



# WATCHMAN'S TRUMPET



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## FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

Hello,

*I welcome you to this new month and present to you May 2025 edition of Watchman's Trumpet. The theme of this month's edition is "The Milestones to a winning life."*

*Basically, a winning life describes a life that consistently run according to purpose from beginning to the end and beyond. No man unassisted can live such a life. Man's inability to understand this is responsible for many indiscriminate pursuits and strivings in the world. We rush and hurry to grab all that we believe can make us happy and give us lasting pleasure and fulfillment but in the end like soap's bubble burst, we discover that what we race for, grab and hold on to is nothing. Fish is created to swim, eagles are created to fly, and horses are made for races and battles. Every creature is adapted for specific purpose by the creator. Until we realize this, our search will be relentless and the restiveness in our spirit will linger. Augustine of Hippo captured the longing in every man this way; he said "Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee." Man is created to fellowship with God, serve in His kingdom, to enjoy life only in Him and live with Him forever. The summary is that a winning life is a life of godliness and intimacy with God, there is no other way. Godliness profits in all things (and at all times). It holds for us in abundance the promise of the best that present life and the life beyond offers 1 Timothy 4:8.*

*Sin is the leading barrier to such a life and salvation the beginning of our journey into it. There is no way we will neglect Jesus and His sacrifice and get it right in life.*

*Jesus is the bridge and the bridge builder that facilitates lasting relationship with God. Beginning with the experience of salvation, this magazine explores key milestones requisite in our effort to be and to do all that God ordained for our lives, the pathway to enriching, fulfilling, and purposeful, victorious and winning life. The experiences of salvation, and sanctification otherwise referred to as purity of heart, cleansing of the heart, circumcision of the heart, purging of the heart, removal of Adamic nature, Christian perfection, and perfection of God's love in the human heart as well as Holy Spirit's Baptism is central in all this. They facilitates sustained intimacy with God and profitable fruitful service in His kingdom. By them we are assured of our place and position in the kingdom of God and are prepared to dwell in God's presence forever at the end of a fulfilling life.*

*My prayer is that God will bring you into such a life and/or sustain you in it as you read this edition of watchman's trumpet. Welcome!*

## THE GREAT SALVATION

*"For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and*



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*disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?" Hebrews 2:2-4*

The word "Salvation" is synonymous with "Deliverance". To be delivered or saved is to be "set free". Biblical salvation sets those who have it free from sin and its consequences. There are clearly defined earthly and eternal consequences of living in sin. These include: separation from God and His kingdom Isaiah 59:1, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, ownership by the Devil 1 John 3:8, wrath of God Ephesians 5:3-6, Romans 1:28, diseases Psalm 38:3, death Ezekiel 18:20, eternal punishment in Hell

and Lake of fire Mark 9:47, Mathew 13:40-42 and so on. Jesus came to take away our sins 1 John 3:5, John 1:29. Sincere whole-hearted and genuine repentance and faith in Christ brings forgiveness and cancellation of all past sins Luke 7:37-38, 48 and imparts on us grace and power to live in freedom from sin John 1:12. This definite Christian experience we need to get the best from God here on earth and live with Him forever at the end of our earthly life. Our text clearly stated that neglect to have or loss of salvation by negligence shall result in severe judgment, serious damage and damning repercussion in time and eternity.

We shall consider two topics:

1. The greatness of salvation
2. Illustrations and examples of salvation neglect

### 1. The Greatness of Salvation

*“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:” 1 Peter 1:18, 19*

Salvation in Christ or through Christ is a single greatest and most precious possession anyone can have in the world. It attracts to us the best in this world and the world to come. Although salvation is free, it is not cheap. Saving us cost God the death of His only begotten Son to provide blood for our cleansing, because without shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. God the source of our salvation is a great God. The price He paid to deliver us is great – the death of Jesus His Son- who is Lord and the author and finisher of our faith.

The power - Holy Ghost power that applied the salvation message to our lives, set us free and transforms us into God’s sons and daughters and new creature is great.

