March 2020

Founded 2008

## **The Lamp Newsletter International**

# 70 Years-old...Counting My Blessings!



# Thank You, Lord! 1950-March 9, 2020



Wanda J. Burnside Founder and Publisher

Dear Readers,

YES! YES! YES! It is my birthday, Wanda J. Burnside! I can't believe that I am 70 years old. It is so hard to believe. Don't look at that photo...I need to update it...SOON.

I was born on March 9, 1950 in Highland Park, Michigan. I am the oldest child of three children: Rodger and then Regina. My parents were Elder Minor Palm, Jr. and Missionary Willie Lee Palm. They were young, Mama was 20 years old and Daddy was 24 years old, at that time. They were married on Saturday, May 14, 1949 at Hartford Street Church of God in Christ in Detroit, MI.

Now, to say that I was born is a miracle. My birth was critical. I am not supposed to be here. I should be DEAD.

In 1949-1951, my parents lived in the home with Dad's parents in Highland Park, Michigan. This young couple was so in love. Dad worked in Detroit at Cadillac Motors Car Division on Clark Avenue off of Michigan Avenue. Each day, he got up early to walk to the bus stop in Highland Park, Michigan to take the bus to work. Mama would get up early with him to fix him a hot breakfast and fix his lunch to take to work. They enjoyed their mornings together.

However, one evening Mama wasn't feeling well. She went to bed, but through the night, she had chills and fevers. The family prayed, but worried because Mama was in her last few weeks of pregnancy with me. The next morning, she wasn't better. My parents and grandparents believed, prayed and trusted in the Lord to turn things around. However, Mama was so ill with fever and chills. An ambulance was called and Dad went with Mama to Highland Park General Hospital. She was immediately examined and then admitted to the hospital.

The doctors monitored Mama and me, her baby. The doctors couldn't determine what was wrong with her. The doctors warned Dad that I, the baby, might not make it. Dad did not tell Mama this very disturbing news. He tried to keep her calm as she moved and turned in the bed repeatedly and asked him with tears in her eyes, "Honey...Honey...What about our baby? What about our baby? Oooh..is the baby alright? Honey! Is the baby alright?"

Dad told me that he couldn't bear hearing Mama groan and moan in pain. He wiped away his tears in the corner of Mama's hospital room. The doctors tried to console him, but they were worried too.

After the second or third day of the doctors working anxiously to examine what they could do for Mama, and giving her various treatments, they gave up. The head doctor pulled my Dad aside and said, "Come with me." Dad followed him outside Mama's room.

The doctor said, "We are having too much trouble. We have run into so many complications....and...we...can't save them...uh...we can't save..."

"What are you saying to me? Doctor! What are you telling me?" asked Dad. He was upset, but he stood strong.

"I am sorry Reverend Palm...we can't save your wife and the baby...we can't" firmly said the doctor. "We ran some tests, and it seems that the baby is not inside the sack...the baby has broken from the cord...the **umbilical cord**..." The doctor's face turned red and tears rolled down his face.

"WHAT? What are you saying to me...Doctor?" Moaned Dad.

"You must tell us who you want to live! We can't save both lives... Reverend Palm, you must pick...Who will live? You can't have both! You can either have your wife....or your...baby! NOT BOTH!" the doctor loudly replied. He looked at his chart and papers. "The baby is drowning and will die!"

*"I WANT BOTH!"* Dad boldly said in a loud voice. *"I want my wife and baby to live...BOTH!"* he said. Then he walked away from the doctor and went into Mama's room. He held her hand and touched her full stomach with me inside. Then the doctor came in, but Dad walked out of Mama's room. He walked down the hallway to a corner...AND PRAYED like never before!

*"Reverend Palm! Revered Palm! We must take your wife now!"* shouted one of the doctors. Dad ran behind the doctors who swept Mama away to the delivery room. *"I WANT THEM BOTH!"* he shouted.

