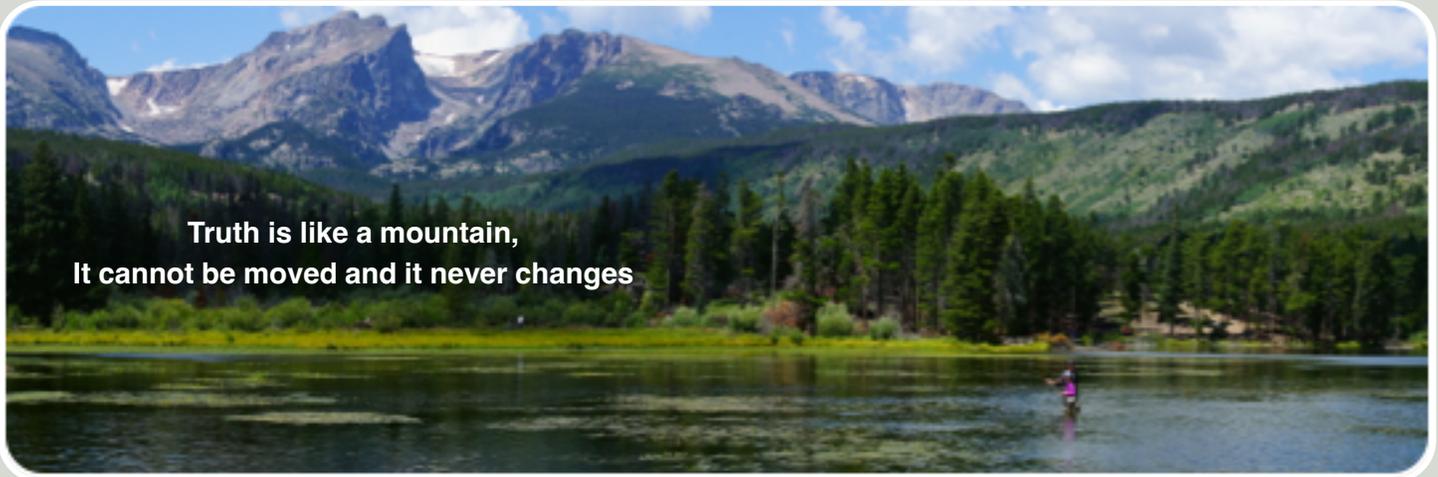


APRIL 2026

# "TRUTH"

**A SURE WORD  
FOR TODAY**



Truth is like a mountain,  
It cannot be moved and it never changes

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## UPDATE

I want to take a moment to draw your attention to this month's feature article:

### **"Memories of Israel."**

A pilgrimage to the land of the Bible should be on everyone's bucket list. Walking the same streets Jesus walked 2000 years ago is an amazing experience. Visiting the places where Jesus turned water into wine, fed the 5000, and walked on water is life-changing.

### **The Bible comes alive!**

Miss Linda and I had the privilege of taking 26 trips to the holy land, and each trip gave us a unique experience unlike any other. In the "Memories of Israel" article, we take a trip down memory lane and share with you two things we experienced that were totally supernatural. These are not things everyone should expect to experience. But don't be disheartened, because you may experience something even more amazing. After all, it is the land of the Bible!

## FEATURE ARTICLE: "Memories of Israel"

**WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not our goal. Our goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness.**

**You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!**

Miss Linda and I had the privilege of visiting Israel 26 times, and each visit left us with many wonderful memories. The other day, as we were reminiscing, we began talking about the top things we experienced. The list of honorable mentions was very long, but we quickly agreed that two experiences stood out above all the others. In this article, I want to share those two with you.

Coming in at number two was something that happened in 1996 when we took all our pastors with us to Israel. We knew this was going to be a great trip because we were a close-knit group who knew how to have fun. I shall never forget going to the valley of Elah, where David killed Goliath. Someone got the idea that it would be fun to re-create that scene, and soon different pastors were assigned different roles. The late great Bob Groeneman was chosen to play the part of David, and Charlie Smith was picked to play the part of Goliath. The others split up, with half playing the Israelite army and the rest playing the Philistines. It soon turned so comical and chaotic that our guide had to walk away, saying he was embarrassed to be seen with us. It was wonderful!

But it was on the Mount of Transfiguration that our second most memorable experience of all time happened. At the summit of the mountain is a small Catholic Church that is usually bustling with pilgrims, but on the day our pastors arrived, there was almost no one there. This was highly unusual, and I knew it would change if another bus filled with pilgrims arrived, so I urged our group to go to the church as quickly as possible for a time of worship.