All the signs and wonders this world have ever witnessed since the preaching of the Gospel began more than 2,000 years ago testified to salvation’s possibility and reality in those who believe. In magnitude, width and depth, these witnesses are awesome. They all testified to the fact that we can be free from sin if we desire to be. With God all things are possible. The reward of salvation is great - continuous divine presence, and its end is great - living with God and with Christ in Heaven forever. Salvation is a feast made ready. God invited all men in every dispensation and generation to come and partake freely. Those who reject this great invitation or neglect this great salvation will not escape the judgment of God and great consequences of their neglect.



### 1. Illustrations and examples of neglect

*“And as the king passed by, he cried unto the king: and he said, Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man unto me, and said, Keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of silver. And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone. And the king of Israel said unto him, so shall thy judgment be; thyself hast decided it.” 1 Kings 20:39*

Hebrews chapter two was not written to outright sinners and unbelievers. Of course, unbelievers who fail to repent and accept Christ are negligent too. However, the letter to Hebrews was written to Jewish Christians scattered all over the world at that time, who meet with other believers in “house churches” and at one time shared in their spiritual experiences, worship, fellowship, and persecution. They seem to have lost their initial enthusiasm for the faith. They have become slothful and despondent. They no longer attend Christian meetings and are therefore becoming increasingly deficient in spiritual understanding and discernment. They were already being swayed by new and strange doctrines and are tempted to disown Jesus and go back to Judaism. If it happened to them at that time, it could happen to anyone today that is not watchful.

A businessman does not need to cheat or steal to be ruined. All it requires is for him to neglect to invest or monitor his goods. A sick person does not need to take poison to die, all he needed to do is to neglect taking his medications. Neglect to steer a Canoe will get it lost on the sea, neglect to educate a child ruins him intellectually and sometimes permanently, neglect to weed a farm will ruin its harvest and impoverish farmers. These illustrations also apply in spiritual life. Men have leaky minds and memories. We have a nature prone to temptation, worldly care and pleasure. Every missed Bible Study and Sunday School, quiet-time, family devotion, prayers, fasting, meditation and fellowship opportunities, and opportunity to obey God and serve His people leaves an injury or scar upon your life. At some point the damage may become irreparable. It may result in permanent separation from God. We must beware! Our text refers to the possibility of loss of salvation experience by neglect. It tacitly refers to the grave consequences of such loss. Spiritual life like plant must be tended, guarded and protected.





## ABOUT WATCHMAN OUTREACH MISSION

Watchman Outreach Mission as envisioned fundamentally comprises of men and women of faith who watch over one another and together watch for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Next to this primary assignment is an equally important responsibility of bringing others into the same state of watchfulness and readiness as the coming of the Lord draws near. Ours is a trans-ministerial, trans-denominational mission. Our core values include expository teaching, prayer and counselling. We train in principles and practice of Christian discipleship and equip for effective Kingdom Service.

The Lord Jesus Christ in one of His parables said “*While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept*” **Mathew 25:5**. Watchman Outreach Mission is a response of faith to this and similar warnings about events in the last days. Our response is based on the premise that prophecies, visions and revelations about the future such as the one documented in the Lord’s parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins are sign-posts by which men are warned to keep vigil to avoid disastrous end. We serve to wake up the church and men everywhere to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return.

The Mission, based in Ibadan, Nigeria, was launched in 2009 and its maiden outing took place on the 20th November of the same year. On that day, we partnered with All Nations Evangelical Ministry (ANEM), Akobo, Ibadan for Evangelistic and Medical Mission Outreach to Idi - Ose Village on Arulogun - Olorunda Road in Lagelu Local Government, Ibadan.

In the years that followed we networked with churches and other Christian groups too to implement our mandate which include conducting gospel outreaches, discipleship training for new converts, organizing and facilitating workers and ministerial training, conducting administrative reviews in churches and ministries, writing of proposals for reforms and church growth strategies that can enhance social cohesion, improve church finances and foster overall development, unity and growth of such ministries; monitoring and/or supervision of the implementation of such reforms and strategies.

Some of these Christian groups and ministries include with Christ Apostolic Church, Oke - Ife in Ajangboju, Ibadan, Nigerian Military Christian Fellowship, Adekunle Fajuyi Cantonment Chapter in Oyo - State Nigeria, Christ Gospel Mission International, Light of Jesus Evangelistic Ministry with branches in different cities in South Western Nigeria, and Ark of Salvation Church of Christ (ASCC) with headquarters at Molade, Monatan Ibadan.

Till date, although partnered ministries change from time to time depending on the leading we receive from the Lord, we remain committed to our main purpose and vision; that of service to the church and in the world to wake up men everywhere and encourage them to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return. Through our activities, souls had been saved, believers edified and church workers’ spiritual growth and development enhanced, all to the glory of God.

## WATCHMAN PRAYER HOUR



### *Prayer Points - May 2025*

1. Thank God for the salvation of our souls and hope of everlasting life
2. Pray for life of consistent victory over sin and the strivings of the flesh
3. Pray for grace for freedom from all sins and righteous living
4. Pray for spiritual heart’s surgery, heart’s renewal and the gift of a new heart
5. Pray for a heart filled entirely and always with love for God’s person, institutions and ordinances; pray for the power of exclusive affection
6. Pray for out-pouring of the Spirit and in-filling of all waiting believers; pray for a return and restoration of all true believers to Pentecostal ideals and standards
7. Pray for life of whole-hearted submission to the influence, control and leading of the Holy Spirit

“ ..... men ought always to pray, and not to faint;” **Luke 18:1**

**May the Lord hear and answer all our prayers - AMEN!**

**Watchman Prayer Hour** holds every Saturday from 10.30am - 12.00MD. We invite you to join us at our office at Amazing Grace House, Joy Estate, Olorunda -Abaa, Ibadan . Oyo - State. Follow us on any of our social media platforms and send your inquiries or prayer requests to any of our digital addresses.

## THE GIFT OF A NEW HEART

*"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."* **Ezekiel 36:26**

Ezekiel 36:26 clearly revealed God's concern about the state of men's hearts. We learn from it that our heart and thought processes dictates the course of our lives. Just as water reflects the face, so one's life reflects his heart Proverbs 27:19. All unconverted men have desperately wicked hearts Jeremiah 17:9, Genesis 6:5. God knew this hence He promised to do something remarkable about the state of the heart of those who come to Him through repentance and salvation. This operation by God through His Spirit have been variously described as sanctification, purity of heart, cleansing of the heart, circumcision of the heart, purging of the heart, removal of Adamic nature, Christian perfection, and perfection of God's love in the human heart. It is a definite Christian experience that sets the converted Christian and believer apart for God and for holy use.

We shall consider two subtopics:

1. Sin's magnet in the human heart
2. Spiritual surgery in believer's heart

### 1. Sin's magnet in the human heart

*"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man."* **Mark 7:21-23**

The Bible clearly declares the depravity of all unsaved men. The simple implication of this is that all human beings who have not been



saved have depraved, corrupt hearts. Their problems originate in the heart. Every sin that man commits have thought equivalent. We sin first in our hearts or with our hearts before committing actual, practical and physically observable sins. There is a magnet, an inclination and propensity, tendency or affection for sin in the heart of all sinners. It makes sin attractive to them. We all inherited this nature that takes delight and pleasure in sinning. Sin exists in all men first as interests, feeling and inclinations to lust. Lust is love for anything that contravenes the word of God. It is an inward thing. Actually and behaviorally, we are not easily attracted to do things that we are not interested in doing whether good or bad. We do the things we enjoy and love doing because primarily we are interested in them. Hence we cannot really be free from sin unless we first get rid of all lustful intentions, interests, feelings, desires, motives and inclinations towards sins and sinning from our hearts. Interestingly, we cannot do it by ourselves. In the physical, no baby or child can circumcise himself; someone else must do it for him. God knew this hence He promised to do it for us in our text.

### 2. Spiritual surgery in believer's heart

*"And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day."* **1 Samuel 10:9**

*"And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God love the Lord thy*

*God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live."*

**Deuteronomy 30:6**

Our heart is ordained by God to be His royal throne. We are expected to be filled with thoughts about God - His word, His will, His purposes, His programs and plans, and His ways 24/7. This is what happens to all who are sanctified. Those who belong to God who have prayed through and have obtained the experience of sanctification have hearts filled with love for God to a point that there is no room or vacancy for anything else. This is called "*the power of exclusive affection*". By it we love God with ALL our hearts, mind, soul and strength. God does this by spiritually cutting away from our hearts every desire, feelings and thoughts that finds sin attractive and replace it with complete total desire for Himself, for His institutions and for His ordinances. A pure and holy heart is a heart that is always filled with thoughts about God because God is pure and holy.

Like all physical surgeries, we must prepare for it and present ourselves to God by deliberate choices, decisions and actions; which include abstaining from all appearances of evil, worldly friends and ungodly corrupting environment and companions, followed by whole hearted prayers of consecration of every part of our body and life to God and set apart for strictly holy use. Holy living and godly life elude many believers because of failure in this area. They live more in the vicinity of Egypt than the borders of Canaan. They have left Egypt but their best friends are still Egyptians. We find Egypt expressed in everything they say and do.

Once we prepare, the Holy Spirit instantaneously performs this operation in our heart like it happened to Saul the first king in Israel (1Samuel 10:9). *Blessed are those that hunger and thirst for righteousness for they shall be filled"* (Mathew 5:6)

## THE NEED FOR HOLY SPIRIT'S BAPTISM

*"I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me. And the Lord said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee. And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone."* Numbers 11:14, 16-17

Christian discipleship as was the case with early disciples is a great and commendable choice. To leave everything else including secular work to follow Jesus as they did is one of the greatest sacrifices anyone can make. It is obvious evidence of great love, dedication and loyalty which as much as possible we should all emulate. However, as awesome as the commitment of Christ's disciples are, their life and ministry before Pentecost still falls short of God and Christ's acceptable standard. Christ knew this hence He commanded them to tarry in Jerusalem till they are filled with Holy Spirit and His power.

We shall consider two subtopics:

1. The limitation of life and ministry without Holy Spirit's in-filling
2. The necessity of Holy Spirit's power and presence in life and ministry

### 1. The limitation of life and Ministry without Holy Spirit's Baptism

*'Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying,*



*Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest."* Mathew 26:69-70

These clearly observable shortcomings in the life of Christ's disciples illustrated their need for Holy Spirit's Baptism:

1. **Unbelief** Mathew 17:15-16, 19-21. They were unable to meet the need of a devil-possessed tormented boy when Jesus was absent. According to the Lord, their unbelief was largely due to their omission of the exercise of prayer and fasting. Unbelief will keep the church small, saints weak, preachers powerless, church members depressed, homes troubled and needs unfulfilled. Members will go elsewhere to look for solution
2. **Shallow commitment** John 21:1-3, they profess to have forsaken all Mark 10:28 but as soon as the ordeals of the cross begins, they ran away and return to their secular employment.
3. **Timidity** Mathew 26:69-75. Peter in Mark 14:27-31 emphatically declared the he was ready to die with Christ. All the others vowed to do the same. We know the rest of the story
4. **Sectarianism and religious bigotry** Luke 9:49-51. They stopped someone who was serving the Lord, preaching the Gospel and casting out devils who does not belong to their group. The history of denominational bias and prejudice is a long one. While no one should give up any truth he found in the Bible in the name of unity, we also know that baseless sectarianism most often deprives good men of the influence of godly people outside their group.
5. **Wrong Spirit** Luke 9:51-56. This is related to wrong attitude and negative

response to disappointments. The disciples wanted to bring fire down on the Samaritans for refusing to allow Jesus into their city. Jesus came to save John 3:17 not destroy people's lives. Whenever we have and manifest bad spirit, it is definitely not from God. Faithful and acceptable service to the Lord requires a spirit that wanted to save not destroy.