Within a few hours, I came forth! But I did not cry! I just looked around at everyone and smiled at my Dad!

Mama groaned, "What did I have? What did I have?" "A girl...a girl!" Dad said to Mama. "Thank You, Lord!"

The nurses and doctors carried me away to examine me, my parents' baby girl. Dad and Mama rejoiced, but other doctors began to quickly do things to check on Mama. She was immediately hooked up to more machines. Dad continued to pray for Mama and me.

*"Reverend Palm...please have a seat,"* said a nurse. Dad wondered what had happened to me. Why did they want him to sit down?

After a few hours, relatives started to arrive at the hospital. Mama's mother went to check on her. Then, a doctor and nurse came with me in her arms. They were laughing. However, I still wasn't crying.

"Mr. Palm, the baby is fine. She is alright. She is beautiful, but...she has a sore throat. It is raw...so red. I've never delivered a baby with a sore throat. At first we thought she had something wrong...but, it's a sore throat," said the doctor. We can't understand this. It's like this little girl must have been screaming for help inside her mother's womb. Along with that, we found that she keeps moving her arms like she is a swimmer! Look! She is doing it again!

Dad smiled and raised his hands up to the Lord. Then he held me closely in his arms. My mother heard them talking and she asked to see me...and to hold me. But, she was too weak and sick with fever so she couldn't hold me. From that day, Mama and I stayed in the hospital. I was released to go home with my Dad after two weeks; however, Mama had to stay for another month.

However, when she was released to come home, she cried all of the way until she saw me again. I was nearly two months old. When she stepped into the door of my grandmother's house, Mama called, *"Wanda! Wanda...my baby!"* She reached her hands out to me and I leaped into her arms out of my great Aunt Lunnie's hands. I never left my mama's arms for two or three days. She held me and I clung to her. I wouldn't let go of her blouse.

#### JESUS! JESUS! SAVE ME!

Now, the most amazing part of this story is that my parents said that they believe that the reason I had a sore throat when I was born is because I was crying and shouting out to the Lord, "SAVE ME!" The doctors said I had broken out of Mama's sack and the umbilical cord snapped apart, too! BUT...GOD! He SAVED ME! HE DELIEVERED ME!

Yes, I was swimming inside of my mama's womb! Oh, my Lord! You were there with me! When the doctors, nurses and medical team couldn't help me...LORD, YOU WERE THERE! You have always been here with me! I praise You, Lord!

