# The Christian Global Harvest

Where You Get To Share Your Story

# Welcome to a newsletter that has you in mind!



"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, (2) Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of

the throne of God. (3) For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Hebrews 12:1-3.

Welcome back to another exciting edition! Spring is here and God is still in the blessing business.

Last month we switched our role from that of fans to that of players. I shared with you that **Real players** realize that they have real fans, and I started sharing with you that **Real players** lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily beset them. Let's talk about weight in this edition and we'll cover sin next month.

The Greek rendering of the word "weight" means a burden or something that is weighing us down. The idea here is that we take on or carry around a lot of baggage that we don't need or shouldn't have. And the writer's purpose here is to get the believer to lay aside whatever weight is hindering their Christian progress.

The writer is writing to Christians who are constantly doing things that they shouldn't be doing, things that are causing them to make a mess of their lives. You can't effectively run the Christian race with mess in your lives: Junk in your trunk! You have got to give up those things that are keeping you from successfully walking as a child of God.

Notwithstanding, we can talk about weights all day, but I think it's necessary to mention just a few. Can I use an athlete as an example? My question is this: What prevents an athlete from performing like he or she should? Well, I'm glad you asked.

First of all, a lack of rest – ripping and running, doing this and that, partying, staying up all night, girl friends and boyfriends – all serving to rob the athlete of his or her ability to stay in the race for their prize! As Christians, we can't win heaven under those

conditions. Dispense with the weight and run a good race!

Secondly, bad eating habits – we won't eat what's good and we don't want to hear about what's good (naturally or spiritually). If we want to be healthy Christians, we need to eat healthy food, and we need to be at the Church of God feeding on His Word rather than on junk that the world is feeding us. Feast on the Word of God!

Thirdly, polluting the body – through chemicals and addictions that are destroying the body: smoking, drinking, and drugs. It has gotten so bad for the athlete that he or she is using performance drugs to enhance their game, but that, too, is killing them. Dispense with the poison and be strong in the power of His might!

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? (17) If any man defile (corrupt or poison) the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." We have a mandate to take care of our body!

Lastly, the lack of training keeps us from performing like we should – you can't win a game or contest unless you train. No team wins through the lack of preparation. Christian will not win unless they prepare their bodies, hearts, and minds to follow after the Lord. You have got to pray, fast, study your Bible, and stay in church.

Real players lay aside every weight that disqualifies them to win the race! If we are going to persevere, then we need to dispense with the weight! Jesus came, died, and was resurrected to give us the victory. And He is our Victory! In our next edition, we'll discuss the sin that besets our race.

Bishop, Dr. Willie J. Moore

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### Arkeshia Brown

USN, San Diego, CA

"When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment." Mark 5:27 (*KJV*)

How Desperate Are You?

Desperation has a way of making us act in a certain way to achieve, to accomplish, and to reach our destinations or goals.

Desperation has a way to make us suggest or see something as right or wrong, go between sanity or insanity because our focus is on trying to reach the goal of what we are trying to reach.

How desperate are you willing to go to reach God? The One true Living God who can do more than we can think or imagine?

How desperate are you willing to reach our Heavenly Father who can do the impossible? The Father who has redeemed us by sending His Only Son to an earthly world to take on our sins; the same Son of God who demonstrated an unselfish act of true love by dying and resurrecting for us to have an opportunity to eternal life?

The One who has given us opportunities, blessings, and miracles. The same God who can restore. The same God that can heal. The same God that can refine and prune us and make us greater than what we are right now.

How desperate are we to get to Him just to say thank You for all you have done, currently doing, and will do in the future?

God, we are ready to do all that it is that You want us to do. No matter where we must go, what we must say, or what we must do, our desperation is to get to You.

Our desperation is so great that we are willing to do what is uncomfortable just to get to You. Because being in the presence of God and knowing that You would never leave me/us nor forsake me/us; it drives me/us to want to do crazy things for You.

Desperation is building my/our faith. Because You are doing a work in me/us, Your Spirit continuously feels us and sets us on fire.

My desperation is my point of no return. My desperation is my point of knowing that I can push through because I am going to reach my destination.

Are you like the woman with the issue of blood, who was so desperate to get to Jesus? Her desperation was evident where she could have died as she made her way through the crowded streets of people; however, she was desperate enough to get to Jesus, knowing that she should not have been out because she was considered unclean.

However, she was desperate enough to get to Jesus all the while encouraging herself, she was not going to stop until she reached her destination who was Jesus Christ. Her desperation was so strong that nothing else seemed to matter because if she could touch the hem of His garment, she knew that she would be made whole. This is how strong our desperation should be for God.

How desperate are we to get to Christ? Are we desperate enough to endure the persecution? Are we desperate enough to endure friends walking away from us, family members turning on us, friends leaving us, job going crazy, or kids going crazy? Are we desperate enough to go through all of these things, all the trials and tribulations of life, just to get to God? He can turn our lives around and make it the way that He has always desired for it to be for us.

How desperate are you to get to Him? Are we ready to show the world that we are desperate runners to get to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

Arkeshia Brown



### Dr. Preston Butler, Jr.

Founder & CEO, PK3 Enterprise Certified Christian Counselor - Oceanside, California

#### The Crucifixion Had to Happen

I realize we are past Lent and the Easter weekend. However, I think it is always a "good" idea to reflect upon and celebrate the greatest weekend for the church of Jesus the Christ. As I studied to deliver an oratorical concerning Good Friday, it donned on me that the crucifixion had to happen.

The prophet Isaiah is known as the chief of the writing prophets and the Eagle Eye prophet because God gave him visions well into the future. One of the most famous visions and prophesies from Isaiah is found in Isaiah 53:5, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." The Romans had no idea when they were beating Jesus that they were fulfilling prophesy. They also didn't realize that every stripe they put upon His body was a healing for my body. Isaiah describes the "Suffering Servant," who would bear our pain and suffering. This aligns perfectly with Jesus' sacrificial act on the cross, where He took upon Himself the punishment for humanity's sins. His death brought righteousness to all who believe in Him.

Deuteronomy 21:23 says, "His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance." This verse states that anyone hanged on a "tree" is cursed. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy by becoming a curse for us, redeeming us from the curse of the law.

Psalms 22 makes a few references to the crucifixion. In verse 1, David states, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?" This was Jesus' cry on the cross (Matthew 27:46). In Verse 18, David said, "They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture." This was fulfilled during Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 27:35). In verse 7, David stated, "All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads." This reflects the mockery Jesus endured (Matthew 27:39-44).

Zachariah 12:10 says, "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn." Zechariah prophesied that God's servant would be pierced. This finds fulfillment in Jesus' crucifixion, where He was pierced with nails (John 19:34-37).

There are over 25 prophecies, scattered throughout the Old Testament that converge in Jesus' sacrificial death, the situation surrounding His crucifixion, and His final words on the cross. Truly, Jesus is the promised Messiah of the Old Testament, fulfilling God's plan for redemption and salvation. The crucifixion of Jesus had to happen for prophesies to be fulfilled.

From a humanistic perspective, Good Friday didn't look very good. Jesus was beaten so badly that He was almost unrecognizable. "As many were astonied at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men" (Isaiah 52:14 *KJV*). "He didn't even look human; a ruined face, disfigured past recognition" (Isaiah 52:14 *MSG*). From a spiritual perspective, Jesus' death on the cross was glorious and victorious. He was hung up for our hangups. They nailed our Savior on an old rugged cross. He died to take away the sins of the world to justify each of us. If Jesus had not died, there would have been no resurrection. If there was no resurrection, there would be no redemption. If there was no redemption, we would all still be lost with no hope of reconciliation with God.

So, let us continuously celebrate Good Friday (and the resurrection). For it is foundational to understanding God's love (**John 3:16**), receiving salvation, and walking daily in victory with our risen Savior, Jesus. Shalom!

Dr. Preston Butler, Jr. CEO, PK3 Enterprise



# Evangelist Diana Black-Tucker

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#### **Living Fearless**

#### Greetings, Everyone!

As I walked into the third month of the year, I realized that life difficulties tend to create apprehension because of the uncertainty that life offers. Even as a Christian, a believer in Christ still displays anxiety or even fear. No matter how detailed and creative our plans are, we may ask ourselves "What if?" questions. "What if I don't have enough money saved for my retirement?" "Will I be able to retire early, or do I have to keep working?" "What if I focus more on myself and not worry about others because my life is too complicated right now?" "What if...?" When it comes to God, there is no what-if; there is only one thing: God is faithful.

Deuteronomy. 7:9 (ESV) encourages us to know who God is: "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations." God wants us to know that our "what-if' creates unnecessary anxiety over circumstances that we cannot control. Christ said, "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Matthew 6:34). When we seek God and focus on kingdom building, our thoughts on our lives will be limitless (Philippians 4:13) because we serve an eternal God (Psalm 90:2). "But, Sister Diana, why does the Bible tell us to fear?" That is a great question.

There are so many interpretations of fear in the Bible. The fear that I encourage you to have is the fear of God by showing respect and reverence (**Proverbs 9:10**). This fear should humble and empower us because we are serving an awesome living God. God wants us to live fearless through Christ Jesus. **Isaiah 41:10** (*ESV*) says, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." "That's good to know, Sister Diana. But how can I live fearlessly?" You can live fearlessly by truly trusting God.

God commands us not to fear (Joshua 1:9; Psalm 23:4; Luke 12:32) because He knows we will become immobilized by fear and not allow Christ into our hearts and minds to give us peace (John 14:27). We have experienced this one time or another in our lives and listen to the lies and mendacity that the enemy tells you, causing you to believe that it will not work out and that God does not have time to listen to your prayers. Rebuke the lies and take back the promises that God has for you. God loves you and is waiting to give you the strength of His might (Ephesians 6:10).

In **Genesis Chapter 16**, Hagar, a servant of Sarai, was treated unkindly by her (**Genesis 16:6**). In **Verses 7-12**, Hagar fled from Sarai and was found by an Angel while she was in the wilderness. The Angel told her that her son's offspring would multiply and that the Lord had listened to her affliction. Remember, she was alone in the wilderness, and God met her there. She realized the Lord is a "God of seeing" because she has seen God who looks after her (**Genesis 16:13**), and she named the well "Beerlahairoi." She returned to Sarai strengthened with God's promise and knows that God hears (*Ishmael*) us. God is EL ROI who sees, and he sees a resilient, much-loved child with a magnificent purpose.

Starting today, declare: "The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him" Exodus 15:2 (ESV). Let's start living in the strength of the Lord and live fearless.

Blessings,

Evangelist Diana Black-Tucker Founder and President Vineyard Bible Ministry

Podcast: https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/diana-tuckervbm

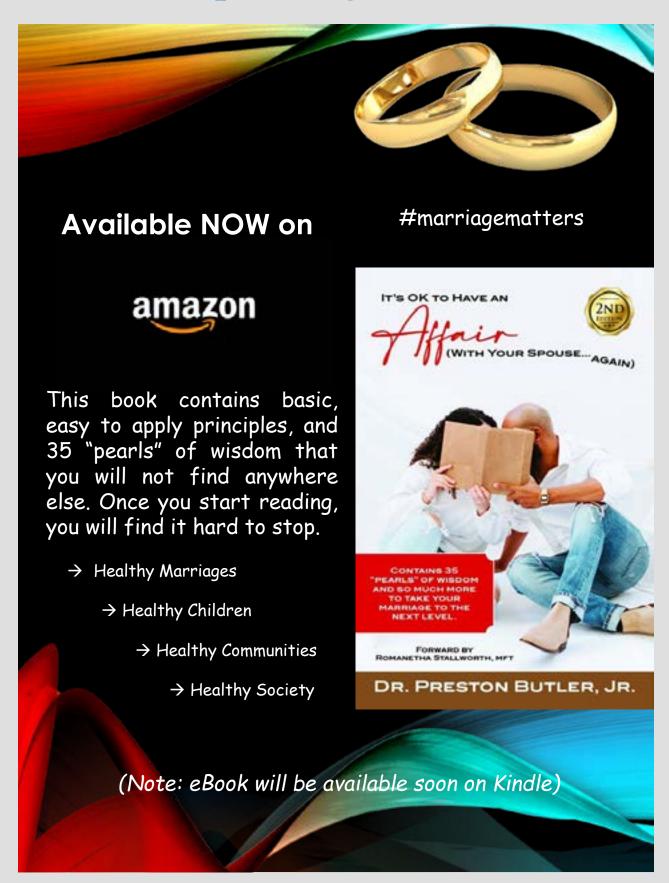
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#### **Mission Statement**

- To encourage and strengthen our readers through the publication of biblical exhortations, dynamic testimonies of God's miraculous power, and the sharing of resources to edify the body of Christ.
- To provide a venue for ministries to share what they are doing to enhance the Kingdom of God.
- To make these resources available electronically to God's people globally.

#### Parting Words from The Publisher

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (9) (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever." (2 Corinthians 9:8-9).

What's the key in receiving such a blessing of this magnitude? Being a cheerful giver! Time changes. The economy changes. Things get tough. But God doesn't change. He still loves a cheerful giver! And I'm a living witness!

Starting this edition, Sister Brown speaks to our desperation to reach and be closer to the Lord Jesus. She poses many questions that cause us to examine just how desperate we are to go beyond where we currently are. How desperate are you? According to the Word of God, Dr. Butler makes us to know that the crucifixion had to happen. And we should be grateful that it did! It marked a turning point in the history of humanity that cannot be ignored. And in view of all this, Evangelist Black-Tucker urges us to dispense with the "what if" mindset. Instead, put our trust totally in the Lord and reverence Him for who He is, knowing that He will supply our every need! Share these invaluable gems with others. It will do them good!

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