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IMPACT

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3 Days That Changed the World

From the Cross to the Throne

Impact Ministries

"Changing the Way the World Sees God"

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Three Days That Changed the World

By Jim Richards

Romans 10:9-10 is the cornerstone Scripture for evangelicals in leading people to Jesus. While this is an incredible place to give clear cut steps for a concise process, this Scripture contains much more than a formula to be born again. It is, in fact, the cornerstone Scripture for appropriating every aspect of the promises of God! It says: *If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Every aspect of salvation, i.e., saved, healed, blessed, prospered, protected, made whole, sanctified, and more comes to us through this process of believing that God raised Jesus from the dead. All of these attributes of salvation exist in a certain state of being: righteousness. Thayer's Lexicon defines righteousness as "the state of him who is such as he ought to be." God created man to be healthy, happy, prosperous, peaceful, and every other imaginable enjoyable state. In the Garden of Eden man was as he should be and in Heaven man will be as he should be.

Our concepts of righteousness are more focused on the "fruit" of righteousness than the "state" of righteousness. Moral and ethical living is just one aspect of how we

should be. Healed, delivered, blessed, prospered, protected, and set apart are just a few more aspects of *how we should be*.

We've made righteousness a goal instead of a state of being and as such we lock ourselves into a legalistic mindset. A goal is obtained by accomplishment or labor. A state of being already exists and is entered into by belief. Righteousness, like the Kingdom of God, already exists; we don't have to create it, it's something that we enter into internally. It's strictly a heart issue.

We can create carnal substitutes for any of the states of being that God offers. We can have circumstantial peace, but circumstantial peace only lasts as long as all external circumstances support it. We can have a joy or happiness based on obtaining the things we desire but, once again, this is subject to the actions of others. We can only maintain it as long as the world around us gives us what we want. Jesus offers us a joy that's independent of circumstances and He offers a peace that's beyond anything that makes sense.

Likewise, the appearance of righteousness can be manufactured, but as Jesus told the Pharisees, *You are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.* (Matt. 23:27-28) God looks on the heart. Everything God desires to do in you, He desires to do in and through your heart.

The beginning of our walk with Jesus as Lord, as well as every step we take from that point forward, should revolve around what we believe in our heart about Jesus'

resurrection from the dead. We only have in salvation what Jesus accomplished through the resurrection! There's no other place to look and there's no other process.

Sadly, we're taught to only look to the resurrection of Jesus as it applies to the new birth! But when we need healing, peace, prosperity, or all the other provisions of salvation, we look to individual Scriptures and attempt to create an intellectual comprehension of those Scriptures independent of the resurrection of Jesus. Every scriptural promise has its ultimate realization and power in the resurrection.

In Eph. 1:16-23 Paul prayed for the church that *...the Father of glory may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened...* For the remaining verses of this chapter he points out that the power that works in us is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead. What we have, we have because He obtained it in the resurrection. We partake in it because we are in Him!

The most essential aspects of our faith revolved around three questions: 1) what did Jesus conquer and obtain through the resurrection? 2) Am I in Him? 3) Do I believe that being in Him qualifies me to share in these benefits? If we live by resurrection power we must know what Jesus accomplished through the resurrection. This is where Rom. 10:9-10 come into play in every faith equation!

In Isaiah 53 we see much of what Jesus endured from the cross to the throne. But the prophet begins that chapter by asking, *"Who has believed our report?"* Very little of the biblical report of the death, burial, and resurrection is believed by the church. This religious blindness is the primary result for the spiritual

Continued on page 6



Advanced Heart Physics II Creating Wealth October 8-10, 2010

You've heard me talk about it, now you can do it! Creating wealth without corrupting your soul, destroying your health, or abandoning your family is one of the most critical challenges we face. The key is the beliefs of the heart! If you believe any of the following statements about wealth they will come true: I have to be a workaholic. I can't be honest and be wealthy. I have to put work first. I can't have a life and success. If I do what it takes to succeed I'll lose my family!

Even more crucial to the times we face, if you believe wealth and success are dependent on the economy your beliefs are self-fulfilling prophesies of doom! More millionaires are made during difficult financial times than any other time!