Like most Catholic churches in the Holy Land, the church was dimly lit. At the door was a nun who gave us permission to go down to the altar area for a time of worship. But I was sternly told, "No charismatic, no Pentecostal!" We were guests, and we would obey the rules! Quietly, we made our way to the front of the church and formed a circle by the altar. Pastor Tom had written the purest worship

song I had ever heard, so I asked him to lead us in singing it together. The melody was written in haunting minor chords, and the words were simple yet deep. They were:

We worship you alone

We worship you alone

We cry holy, holy, holy is the Lord

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord

As we sang, our voices reverberated off the church's stone walls, and then something absolutely miraculous happened. The presence of the Holy Spirit filled that church in a way none of us had ever experienced before. We all dropped to our knees with our faces to the floor, in total worship of our King. To this day, I have never experienced anything like it again. Words cannot adequately describe it. It shook us to the core of our being and left us weeping and worshipping.

Soon, another group arrived, so I had to ask our pastors to quietly leave. As we approached the entrance, I noticed three priests had assembled, and one was asking who the leader of our group was. Immediately, I thought, "Oh, no, I am in big trouble!" But as I stepped closer, prepared to be excoriated, I saw tears running down his face. He hugged me and said, "My brother, I have been the priest in charge of this church for the last seven years, and never have I experienced anything like what just happened. I dare say that the last time something like this happened on this mountain, the only ones who witnessed it were Peter James and John." Truly, we had just experienced heaven touching earth in an amazing way.

Right now, you may be wondering how this could possibly be number two on our list. Well, maybe it should be number one, but we had another experience in Jerusalem that was possibly even more amazing. Keep reading, I will let you decide which should be number one.

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Memories of Israel  
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Over the years, the thing people said they enjoyed most was their time spent in Jerusalem. Each group was given four days to walk through the old city on the same streets Jesus would have walked. We visited the Garden of Gethsemane, where he prayed, "Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done." We then visited the house of Caiaphas, where Jesus was taken after his arrest. We descended into the same dungeon where he spent the last night of his life. The list goes on and on.

The day when we arrived in Jerusalem was always a very full one that began down by the Dead Sea, where we had spent the night. It started with a cable car ride to the top of Masada, then we hiked to the En Gedi waterfall, and later explored Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. By the time we reached Jerusalem, it was late afternoon, and people were usually very weary, probably just wanting to get to their hotel rooms to rest before dinner. But on this particular day, God had something far better in mind.

Our guide always took us to a spot on the slopes of Mount Scopus, near the Hebrew University. Here, there was a small amphitheater where we could sit and look down on the Temple Mount and the old city of Jerusalem. No other tour buses ever came there, so we always had it completely to ourselves, and it was very special!

When folks had finished taking their photos, our guide told them about an ancient Middle Eastern tradition in which pilgrims entering Jerusalem would stop to offer bread and wine and then speak a blessing over the holy city. We then distributed pieces of bread, small Dixie cups, and wine. We had only two bottles of wine, and I instructed the guys pouring to be very careful, putting about an inch in each cup so we wouldn't run out. As I watched, I became very concerned because obviously, the spirit of generosity was on these guys. Sure enough, the wine ran out, and there were still eight people with empty cups. I

asked the guide if there was any chance he might have another bottle, but he didn't. What was I going to do?

As I contemplated my predicament, I heard a voice behind me say, "Pastor, I have more than enough and would be happy to share." It was Clark. Clark was an elderly gentleman who had joined the group at the last minute. His wife was in a nursing home suffering from Alzheimer's, and because of his commitment to her, he had decided not to go on the trip, but his family insisted he needed a break and were able to convince him to change his mind. I am so glad they prevailed!

His Dixie cup was over half full, so I told him to go ahead and put about an inch in one of the empty cups. Because others also had more than they needed, I thought this might be the solution to my problem. But to my surprise, after sharing some of his wine, his cup was still half full! I told him to keep pouring, and to everyone's shock, as each cup was filled, his kept getting fuller. People began to gasp in amazement. And, after filling all the empty cups, his was now completely full and running over. We had just witnessed an amazing miracle of multiplication!

As we rode to the hotel, the bus was strangely silent, not because we were tired, but because we were trying to process what we had just experienced. We had just seen something similar to what happened when Jesus fed the 5000, and most of us were in total shock.

