



Kingdom Life Ministry Presents:

# *Keys to Kingdom Living*

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Dear Friend,

## **We Shall Not Pass This Way Again!**

What a fantastic time to be alive! We are standing on the dawning of a whole new decade. Perhaps seven or eight times, if a person is fortunate enough, will we live to see a decade come and go. But here we all stand, on the threshold of a new decade and with it all the promises that an Easter Sunrise might hold.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> I will be blessed to turn sixty years old. I have never liked the concept of having a party in which people put on black and look like they are in mourning, as if your life is drawing to a close. I refuse to look upon it as if I am on the slippery slide toward death but rather the dawning of a new day and with it all the hope and expectancy that comes with it.

One of my favorite quotes comes from John Wesley. He said, “I expect to pass through this world but once; any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow-creature, let me do it now; let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.”

Each decade of my life has been as different and exciting a time as one could hope for. With all that behind me why would I expect anything different of the next decade of my life? Our life is like a ship that has sailed the high seas, each of us have had our times of calm seas and smooth sailing. There have also been times when it felt like the storms of life have threatened to send us down to the depths, but by the grace of God we manage to come through the storms stronger for having been in them. There really have been pearls of wisdom that we have acquired by having come through those difficult times that we would never have gotten any other way.

Through it all I am now beginning to have a perspective on life that only can be received by someone who has been blessed to see decades come and go. What an honor it is to not only look ahead at the days before us but the blessing to look back at days gone by. To awaken each day and see it as a day of opportunities, really is a great gift.

## **And I took the road less traveled, and it has made all the difference!**

Lois and I prayed for many years, as our girls grew into adulthood, that they would find Godly young men to marry. As the years passed circumstances would come along which caused us to move from one place to another. Not every move was easy, some of them were on roads less traveled but through it all we found that one of the things God was doing was positioning our daughters to find and marry the exceptional young men the Lord had intended for them. Later we were blessed to see them have children of their own. Now as we look at our two grandsons playing together we are amazed to see another branch of the tree of life that we are blessed to experience the fruit of.

It is not that we wouldn't have had grandchildren if we had missed an opportunity but it is true that we wouldn't have had these two particular grandsons. Our choices made all the difference! What an opportunity to be alive today and to see what this decade will bring. John Wesley was right, “We shall not pass through this world but once..” so lets take every advantage to enjoy the life God has given us.

One of my favorite authors is Andrew Murray. He lived an exceptional holy life. Among those on whom his influence was the greatest were his children and grandchildren. Five of his six sons became ministers of the gospel and four of his daughters became minister's wives. Ten grandsons became ministers and thirteen grandchildren became missionaries. What an amazing inheritance that Andrew Murray was blessed to experience in his life.

I was walking past a Salvation Army officer ringing his bell by their kettle the other day and thought of all the good work the Salvation Army does around the world. Of all the organizations that are out there they have stayed true to their calling. It reminded me of their founder William Booth and what he had said

was the secret of his success. A success which has lived on for over a century. He said, "I will tell you the secret. God has had all there was of me. There have been men with greater brains than I, men with greater opportunities. But from the day I got the poor of London on my heart and caught a vision of all Jesus Christ could do with them, on that day I made up my mind that God would have all of William Booth there was. And if there is anything of power in the Salvation Army today it is because God has had all the adoration of my heart, all the power of my will, and all the influence of my life."

I don't think any of us can really know how much our lives influence those around us. It makes you think of the movie "It's a Wonderful Life!" In the movie Jimmy Stewart played George Bailey a man who wondered if the choices he made in his life really mattered. An angel was sent to show George what life would have been like had he never been born. The movie really portrays that our lives are made up of opportunities that will affect all of eternity. There is really no one who has come before us, nor anyone who will come after us, who could accomplish what the Lord has planned for us. We are history makers, and for either good or bad we will affect the lives of people who will in turn affect the lives of others throughout all of time.

### **Seizing the Day!**

President Woodrow Wilson told the story of being in a barbershop one time. "I was sitting in a barber chair when I became aware that a powerful personality had entered the room. A man had come quietly in upon the same errand as myself to have his hair cut and sat in the chair next to me. Every word the man uttered, though it was not in the least didactic, showed a personal interest in the man who was serving him. And before I got through with what was being done to me I was aware I had attended an evangelistic service, because Mr. D. L. Moody was in that chair. I purposely lingered in the room after he had left and noted the singular affect that his visit had brought upon the barbershop. They talked in undertones. They did not know his name, but they knew something had elevated their thoughts, and I felt that I left that place as I should have left a place of worship."

I don't know of anyone, who reads the story above, that wouldn't desire a life that would affect people like D. L. Moody did. It is interesting that the blessing came not from how many people were saved or healed nor did it come from the exceptional preaching skills that Mr. Moody possessed. It came from his ability to really care about the people around him. It wasn't about who he was, it was about who they were.

Helen Ewing was saved as a young girl in Scotland and gave her life completely to the lordship of Christ. When she died at the age of 22 it is said that all of Scotland wept. She had expected to serve God as a missionary in Europe and had become fluent in the Russian language. But she was not able to fulfill that dream. She had no obvious gifts such as speaking or writing, and she had never traveled far from home. Yet by the time she died she had won hundreds of people to Jesus Christ. Countless missionaries mourned her death because they knew that a great channel of their spiritual strength was gone. She had risen every morning at five in order to study God's Word and to pray. Her diary revealed that she regularly prayed for over three hundred missionaries by name. Everywhere she went the atmosphere was changed. If someone were telling a dirty story, he would stop if he saw her coming. If people were complaining, they would become ashamed of it in her presence. An acquaintance reported that while she was at Glasgow University she left the fragrance of Christ wherever she went. In everything she said and did she was God's salt.

At the end of our days, should we be fortunate enough to live seventy, eighty or ninety years would we be known as people that learned to love and enjoy life, that lived a life of love and intimacy with his or her God and gave of ourselves to others unselfishly? Would we be ones known for godly character and child-like anticipation for the days to come?

As we enter into this new decade we pray that you will know Him in ever increasing measures. We pray that you will seize the moment He has set before you and go for it! And we pray most of all that you will live out of His abundant unceasing love as you press on toward the destiny and plan He has for you.

We love you and appreciate each of you. May His peace be in abundance in your hearts and homes.

Much Love and Grace to all,



Rex & Lois

'Kingdom Healing Conference'  
Deltona, Florida—January 21—23  
Register at: [www.kcmi.com](http://www.kcmi.com)