#### For all of my 70 years, LORD HAS BEEN WITH ME!

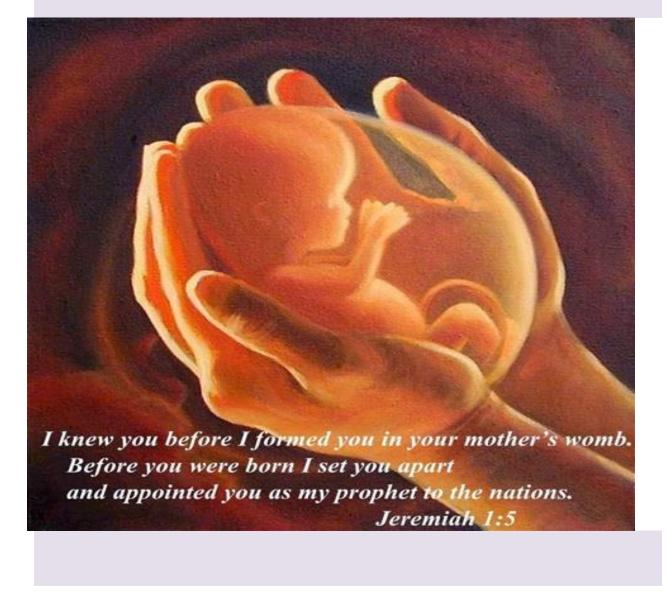
#### **God Knows Everything**

#### For the director of music. A psalm of David.

139 LORD, you have examined me and know all about me. <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I get up. You know my thoughts before I think them. <sup>3</sup> You know where I go and where I lie down. You know everything I do. <sup>4</sup>LORD, even before I say a word, you already know it. <sup>5</sup> You are all around me—in front and in back and have put your hand on me. <sup>6</sup> Your knowledge is amazing to me: it is more than I can understand. <sup>7</sup> Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you? <sup>8</sup> If I go up to the heavens, you are there. If I lie down in the grave, you are there. <sup>9</sup> If I rise with the sun in the east and settle in the west beyond the sea, <sup>10</sup> even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me. <sup>11</sup>I could say, "The darkness will hide me. Let the light around me turn into night." <sup>12</sup> But even the darkness is not dark to you. The night is as light as the day; darkness and light are the same to you. <sup>13</sup> You made my whole being; you formed me in my mother's body. <sup>14</sup>I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well. <sup>15</sup> You saw my bones being formed as I took shape in my mother's body. When I was put together there, <sup>16</sup> you saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me

were written in your book before I was one day old.

<sup>17</sup> God, your thoughts are precious to me. They are so many!
<sup>18</sup> If I could count them, they would be more than all the grains of sand.
When I wake up, I am still with you.





# Why Ask Questions?



#### **By Doris Homan**

Questions are powerful. Asking a question produces a connection with another person, and it requires a response. Even Jesus asked questions in His interactions with people. His questions drew out their real need, or exposed their true motivation. Matthew 20:29-33 - Jesus asked two blind men "What do you want me to do for you?" They replied "that our eyes may be opened"; Jesus had compassion on them and gave them their sight. Once they were healed they followed Him. Surely Jesus knew what they wanted but He drew it out of them to ask.

Mark 10:36 - Jesus asks James and John "What do you want Me to do for you?" They explained their desire to be seated next to Jesus in His kingdom. Still very young in their faith, the question brought out the true heart of the two brothers.

Mark 5:25 - In the middle of the crowds, Jesus asks, "Who touched Me?" It caused the woman who touched the hem of His garment to come forward and express her faith and the miracle to be proclaimed (she thinking that if only she touched His garment, she would be healed).

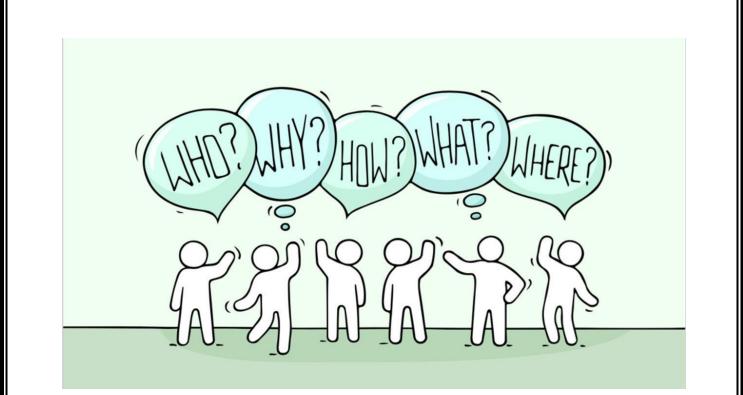
Mark 5:9 Jesus asks the demon "What is your name?" Obviously the Son of God knew the answer, He is all-knowing yet He asks that others may gain more knowledge and understanding and to showcase the power of God.

Matthew 16:13-20. Jesus asks His disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter responds with a great testimony that Jesus is "the Christ the Son of the living God". This allowed Peter to dig deep and express his true thoughts and belief in Jesus Christ. It was also a testimony to those around him. We often learn from others as they give input within a group setting.

A man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had already been a long time in that condition, **He \*said to him**, **"Do you wish to get well?" (John** 5:5-6) What a strange question. Of course the man wants to be made well, yet Jesus asks. He asks for permission and allows the man to make his request known. There is also a lesson to learn here for us: the importance of asking permission before speaking into people's lives.

Being tested by the skeptics, they asked Jesus if it was lawful to pay taxes. Jesus perceived their craftiness, looking at a coin; He asks them, *"Whose image and inscription does it have?"* They answered, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marveled at His answer and kept silent." (Luke 20:23-26).





Whether in relationships, teaching, or mentoring/coaching, posing a question is more effective than simply giving out the information. To ask leading questions vs. spoon-feeding information, is also much more conducive to learning. Why is that? Why is asking questions more effective for growth?

Asking a question allows the other person to really think. It is an opportunity for them to be active in their own learning; it promotes commitment on their part which leads to growth. God knows our every request before we even ask Him, yet He commands us to pray and ask Him for our needs; this involves us in the process and increases our faith which in turn increases our spiritual growth.

Asking questions allows us to probe and get a better understanding as the listener; it also shows the other person they are being heard, which is super important in communication.

Asking questions allows people to come to their own conclusion; counselors don't tell their clients what to do but they do lead them to dig through their emotions so they come up with their own conclusions.

In the context of teaching, it is much more effective to ask leading questions in order to allow students to discover the answers for themselves. This is effective because the students have the opportunity to discuss the material and discover their "A-Ha's" vs. being given the answers. Let's learn the art of asking questions and seeking permission in our daily interactions.

–Doris Homan Copyright 2020



Ramelle T. Lee



# My Prayer for Victory

By Ramelle T. Lee ©2020

Jesus, take me away from the cares of the day. Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I. You are my source of strength. You are my strong tower.

Lord, provide a way of escape for me. Show me the right course of action That will change my situation for the better.

Jesus, lift me out of these moments of crisis The devil has shown up to give me grief today.

But, I will trust You, O Lord, to give me courage to face these obstacles.

Strengthen my heart, O Lord. Deliver me from the hands of the enemy. Set my life back on course.

Give me the strength to stand strong in faith To believe that my situation is turning around. Lord, deliver me from this state of confusion. Rescue me from this distress!

O Lord, my eyes are fixed on You. Patiently, I wait for You to intercede on my behalf. I will not be destroyed or overpowered! My faith will not be shaken! Jesus, will fight my battles for me! I WILL NOT BE CONSUMED!

> Thank you Lord, for hearing my prayer And delivering my soul from trouble! Lord, You have renewed my inner spirit. Now, I walk in total VICTORY, again!



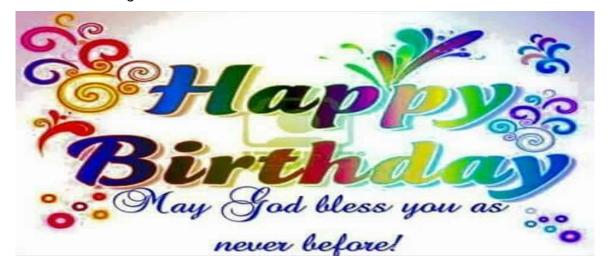
#### Happy Blessed Birthday Sandra Hickman! Ministry Leader and Staff Writer Australia



It's a Miracle! What a special gift it is to have the friendship of Sandra Hickman. God has made this connection. Truly it is a miracle!

In 2007, Sandra reached out to me and Dr. Edwards all of the way from Australia. We received her emails inquiring about our writing ministries and books. She expressed how blessed she was to read some of our work on the internet.

Her kind remarks and warm encouragement touched our hearts. God bridged us together. Sandra continued to send friendly and heartfelt conversations about the Lord, her family and other subjects. We took that leap of faith in each other and united many in times of prayer for each other. It has been years of God's miraculous leading and remarkable blessings!





Ms. Sandra L Hickman Australian Ministry Leader and Lamp Staff Writer

# THE INTRUDER ... Bending a Bow of Bronze!



## He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

Psalm 18:34

# A Call to Prayer...

Silently she moves across the room. She has the tools of her trade in her hands. She knows she has to move quickly this time. It has to be an in and out job! It came unexpectedly and she had other commitments to tend to. Thoughts are racing through her mind. There would be a target.... there was always a target, and she had to hit it. She would have to search for it. It would be hidden somewhere. Perhaps in the darkest corner, awaiting the revelation of the Spirit.

She stopped. Standing in the silence with closed eyes, she trained her focus on the assignment, and the depth of it. She was an intruder into places higher than herself. She sat slowly now, sinking into her chair. At the bowing of her head, a bow of bronze sent an arrow intruding into someone's life at the request and leading of the Holy Spirit. The path an object follows is called its trajectory. Her relentless faith propelled it at great speed. She had prayed an intercessor's prayer. A holy intrusion bending a bow of bronze.

HE heard and answered with visions and words-stating-truth! Her job was done. She would wait to receive her Master's confirmation, and then move on to the next assignment.

- Inspired by the marvellous truth of Psalm 18:34 NIV -

In these testing times we must take up our position and prepare to fight! The Bible describes our enemy in 1Peter 5:8 NKJV ... "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour: "Jesus has given us His authority and the victory! We have the power of the Holy Spirit and we stand beneath the banner of heaven. Even the roaring lion cannot stand against us when we have the Truth of the Word sealed tightly in our prayer-clasped hands! This is the calling of the intercessor. The Archer on the front line of the battle who watches in the spiritual distance, waiting for the right moment to strike.

A bone-pressing moment on your knees. A spiritual hush settles over the atmosphere.

A petition of words is bending a bow of bronze. The arrow is sent. Bulls Eye!! ..... You can do it! © 2020 ><> SLH

# Be self controlled and alert

your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour

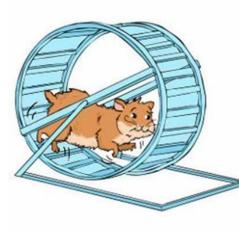
Resist him standing firm in the faith

1 peter 5:8-9



# **The Good News! by Michele Barnes**





# He says, *"Be still and know that I am God"* (Psalm 46:10 NIV).

*Are you running around and around like a RAT?* Stop! It's okay to stop! Stop and breathe! Step out of a caged life of fear! Sit down and let's take a moment to relax and talk!

Breathe; your kids are home safe! There is food in the fridge, and now you are safely home too! Relax! Don't answer that phone! Just stop and close your eyes and thank God for allowing you to get everything done in this time of panic, fear and worries! *Fear* has so many people in panic of the "new virus," Coronavirus. Christians must remember that *fear* is of the devil. This battle and all battles of plaques and warfare's isn't ours, **it's the Lords!** 

Long ago, the Church of God in Christ preached sermons that influenced the way of living of my grandparents, Reverend Minor Palm, Sr. and his wife, Missionary Marie Palm. Preachers boldly preached **FAITH** in God like: our founder, Bishop C. H. Mason (1897-1961), Bishop O. T. Jones Sr. and Bishop J. O. Patterson. There also came along other great preachers of **FAITH** such as: Oral Roberts and our beloved Evangelist Billy Graham.

For as long as I lived in my mother's house, there were the gospel sounds of preaching from the radio and TV ministries. This supported my family in their faith and added to the religious foundation rooted as far back as the early 1900's. I praise God for this foundation.

Now, in 2020, this year I find it even a tremendous blessing. This year and the circumstances of this virus have blessed me to grow in my faith. I am thankful for the sermons of Bishop T.D Jakes, Joel Osteen, Ted Haggard, Joyce Meyers, my hometown Detroit Pastor Solomon W. Kinloch and Bishop Elect-H. L. Butts. For these pastors' teachings and preaching are available via radio, cell phone, and television to deliver the Word of God.