So there you have it, these are the top two memories from 26 trips to Israel. Which do you think should be number one? I struggle to name either of them the greatest, because both qualify for the top spot. But as I have spent more time reflecting, I have come to the conclusion that what happened on the Mount of Transfiguration must be number one. Why?

**Because...**

**Nothing is equal to His presence....**

**Not even a miracle!**



## A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA

### *“Finding Significance”*



As our children grow, they go through many different phases, and with each new phase come issues that can trouble them deeply. I don't remember exactly what things I struggled with as a very young girl, but

I was probably no different than any other child. Would my teachers at school like me? Would other children treat me nicely? Would I have friends? These are the kind of questions young children often ask themselves.

As they grow older, their questions begin to change. They begin to wonder who they will marry, what career path they will take, and where they will live. Eventually, reality sets in, and most start asking themselves, "How am I going to make enough money to support myself?" It would be nice if we had answers to all the questions our children face, but unfortunately, we don't. So how can we help them navigate through life as they face insecurities and many unanswered questions?

The answer to that question lies in addressing a question many adults face as they reach midlife and beyond. Often, after we have found our partner and achieved many of our goals, we still feel unfulfilled

and empty. It is in that phase of our lives that we begin asking ourselves many questions. Why am I here? Did God put me here just to work hard, make lots of money, live a comfortable life, and then die? Is that all there is to life? So, what are the answers to these questions? How do we find fulfillment, and how can we help our children find answers to the questions and insecurities they have at their age? Scripture gives us the answer.

#### **Psalms 96:3 King James Version**

**3 Declare his glory** among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

#### **Psalm 71:18 King James Version**

18 Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; **until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.**

#### **Psalm 145:4 Amplified Bible**

**4 One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty and remarkable acts.**

Brothers and sisters, this is why God has placed us here, and it may be the most fulfilling thing you ever do.

**We are here to brag on God!**

**"Finding Significance"**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Now, this answer may not seem to connect to the question of how to help your children with the issues of life, but it does, and I will show you how. And when you see it and understand it, it will change your life.

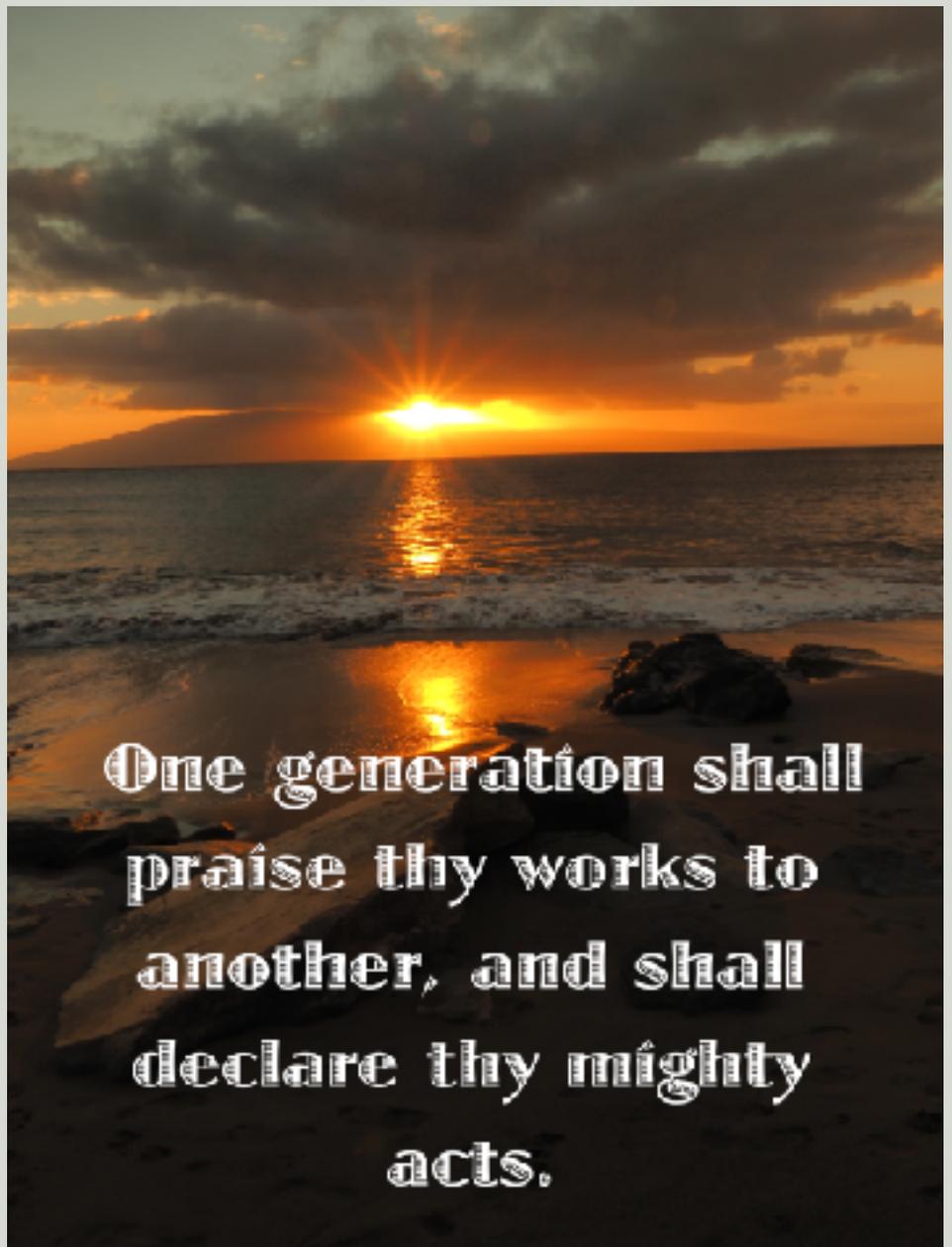
All these verses emphasize the importance of passing down the knowledge of God's faithfulness and power from one generation to the next. And how do we do that? We brag on God! We must remember that proclaiming God's works is not just about sharing information; it is about sharing our faith and nurturing theirs. And this is what they are going to need when the answers to life's questions continue to evade them.