Whether your goal is to double your income or just reach a place of financial stability, Advanced Heart Physics II is for you. Here are some things you will do during this life-altering weekend:

- Identify your core beliefs about prosperity
 - Find and eradicate your fears
 - Begin renewal exercises immediately
 - Create a financial formula your heart will accept
 - Bypass your controlling lifetime logic
 - Receive proven tools that work
 - Participate in hands-on exercises to determine and adjust beliefs.
- (Huntsville attendees)

Jesus taught that the way you view money is a direct link to your life of wholeness. In fact, in the original language He said if your eye is single in the issue of money you can grasp and master the world! Whether you struggle with greed, lack, or a poverty mentality, your life is being controlled by your perspective on money. Money, marriage, and health are the top three things that will determine whether or not you pursue your goals and fulfill your destiny. Money is the number one cause of divorce. Lack of money may be the top cause of stress, leading to sickness and disease! It's easy to see the wisdom in Jesus' teaching!

This will be an interactive seminar where you won't just obtain knowledge; you'll get the keys to wisdom, the ability to apply God's Word in a practical setting while opening a new door to your future! You'll begin to see personal changes before lunch on Saturday! On Sunday your transition will have begun. By Monday you'll be on a new journey to your financial goals and dreams!

Join me in Huntsville, AL or LIVE via the internet for this life-changing event.

Early registration for Huntsville attendees: \$249 per person (+ \$50/spouse) through July 31st

Early registration for online seminar: \$399 single or couple through July 31st

August 1st - Registration for Huntsville attendees: \$300 per person (+\$75/spouse)

August 1st - Registration for online seminar: \$449 single or couple

For early registration a non-refundable deposit of \$100 must be received before August 1, 2010.

***** Each attendee will receive free bonus downloads valued at over \$150! *****

Check out impactministries.com and watch your emails for more details.

True Heroes of the Faith

by Jim Richards

I've had the opportunity to know many wonderful people who understand the meaning of friendship, loyalty, and commitment. Throughout the years I've been amazed at those who quietly spend their lives serving God and their community with no expectation of acknowledgment, just the abiding joy that comes from sharing the life and love of God!

We started our local church in 1984 in a southern city that, although was racially balanced in many ways, contained a church world that was still segregated and chauvinistic. Chauvinism was difficult for me. My mother and my wife were the two most influential women in my life, so it was hard for me to be biased against women. I was saved out of the hippie movement that fought for freedom and equality for all people, and I was fortunate enough to be raised free from strong racism, and just naïve enough about living in truth, I really believed that all were equal and should be treated so, even in church.

I was strongly influenced by Dr. Paul Younggi Cho, pastor of the largest church in the world. Dr. Cho, against his culture, greatly utilized women in ministry. In fact, he often said, "If you want to get anything done, get women to do it." I assumed the biblical basis combined with the fruit of his ministry was reason enough to follow his leading, so when it came to recruiting leaders and workers I didn't really see gender or color; I looked for one thing: who will do the job?

Our early church was ap-

proximately one-third black, one-third Hispanic, and one-third white. We were people who dreamed of a different kind of church. While we had some very faithful men, by-in-large it was the women who prayed, visited, laid hands on the sick, and did the work of the ministry. In the early days of our home groups (called Impact Groups) it was mostly women of color who became Impact Group leaders and did the work of the ministry. I never thought there was anything unique about our journey until I visited a pastor in Birmingham, Alabama who questioned me about it. With a



puzzled look he asked, "How do you get by with it?" "Get by with what?" I queried! "How is it that you get by with having so many women in the ministry and most of them are black?" Until that moment I'd never considered that being a woman or a person of color should make any difference. He appeared shocked when I said, "We have one simple rule: the person who does the job is the person who should have the position."

Not satisfied with my philosophical answer he went on, "But how do your people respond to it?" I fired back, "Nobody cares if the person who helps them get healed is white or black, male or female. They're just glad to get healed!"

Our church has always been saved from strife and division by that one rule. People who want ti-

tles really only want control and they can't be trusted; they serve themselves through their need to rule over others. People who *do the work* can be trusted with the lives of God's people. The early leaders, especially the women, were true heroes of the faith. They not only faced a religious culture that tried to hold them back, they also helped me pioneer a message that today is changing the world.

I've been fortunate to know many heroes of the faith, people who would be written about in the Bible if this were the early church. For years I've watched as people, driven by nothing but love and passion to help others, had meetings in their homes. I've seen women help young girls who didn't have a home for their own children. I've watched people give their time to counsel and serve others in need, when those with titles did nothing except wear their title.