The same God and scriptures that speak of the days of Adam and Eve, also tell of the days of Moses, the Cross and the Blood Jesus shed for us in His crucifixion. Abraham's blessings, that still include the generations to come, will forever prove how God's promise and covenant are all we need to get through this time of Coronavirus attack or any other attacks!

#### "The Good News" is----

#### We are Covered by the Blood of Jesus!

Wash your hands and keep them clean! However, anoint yourself and your family with blessed oil. Also, anoint the door to your house. Hold onto these scriptures:

- Psalm 91
- Isaiah 54:17
- Matthew 21:22

Read these scriptures again and again!

- Stand and trust God to fight this battle and every battle!
- Get on your knees and pray!
- Thank God and give Him the praise for this day!

A fervent prayer will restore your peace. Allow God to lighten and direct your path. You are not alone! Now, you can sit and be at peace.



# GOD'S WORDS! by Donna Ralynn Brooks



Hello Readers,

I urge you to read the following scriptures to receive encouragement, direction, and blessings from the Lord.

> Psalm 46 verses 1-3 Proverbs 18:10 Nehemiah 8:10

# Have a Blessed Day....

#### **DONNA is our Youth Ministry Writer**



### Radio Outreach Ministry *Starting*...Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020



Radio Host Wanda J. Burnside



Co-Host & News Anchor Author Ramelle T. Lee

"God Promised that the devil has to RESTORE what he stole from YOU!" You are to RECEIVE...DOUBLE for your TROUBLE!

**RESTORE! RESTORE! Radio Ministry** 4:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M. PST / 6:00 P.M.- 8:00 P.M. CST/ 7:00 P.M.- 9:00 P.M. EST

#### Call in 347-539-5285 or Listen Online:

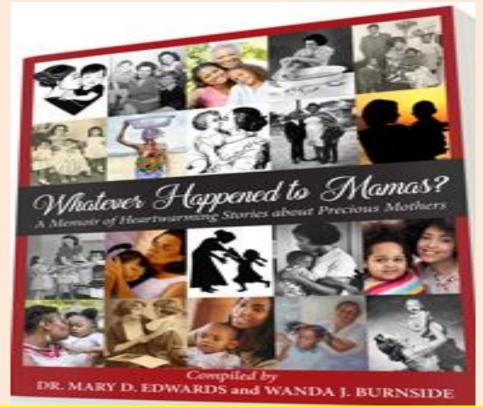
https://www.blogtalkradio.com/gumboforthesoul/2019/12/09/restore-restoreradio-ministry-hosted-by-wanda-burnside-and-ramelle-t-lee

Follow Our Studio: www.blogtalkradio.com/gumboforthesoul

**BEVERLY BLACK JOHNSON, FOUNDER and CEO** 

#### Upcoming Release for Mother's Day - May 2020

# Whatever Happened to Mamas?



*To order your copies of this beautiful anthology of memoirs of heartwarming stories about precious mothers, please contact:* 



#### Leaves of Gold Consulting, LLC

Dr. Mary D. Edwards (313) 744-MARY <u>mary@leavesofgoldconsulting.com</u> www.LeavesOfGoldConsulting.com

