

GLORIA COPELAND



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His Higher Ways

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HIS HIGHER WAYS

lid you know that if you've been born again, you are not of this world?

You're in the world, certainly. You have contact with it in the natural because you're living on the earth. But spiritually you're no longer under the world's dominion. You're not subject to the limitations and impossibilities of its sin-darkened system.

You're a citizen of heaven! You've been delivered from the darkness of this world and translated into the kingdom of the Son of God's love (Colossians 1:13). Your Father is Almighty God and He is unlimited. All things are possible to Him, and by faith in Him all things are possible to you too. You just have to believe it and operate according to His system.

God's system is nothing like the world's system. The world is all messed up. It follows after the devil, so its ways are as twisted as he is.

Where finances are concerned, for example, God says, "Give Me the first 10% of your income and I'll see to it that you prosper richly. Give and it shall be given to you again!" But the world says the exact opposite. It says, "Put yourself first, get all you can and then hang onto it. Take care of yourself above all because if you don't no one else will."

I remember one time when Ken and I were driving through a big city during the lunch hour. I looked at all the people hurrying along the sidewalk, going to and from their jobs, and I realized that without God people have no other alternative than to keep pushing to make the world's system work for them. They spend their whole lives working for things like food, clothing and shelter. Then, they wake up one day and realize their life is almost over.

When was I ever supposed to live? they think. All I've done all these years is go to work and come home, go to work and come home. Shouldn't there be more to life than that?

Of course there should. And in God's system there is!

He has a wonderful plan for our lives. His plan is for us to focus on Him, do what He's called us to do and be a BLESS-ING to others. Rather than us having to spend all our time trying to meet our own needs, His plan is for us to fulfill our

divine destiny, while trusting Him to see to it that we are abundantly BLESSED.

That's what Jesus was telling us to do in Matthew 6 when He said:

Do not worry and be anxious, saying, What are we going to have to eat? or. What are we going to have to drink? or, What are we going to have to wear? For the Gentiles (heathen) wish for and crave and diligently seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows well that you need them all But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides. (verses 31-33, Amplified Bible, Classic Edition).

Notice the phrase, *His way of doing and being right*. That's a good definition of God's system. His system is how He does things. It's how He operates and how His kingdom works.

Sadly, a lot of believers don't know much about that. They're citizens of God's kingdom because they've been born again. They love God and go to church, but because all they've ever heard is religious tradition, they've never learned God's kingdom ways.

As a result, although they look forward to going to heaven when they die, they don't experience "days of heaven upon the earth" (Deuteronomy 11:21). Thinking they're still subject to this world's sin-cursed system, they just keep slaving away under it. They keep trying to make it work for them just like unbelievers do.

That's not how Christians are meant

to live. We're supposed to live like Jesus did when He was in this world.

He did things His heavenly Father's way! He said what He heard His Father say, did what He saw His Father do, and got His Father's results. He operated in a completely different way than the unbelievers around Him, and when they wanted to know why, He told them it was because "you are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world" (John 8:23, New King James Version).

SEPARATED By the word

"But Gloria, Jesus could say that because, as the Son of God, He really is from above."

Yes, and you are too if you're a

believer. Jesus said so Himself. In John 17:14, when He was praying for all who would ever believe on Him He said, "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world" (New King James Version).

Think about that! According to Jesus, you're not of this world any more than He is. Like Him, you are from above. Why? Because He gave you His Word and you received it. You heard and acted on what Romans 10:8 calls "the word of faith, which we preach." Verses 9-10 continue: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

That's not just how the new birth is

received. It's how we receive everything from God. We receive healing, prosperity and everything else we need to live a BLESSED life by believing, speaking and obeying God's Word.

His Word is the basis of His entire system. He does everything by speaking faith-filled words. We see in Genesis 1, that's how He created this universe. When there was nothing but darkness on the face of the deep, God said by faith, "Let there be light: and there was light" (verse 3).