Our partners/World Changers have sacrificed to make sure the message that set them free from the bondage of religion was sent out to the entire world. So many have served, sacrificed, and given! All of you who serve others tirelessly will one day stand before Him who judges faithfully. There, before the judgment seat of Christ, you will hear these words, "*Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.*" (Matt. 25:23) You will receive a reward that's greater than any title or position that could have ever been given to you in this life!

Personally, I want to say, "Thank You" to all in our local family who keep multiplying this message and this lifestyle to our community. I want to say, "Thank

You” to our iGroup leaders and Bible study leaders who tirelessly serve and give of your life! I want to say, “Thank You” to those who visit, pray, and minister in ways that are never acknowledged by outside eyes. I want to say, “Thank You” to everyone who gives to reach this hurting world! To me you are a modern day hero of the faith and I’m honored to have you as my friend and co-laborer!

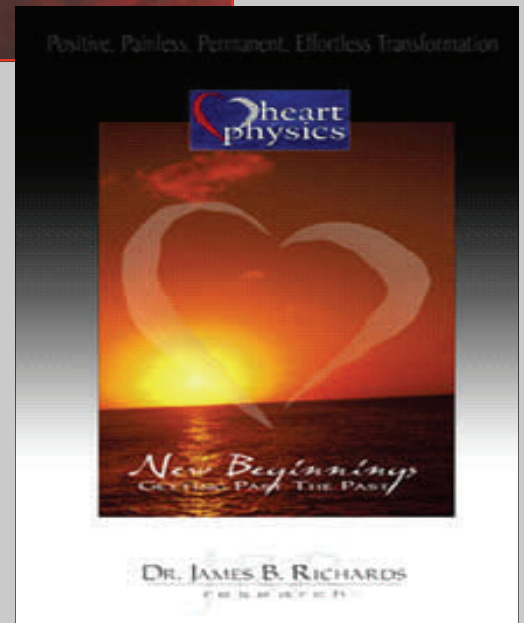
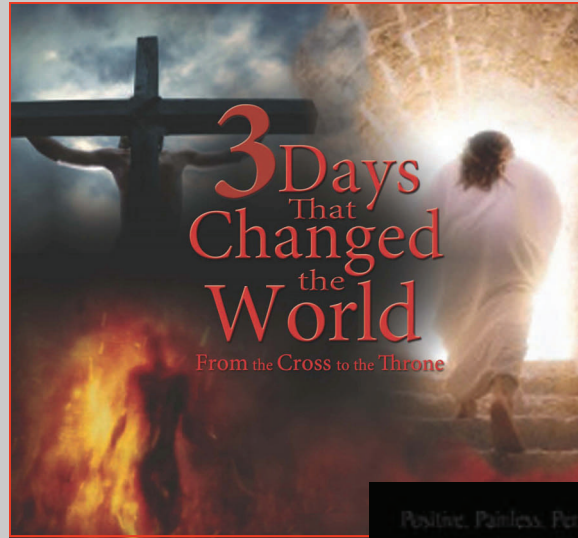
Maximizing Your Results

We all desire to maximize the results of our efforts as much as possible. There are many secrets that I’ve used over the years to get more out of my Bible reading and prayer time. One key is *intention*. When we set our intention before studying by stating what we intend to get out of our experience it changes phenomenally.

Another powerful tool is *synergy*. When I combine what I’m learning with heart work that follows the same topic the results can be astounding. For that reason we’re offering Heart Physics *New Beginnings* in combination with the new series, *Three Days That Changed the World*. With the *New Beginnings* module you connect with the death, burial, and resurrection in your heart. After all, every benefit of salvation is realized by you believing in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. When you believe it in your heart, you experience it as your reality!

I’m going to make you an unprecedented offer of a 20% discount when you purchase *Three Days That Changed the World* along with *New Beginnings*. This one-time offer will be a great investment in your life. Maximize your transformation experience with two powerful series for the price of one! See the ad on page 5 for details.

SPECIAL COMBINATION OFFER!



3 Days That Changed the World CDs + Heart Physics New Beginnings—\$204

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impotence of most believers and the church's failure in the world.

We believe the historical account of the life of Jesus but deny most of the biblical account of His death and resurrection. When Jesus said "*It is finished*" most people believe the work of salvation was completed. But in actuality, the true work of salvation had hardly begun. Kittle's Theological Dictionary of the New Testament may be the foremost authority in New Testament Greek. Listen to Kittle's definition of this Greek word: This verb means "to carry out, to execute, to fulfill, to carry out instructions, to bring to an end, to fulfill obligations." Jesus had fulfilled or carried out all of God's directives in His earthly life. All of the prophecies had been fulfilled.