# We are praying for you!

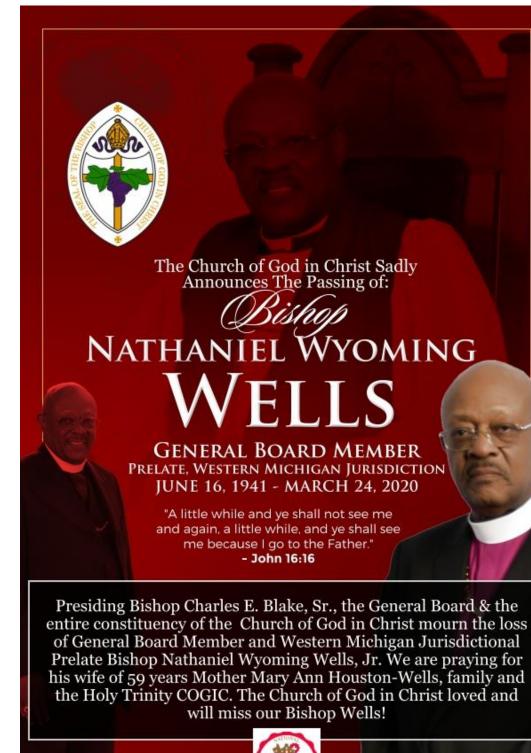


#### REVEREND LOVELL EDDINS LEE May 25, 1949 – March 20, 2020

Reverend Lovell Eddins Lee, the precious twin brother of Author Ramelle T. Lee, went Home to be with the Lord March 20, 2020. Reverend Lee was 70 years old. Ramelle Lee is a poet, author, staff writer for The Lamp Newsletter and the founder of Touching Your Heart Ministries.

Reverend Lee was married for 35 years to Missionary Annette Lee. They were blessed with children and grandchildren. Reverend Lee was an ordained minister and member of Partakers Baptist Church in Southwest Detroit, MI.



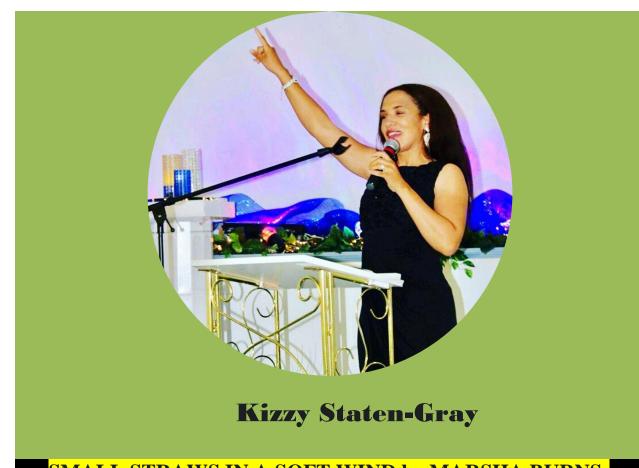


# LORD, PROTECT US! HEAL US! DELIVER US!



- "Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise." ~ Jeremiah 17:14
- "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven." ~ James 5:14-15
- He said, "If you listen carefully to the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you." ~ Exodus 15:26
- "Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you..." Exodus 23:25

- "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." ~ Isaiah 41:10
- "You restored me to health and let me live. Surely it was for my benefit that I suffered such anguish. In your love you kept me from the pit of destruction; you have put all my sins behind your back." ~ Isaiah 38:16-17
- "I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will guide them and restore comfort to Israel's mourners, creating praise on their lips. Peace, peace, to those far and near," says the LORD. "And I will heal them." ~ Isaiah 57:18-19
- "Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security." ~ Jeremiah 33:6
- "Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well." ~ <u>3 John 1:2</u>
- "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." ~ 2
   Chronicles 7:14-15
- "You restored me to health and let me live. Surely it was for my benefit that I suffered such anguish. In your love you kept me from the pit of destruction; you have put all my sins behind your back." ~ Isaiah 38:16-17



SMALL STRAWS IN A SOFT WIND by MARSHA BURNS:

"I am your strength and your shield, says the Lord. When weakness threatens you must find your place of refuge in Me and stand strong. Possess and maintain an attitude of faith and resilience. I have called you, My people, to be overcomers even in the most dire circumstances. John 16:33 ''These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.''

You can follow Kizzy Staten-Gray on Facebook!

## Your invitation is coming to review...



# Our WEBSITE! THE LAMP NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL

Christine V. Mitchell of the UK is our website Manager. She is finalizing several important things for our website. She has been very dedicated and committed to this assignment. Please keep her in your prayers.

#### CHRISTINE V. MITCHEL

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