We still have light today, thousands of years later, because God's words are eternal. Once they come out of His mouth, they're like a blood-sworn oath. They're true forever.

Hebrews 4:12 says, "The Word that God speaks is alive and full of power... active, operative, energizing, and effective" (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition), and

it never loses that power. So, when we get His words on the inside of us in such abundance that they come out of our mouths by faith, they work for us just like they do for Him. They change our circumstances. They change our relationships. They drive sickness out of our bodies. They overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles in our lives.

Ken and I can testify to this!

When we first heard about living by faith in God's Word, we were in pitiful shape. Financially broke and in debt, we'd done everything we knew to make the world's system work for us and had failed miserably. As soon as we got on God's system, however, things started to change. We started believing and saying what Jesus says about us in the Bible, and even before anything changed outwardly, on the inside we began to see ourselves with our needs met.

We replaced what had been in our hearts, minds and mouths with what the Word says belongs to us. So we began to envision ourselves moving out of that dumpy, little house we were living in and moving into something better. With the eye of faith, we saw ourselves driving a car that wouldn't quit on us, instead of driving an old clunker.

It didn't happen overnight, but in a surprisingly short span of time, what we'd seen in our hearts became a physical reality. We literally saw, in the natural, the Word come to pass in our lives.

Praise God, we've come a long way since those early days! Back then, we were believing for food on our table and money to pay the light bill; now we're believing for millions of dollars to broadcast the gospel around the world. Yet we're still doing it the same way—by believing, speaking and obeying God's Word.

That's God's system, and it always works. No matter what challenges you may be facing or what your situation, if you put God first and do things His way, He can get you whatever you need.

He isn't confined by natural constraints like the world is. His ways are supernatural. What the world sees as impossible, He is well able to do. Isaiah 55:8-11 says:

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the

sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

LIVE LIKE A MEMBER OF GOD'S ROYAL FAMILY

"But isn't that passage saying that because God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours, we can't operate like He does?" you might ask.

On the contrary, it's actually telling us to do so. As verse 7 puts it, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD."

As believers, we don't have any business thinking and doing things the same way the wicked and unrighteous do! We're from above. We're born to operate like God does because we're His children.

Imagine you were the child of the queen of England. Wouldn't you expect to learn the ways of royalty? Wouldn't you expect to live a royal lifestyle?

Sure you would. You don't envision Prince Charles having to be concerned about his light bill. So, as a child of God, you shouldn't envision yourself having to be concerned about yours either.

You're a member of God's royal family. You don't have to worry about things like what you're going to eat or drink or wear. You don't have to put up with lack like the world does. You can live in God's system.

You can put Him first and cast all your

care over on Him, knowing that He cares for and watches over you affectionately. You can continue in His Word, and as Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word... ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32).

I like being free! I like being able to live according to the truth of God's Word and not having to depend on myself for all my answers. I like having a God in heaven who loves me and is always in the throne room, ready to respond when I call on Him in faith.

That's something the world doesn't offer. Its system is so cold and impersonal, that these days, when you try to do business over the telephone, you can't even talk to an actual human being. Instead, you get a recording. If you want this, "Press 1." If you want that, "Press 2."

You'll never get that from God.

He's always on duty. He's always listening for the Name of Jesus and for the Word of faith to come out of our mouths. For that matter, so are His angels. Assigned to us by God (Hebrews 1:14), they're always with us, "hearkening unto the voice of [God's] word" that comes out of our mouths (Psalm 103:20).

In God's system, everything begins and ends with His Word! First, we receive His words and believe them (which means we accept them as truth and treat as lies everything that contradicts them). Second, we bring our words into agreement with His words.

We don't speak God's words half the time and then the rest of the time speak words of doubt and unbelief. We talk the Word consistently in faith, without wavering. For as James 1:6-8 says: "...he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways."