What started on the cross (Jesus becoming our sin) had its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus taking all the curse of the law we deserved. This didn't end with physical death. The debt was not paid until He was alienated from God in the abode of the wicked dead. He was held in the grave by our sins and by the curse of the law, alienated from God. But Jesus believed God's promise to Him. The book of Jonah and many of the Psalms graphically portray His struggle of faith.

The most misunderstood reality of the resurrection is that Jesus **became** sin. He died the death of the wicked. For Him to be raised from the dead He had to use His faith to obtain righteousness. This is why the Scriptures refer to a righteousness that comes *by the faith of Jesus*. He used His faith to obtain righteousness so He could be raised from the death of sin.

Rom. 8:29 says, "...that He might be the firstborn among many brethren." Jesus wasn't the first

person to be raised from the dead, but He was the first to be raised from the death of sin. Just as we are raised up in righteousness at the new birth, He was the first, the Captain of our salvation, the Author and Finisher of our faith, the first and the last in every way! He was raised up in righteousness (as He should be according to God's Word.) He used His faith in God's Word and received righteousness. Because we are in Him we have that same righteousness.

Jesus, having been raised up, conquered the devil and stripped him of all authority, entered the Father's presence, received an inheritance, and sat down at the right hand of the Father. Because we are *in Him* we share in all this with Him. *We are seated with (in) Him, in heavenly places*. Our inheritance is the same inheritance that He received from the Father. We don't have anything that He doesn't have and He doesn't have anything that He doesn't share with us. *As He is*, (right now seated at the right hand of the Father) *so are we in this world*. (1 John 4:17)

Our faith isn't rooted in the historical Jesus; it's in the resurrected Lord. We believe in our heart that God raised Him from the dead after having become our sin and taking the curse that we deserved. But He used His faith to conquer all of that. The last catch to this scenario is that we have to believe in our heart! This isn't a mere intellectual acknowledgement of the facts; it must become a heart belief.

There are many aspects of believing in our heart but the primary indicator is found in the fact that what we believe in our heart is the core of our identity, who and how we see ourselves. If I believe *in my heart* that Jesus is raised up

over sin, death, Hell, and the devil, I believe that I, too, am raised up. If I believe *in my heart* that through the resurrection Jesus obtained an inheritance, I believe that I, too, have obtained an inheritance. This is the heart of Paul's prayer in Ephesians. The revelation missing from the church today is the *in Him* realities that come through faith in the resurrected Lord.

In my new series, *Three Days That Changed the World*, I share the biblical truths about the death, burial, and resurrection that will become the basis for your faith. You'll experience an entirely new confidence as you shift your faith from the historical life of Jesus to the resurrected Lord. See the ad on page 7.

Sorry! Technical Problems!

In the last three weeks we've had some technical difficulties as a result of upgrading our website and our broadcast equipment. Many of you had difficulties hearing the broadcast and others had download problems.

Our video team and web host have worked frantically to identify and correct the problems. Unfortunately, these are the natural products of growth. But we apologize that these problems made it past us and to you. It should all be resolved now.

Thank you to those who notified us. Hearing from you helps us identify and solve these types of problems as soon as possible.

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Every aspect of salvation, i.e. born again, healed, delivered, blessed, prospered, protected, made whole, set apart, and all that's promised in Christ, is dependent on what we believe about the resurrection of Jesus. Most twenty first century Christians believe in the historical account of the resurrection of Jesus while rejecting the biblical account!

We don't believe the biblical account of the resurrection until we believe the biblical account of His death from the cross to the throne. That's why Isaiah 53, which gives God's account of what occurred on the cross, starts with the words, *Who has believed our report?* Salvation wasn't finished on the cross; salvation was finished after Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father and received the inheritance which He freely shares with all who believe.

In this incredible series you will:

- Learn God's report of the cross
- Share in the exchanged life with the resurrected Lord
- Find out what really happened after Jesus died
- Discover the secret to resurrection power
- Identify the missing element to faith in Jesus
- Share in the element of New Covenant realities

This series is an absolute must for every believer who desires to live in resurrection power! You don't know New Testament faith until you know what happened from the cross to the throne!

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