6. **Pride** Luke 9:40-46. While Jesus was talking about His death and sacrifice for sin, they were preoccupied with who is the greatest among them; they were already planning to replace Him in leadership.

Genuine Sanctification followed by Holy Spirit's Baptism is much needed experience to overcome all these flaws.

### 2. The necessity of Holy Spirit's presence and power

*"If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small."* Proverbs 24:10

1. **Help** John 14:24 to live heavenly life on earth and accomplish all that God ordained for our lives we need help from above
2. **Wisdom** Life is not always about black and white; we sometimes have to choose between two good options. We need God's wisdom or the gift of wisdom to do so correctly especially where our choice has dispensational implication.
3. **Revelation** 1 Corinthians 2:11. To know and understand all that pertains to God such as His word, will and way, we need Holy Spirit's revelation
4. **Fruit bearing** Galatians 5:22-23. Hard work and discipline have their benefits in human life and relationship but we need more to love the loveless and rejoice during persecution and trials.
5. **Purity** 2 Corinthians 3:17-18. It is the Holy Spirit that can transform drug addicts and hardened cruel wicked criminals into gentle Christ-like saints. He could doing a moment what 50years of efforts cannot achieve
6. **Power**. It is Holy Spirit that can help us overcome human weaknesses hindering the effectiveness of our service and Christian witness.



## HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM: TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSEL

*“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:4*

*“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.” 2 Corinthians 4:7*

Holy Spirit's Baptism (in-filling) which early disciples received at Pentecost revolutionized their life and ministry and till date remains a landmark, yardstick and litmus for appraisal of the same experience by believers in different generations. Simply put, it is important for us to diligently investigate what happened on that day, 50days after crucifixion and 10days after Christ's ascension to be able to discern whether our claim to be baptized in the Spirit and experience of baptismal relationship with the Holy Spirit is true or not. Acts 2:4 is crucial because if we are searching for something and cannot even recognize it when we see it, how can we be certain that we have it or it is what we have?



Understanding our text is therefore crucial in our quest for Holy Spirit Baptism because we cannot benefit or maximally profit from what we do not understand.

To help our understanding of the text, we shall closely examine key verbs and phrases in the verse. All the remaining words associated with these key words or



phrases merely supports them and add to their meaning. They are (i). *“they were filled”* (ii). *“they began to speak”*. (iii). *“the Spirit gave them utterance”*.

To understand these key phrases, we shall consider the following subtopics:

1. Holy Spirit in-filling
2. Holy Spirit empowered speech
3. Holy Spirit's gifts

### 1. Holy Spirit's in-filling

*“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;” Ephesians 5:8*

Before these disciples became filled *“with the Spirit”*, different events happened that facilitated their readiness. Understanding them will help us understand what our preparation for the coming of this heavenly Companion should be. Significant among these events is the *“STOP”* sign that Jesus imposed on their activities Acts 2:4. To comply with Jesus' *“stop”* imposition, they began a 10days in-doors Retreat. Sometimes we are too busy for God to reach and a percentage of our *“business”* is legitimate and religious. However, if we understand in connection with the Spirit's baptism that we are expected to serve out of an overflow, then we will know that whatever activity (including religious activities) that hinders us from receiving from God will leave us depleted, poorer and weaker.

What does it mean to be filled? The Greek verb tense from which the word *“filled”* is derived is *“Pleroo”*. It means to make full, like the filling of a sponge, a boat, a cup or wedding hall. Pleroo is to be filled with something that totally, wholly and completely controls and influences you. It is an *“again and again”* experience rather than a one-time event. Pleroo is what ICT and social media is doing to today's world. In some countries, life will practically grind to a halt without computer and internet services and men will be compelled to return to Stone Age in the way they do things. Does Holy Spirit exercises such influence in your life?



A fundamental principle central to all living processes and activities is that whatever fills a man will control his life, whether fear, jealousy, anger, rage, alcohol or the Holy Spirit. How much control does the Holy Spirit have in your life and for how long? In connection with the Holy Spirit, while there is only one Baptism, essentially inaugural, there is and there ought to be a filling and re-filling experiences Acts 4:8, 31, 6:3, 5, 7:55, 9:17, 13:9, 52 that are almost identical in principle and practice.

***“For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, habing promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. 1 Timothy 4:8***



The truth is that effectiveness in divine service requires filling before and refilling after each service and ministry unto the Lord for effectiveness no matter what the assignment is. That was the method of the early disciples.

## 2. Holy Spirit empowered speech

*“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:4*

Consistent in all the operations of the Holy Spirit in all ages both in Bible days and beyond is God’s empowerment of human natural faculties and senses to do supernatural things. Primary in the control that Holy Spirit’s power exerted on early disciples is the simultaneous control or influence on their brain and tongue that makes them utter words, syllables and sentences in languages in one second that would have taken them years of academic study to learn. Thus, it had to be supernatural.

These disciples began to speak foreign languages unlearned by them and unknown to them and continue to do so till the end of their lives especially anytime that influence or power that they received at Pentecost comes upon them. The miracle here is that in an instant, 120 people began to speak different languages that they did not learn or understand, which only became meaningful when it fell on the ears of citizens of the nations whose language they speak. If it was not a Diaspora Day in Jerusalem on that day, nobody would have understood what they are saying; neither would they themselves.

In spite of this, there are even some among their audience perhaps for lack of understanding who considers what they were saying nonsensical and gibberish. They ask *“what is the meaning of this”* and dismiss the disciples as drunks. It is also significant to understand that they were moved to speak 2 Peter 1:21. The generating power for what they were saying lies deep within them like bubbling waves, rivers and flood.



Each of the 120 were so busy with the rapturous experience, engaged and connected with the Holy Spirit to an extent that they have or can spare no time to listen to, copy, mimic or fake the experience of those baptized around them. They connected, received and manifested their own individually. This is clearly noticeable in the differences in the languages the group spoke. A man may fake another man’s language or utterances given him by the Holy Spirit but he certainly will be lacking in the power, passion, zeal, effectiveness and dynamism, fruits and the results that the experience and his utterances continuously releases into his life and ministry. Wisdom dictates that those lacking in genuine experience and power should go directly to the source and stop pretending.

## 3. Holy Spirit’s gifts

The expression *“as the Spirit gave utterance”* is so wide and deep that it cannot be fully explored in this one message. However suffice is it to understand the broad and underlying principle i.e. the fact that the Holy

Spirit is a *“Giver”*. He does not come into people’s life and make them remain the same.

Two symbols with which the Holy Spirit is represented are wind and fire. There are many more. Wind is suggestive of activities. Spirit-filled people are active people who have received sufficient physical and spiritual energy and strength for all that Jesus wanted them to do, most especially in the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Fire suggests passion, interest, zeal, perseverance and boldness. The more filled we become the more these traits become evident in our lives in supernatural dimension. By them we are able to do the will of God and accomplish divine purpose in life and ministry.

*“The Spirit gave them utterance ...”* He is the one who gave them. He did. We must understand that the activation of these disciples’ vocal system to speak in unknown unlearned language is just the beginning of a much wider and larger operation that the Spirit that filled them performed in them. The influence, power and control not only affected their speech and speaking, it undertook in them an entire life’s transformation that affected their present and future. The miracle is the beginning of manifestation of several other gifts and gifting processes that permanently altered their interests, desires and destiny. The nine fruits of the Spirit and the nine gifts of the Spirit highlighted by Paul are just some of many treasures that lies hidden in the Rivers of Living Waters for men to access in our quest for divine possibilities. Behind it all and higher than all spiritual gifts and Holy Spirit’s operations is the reality and possibility of the fullness of God and life in the Holy of Holies on a continual basis John 14:23. This is the true meaning and implication of Holy Spirit’s Baptism. He is God’s treasure in earthen vessels.

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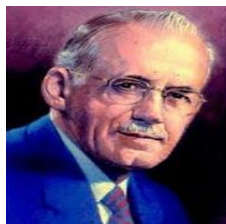
**Aiden Wilson Tozer** was born April 21, 1897, on a small farm among the spiny ridges of Western Pennsylvania. When he was 15 years old, his family moved to Akron, Ohio. One afternoon as he walked home from his job at Goodyear, he overheard a street preacher say, *"If you don't know how to be saved . . . just call on God."* When he got home, he climbed the narrow stairs to the attic where, heeding the preacher's advice, Tozer was launched into a lifelong pursuit of God.

In 1919, without formal education, Tozer was called to pastor a small storefront church in Nutter Fort, West Virginia. That humble beginning thrust him and his new wife Ada Cecelia Pfautz, into a 44-year ministry with The Christian and Missionary Alliance. Thirty-one of those years were spent at Chicago's Southside Alliance Church. The congregation, captivated by Tozer's preaching, grew from 80 to 800. By December 1921, Tozer and his wife, Ada, moved to Morgantown where they had the first of seven children, six boys and a girl.

Money was extremely tight in the early days of his ministry. The Tozers made a pact to trust God for all their needs regardless of the circumstances. He lived a simple life. The family never owned a car. Tozer, instead, opted for the bus and train for travel. To him, material things were never an issue. Many have said if Tozer had food, clothing, and his books, he was content. Even after becoming a well-known Christian author, Tozer signed away much of his royalties to those who were in need. His message was as fresh as it was uncompromising. His single purpose in life was to know God personally, and he encouraged others to do the same. While pastoring a church in Indianapolis, Tozer noticed his ministry changing. While he did not depart from the theme of evangelism, God began to lead him into a new phase of ministry. For the first time he began to record his thoughts on paper.

## MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

**Aiden Wilson Tozer**  
1897 - 1963



This change eventually carved out a place for him as a prolific writer. In 1950 he was elected editor of the Alliance Weekly now called Alliance Life. The circulation doubled almost immediately. In the first editorial dated June 3, 1950.

Tozer's forte was his prayer life which often found him walking the aisles of a sanctuary or lying face down on the floor. His preaching as well as his writings were extensions of his prayer life. He walked a path of spiritual life characterized by a relentless and loving pursuit of God. Throughout his life and ministry, Tozer called believers to return to an authentic, biblical position that characterized the early church—a position of deep faith and holiness. Tozer's final years of ministry were spent at Avenue Road Church in Toronto, Canada.

Tozer had some glaring faults. Because of his frequent speaking engagements and travels, along with his reclusive nature, spending hours alone praying, reading, thinking and meditating each day, his family suffered. His life does serve as a reminder that individual holiness is not the only thing Christians are called to. Pastors and other full-time ministry leaders must remember that a person's family is also a ministry opportunity.

On May 12, 1963, his earthly pursuit of God ended when he died of a heart attack at age 66. In a small cemetery in Akron, Ohio, his tombstone bears this simple epitaph: *"A Man of God."*

## SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

*"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace."*  
*Psalm 37:37*

## SONG OF THE MONTH

### Thou my everlasting portion

1. Thou my everlasting Portion,  
More than friend or life to me,  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Savior, let me walk with Thee.

*Close to Thee, close to Thee,  
Close to Thee, close to Thee;  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Savior, let me walk with Thee.*

2. Not for ease or worldly pleasure,  
Not for fame my prayer shall be;  
Gladly will I toil and suffer,  
Only let me walk with Thee.

3. Close to Thee, close to Thee,  
Close to Thee, close to Thee;  
Gladly will I toil and suffer,  
Only let me walk with Thee.

4. Lead me through the vale of shadows,  
Bear me o'er life's fitful sea;  
Then the gate of life eternal  
May I enter, Lord, with Thee.

5. Close to Thee, close to Thee,  
Close to Thee, close to Thee;  
Then the gate of life eternal  
May I enter, Lord, with Thee.

**Source:** Fanny Jane Crosby

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## BANK DETAILS FOR DONATION

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