Is it easy to be stable and single-minded in standing on the Word when you're facing contrary circumstances? No. To do it, you must keep hearing and hearing the Word of God until you hear more of the Word than you hear unbelief—and in this world, that's a job!

People all around us are talking negatively. They're speaking fear and doom, and they have no answers. When we turn on the news, the reporters and pundits are telling us how bad things are and warning us they're going to get worse. And in a sense, they're right. Things will get worse in this world before Jesus returns, because this world is yielding to the devil and he's taking things downhill.

But thank God, as believers, we are

not of this world. We're from above, so we can live in an entirely different system. We can seek first the kingdom of God and His way of doing and being right. We can fill our hearts and our mouths with His words and mount up on wings like eagles by living in God's higher ways.

Prayer for Salvation and Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). I am calling on You. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to Romans 10:9-10: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." I do that now. I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead. I repent of sin. I renounce it. I renounce the devil and everything he stands for. Jesus is my Lord.

I am now reborn! I am a Christian—a child of Almighty God! I am saved! You also said in Your Word, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" (Luke 11:13). I'm

also asking You to fill me with the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to speak with other tongues as You give me the utterance (Acts 2:4). In Jesus' Name. Amen!

Begin to praise God for filling you with the Holy Spirit. Speak those words and syllables you receive—not in your own language, but the language given to you by the Holy Spirit. You have to use your own voice. God will not force you to speak. Don't be concerned with how it sounds. It is a heavenly language!

Continue with the blessing God has given you and pray in the spirit every day.

You are a born-again, Spirit-filled believer. You'll never be the same!

Find a good church that boldly preaches God's Word and obeys it. Become part of a church family who will love and care for you as you love and care for them.

We need to be connected to each other. It increases our strength in God. It's God's plan for us.

Make it a habit to watch the Believer's Voice of Victory Network and become a doer of the Word, who is blessed in his doing (James 1:22-25).

About the Author

Gloria Copeland is a noted author and minister of the gospel whose teaching ministry is known throughout the world. Believers worldwide know her through Believers' Conventions, Victory Campaigns, magazine articles, teaching audios and videos, and the daily and Sunday *Believer's Voice of Victory* television broadcast, which she hosts with her husband, Kenneth Copeland. She is known for Healing School, which she began teaching and hosting in 1979 at KCM meetings. Gloria delivers the Word of God and the keys to victorious Christian living to millions of people every year.

Gloria is author of the New York Times bestseller, God's Master Plan for Your Life and Live Long, Finish Strong, as well as numerous other favorites, including God's Will for You, Walk With God, God's Will Is Prosperity, Hidden Treasures and To Know Him. She has also co-authored several books with her husband, including Family Promises, Healing Promises and the best-selling daily devotionals, From Faith to Faith and

Pursuit of His Presence.

She holds an honorary doctorate from Oral Roberts University. In 1994, Gloria was voted Christian Woman of the Year, an honor conferred on women whose example demonstrates outstanding Christian leadership. Gloria is also the co-founder and vice president of Kenneth Copeland Ministries in Fort Worth, Texas.

Learn more about Kenneth Copeland Ministries by visiting our website at **kem.org**

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When the Lord first spoke to Kenneth and Gloria Copeland about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine...

He said: This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription!

For more than 50 years, it has been the joy of Kenneth Copeland Ministries to bring the good news to believers. Readers enjoy teaching from ministers who write from lives of living contact with God, and testimonies from believers experiencing victory through God's Word in their everyday lives.

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We're Here for You!

Your growth in God's Word and your victory in Jesus are at the very center of our hearts. In every way God has equipped us, we will help you deal with the issues facing you, so you can be the **victorious overcomer** He has planned for you to be.

The mission of Kenneth Copeland Ministries is about all of us growing and going together. Our prayer is that you will take full advantage of all The LORD has given us to share with you.

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We encourage you to connect with us often and let us be part of your everyday walk of faith!

Jesus Is LORD!

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