Imagine your child coming to a stage of life where they are faced with the question of who they will marry and what they will do with the rest of their life. They have no answers. Nevertheless, they stand strong and unwavering because, deep inside, they know there is a God who has the answer. They have an unshakable faith. And how did they get it? They got it by hearing their parents praise the God they have served, a God who has proven himself faithful and true throughout their lives. They have heard the stories of deliverance. They have heard stories of divine provision, and their parents' faith has now become their own. I ask you, what in life could be more fulfilling than this?

In conclusion, proclaiming God's great works to the next generation is a vital responsibility for all believers. By sharing our testimonies, teaching biblical truths, and fostering a culture of

praise, we ensure that the legacy of God's faithfulness will continue to inspire and guide future generations. Let us commit to this important task, remembering that sharing our stories of God's goodness will ignite faith in the hearts of those who will follow.

**That is the most significant thing you'll ever do!**



# P R O P H E C Y U P D A T E

## Enough Already!

Okay, it's time for me to admit that I have a pet peeve. I have lived with it for 83 years, and as I have gotten older, it has gotten worse. Much worse! I have no tolerance for those who quote scriptures and apply them to situations God never intended.

The most egregious example of this is connected to something Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica.

### 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 KJV

1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so cometh** as a thief in the night.

3 **For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.**

This seems simple enough, and yet people have a difficult time applying it correctly. Point out that the war in Iran or the Abraham Accords may result in peace in the Middle East, and I guarantee someone will quote this to you. Not only will they quote it, they will do so in a condescending manner intended to let you know that they have an understanding of scripture that is far superior to yours.

**Enough already!**



Because I am a man of great patience, I will take the time to explain this so even our prophetically challenged friends can understand. The thing we need to determine is whether Paul is making a blanket statement to be applied every time the word "peace" is spoken, or if this verse refers to only one specific event. To help us see the answer, I submit the front-page headline of the San Francisco Chronicle on August 16, 1945.



**Should this verse have been applied here?**

Paul very clearly states that he is specifically talking about **"the day of the Lord."** That phrase appears 29 times in the Bible, and each time it describes the day when Jesus returns to execute judgment upon the wicked. A good example is found in Isaiah.

### Isaiah 13:9 KJV

9 Behold, **the day of the LORD cometh**, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

Anyone well-versed in Bible prophecy knows that prior to Jesus' return, the antichrist will have confirmed a 7-year covenant promising peace. This will be the time to apply what Paul wrote, because when that day comes, none shall escape!

For now, please continue to pray for peace, and when it comes, let us rejoice together and glorify God because our prayers have been answered.

**Blessed are the peacemakers!**

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH!