened, comfort slips.
Lost in dependent toil, peace laden, discomfort strips.
Worn down by skepticism, we languish in drought.
Seeing and perceiving in ruination, we waste in doubt.

Awakened to reality desensitizing, we search for distance.
Awakened from erroneous thinking, we seek assistance.
Considering trust in God, we strain for protective shields.
Given fresh reasoning, thoughts divulge, once concealed.

Discovering God's thoughts greater than ours, hope fills.
Hope assuring, we stretch in expectation as He refills.
His Spirit filling, trust fills with hope realized.
Aligning our ways with His, seeds of trust materialize.

Placing faith in who God is, we discover trust enlivens.
No longer reaping whirlwinds of distrust, trust enlightens.
Enlightened in His ways, in peace, we embrace difficulty.
Trust now our stronghold, we rest in peace unequivocally.

Unmovable, surrounded by mountains, trust holds.
No longer shrinking back, we reign in all circumstances.
Trusting God in all things, we're hidden in His shelter.
Cultivated in faith trust rewards abundantly.



“Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

LUKE 24:49

After His resurrection and ascension, Jesus told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high. It wasn't enough to be just born of the Spirit; they needed to be fully baptized or immersed into His Spirit.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit gives us the power and authority to carry out His will. We are not complete without it. It is indispensable in our walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

ESSENTIAL POINTS

1 THERE ARE TWO DISTINCT EXPERIENCES IN THE HOLY SPIRIT



- The New Birth – we are born of the Spirit.
- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit – we are immersed into His Spirit for power.

2 TONGUES IS THE SIGN OF HAVING RECEIVED THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



This is the initial physical sign that God has baptized you with the Holy Spirit.

ACTS 2:4 • ACTS 10:44-46

3 THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS STILL FOR TODAY



Jesus promised it then. It is God's will for believers now.

JOEL 2:28 • ACTS 2:39

WHY THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NECESSARY

1 IT IS A VITAL PART OF OUR SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION.



It establishes and completes what God has started in us.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:11

2 IT BRINGS US INTO GOD'S SUPERNATURAL POWER.



It empowers us to live victoriously and fulfill God's will.

ACTS 1:8

3 IT BRINGS US INTO A DEEPER LEVEL OF INTIMACY WITH GOD.



It draws us closer into fellowship with the Father.

JOHN 14:16-17

4 IT HELPS TO PURIFY US.



It convicts, cleanses, and makes us more like Christ.

1 JOHN 1:7-9

5 IT BUILDS AND STRENGTHENS OUR FAITH.



It strengthens our inner man to stand firm in every season.

JUDE 1:20

6 IT BRINGS US INTO A DEEPER LEVEL OF REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD.



It opens our understanding to spiritual truths.

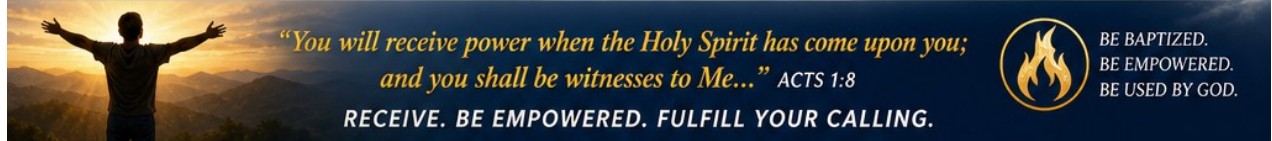
1 CORINTHIANS 2:10-12

7 IT BRINGS REST TO OUR SOULS.

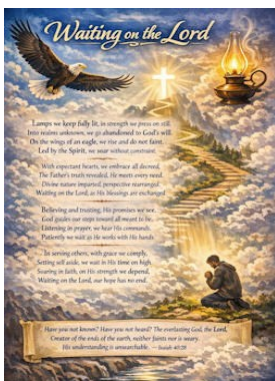


It fills us with peace, joy, and assurance in God's presence.

JOHN 14:27



To View the Complete Bible Study on the “Baptism of the Holy Spirit”
Click the Graphic image above



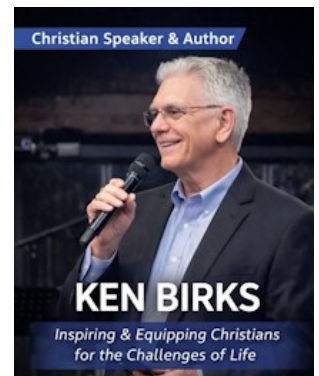
Explore More of Ken's Poetry

Be sure to explore more of Ken's Devotional Poetry that has been described with a majestic rhythm unfolding with prophetic wisdom, fresh revelation, and holy encouragement flowing like living streams. in the Psalms.

Click the Image

About Ken Birks

Discover how Ken has walked with God through seasons of quiet wonder, deep refining, and unexpected grace — journeys that have shaped both his faith and voice. From early moments of sensing God's nearness to years of learning to listen more closely, Ken has discovered that the Lord often speaks in whispers, rhythms, and poetic impressions.





This message is part of a series of messages from the teaching team at the Rock of Roseville. The messages up to this point have covered Jonah's reluctance to preach repentance to the Ninevites, which led to him being thrown into the sea, only to be rescued by an enormous fish as a result of God's mercy and kindness, giving him a second chance.

This message focuses on the hope we have as "Runaway Believers. We discover from the life of Jonah the hope he received despite his stubbornness and disobedience as a Runaway Believer. God continually offers us this same hope when we fail to respond the way He has ordained for our lives.

How many of us can honestly say we have been reluctant and stubborn in our obedience to Christ at times since giving our lives to Christ? Even though God's ways of bringing Jonah and us to a place of hope can be difficult, God gives us second chances to receive the hope of our callings, just as He did for Jonah.

May God bless you mightily as you watch this Video Podcast sermon.



Website Features

Straight Arrow Teaching Themes Explored

Straight Arrow Ministries centers its teaching themes on several key biblical and practical foundations:

- **Discipleship and Spiritual Growth** — Emphasizing a step-by-step, precept-upon-precept approach to deepen faith and understanding.
- **The Authority and Sufficiency of Scripture** — Teaching that the Bible is the ultimate guide for faith and practice.
- **Christ-Centered Living** — Encouraging believers to live out their faith in everyday life, reflecting Jesus' character.
- **Holistic Christian Life** — Addressing spiritual, emotional, and practical aspects of Christian living.
- **Prophetic Insight and Encouragement** — Integrating a prophetic voice that calls believers to faithfulness and readiness.
- **Equipping for Ministry** — Preparing believers to serve effectively in their local churches and communities.

These themes are woven throughout sermons, Bible studies, podcasts, and written materials, aiming to build a well-rounded, Scripture-rooted Christian maturity.