

Strong In Spirit Ministries

Strong In Spirit Testimony Of Pastor Bruce



www.stronginspirit.com

I literally never knew life could be like this – it feels on the inside of my heart and soul like I’ve been born again – again! God has done an inner work of transformation in me that has put a far greater confidence, boldness, fearlessness, focus, determination and strength inside than I’ve ever known before. Prior to this I had gone through a Job/Paul/Joseph experience of “the loss of all things” (Philippians 3:8) in the mid 1990’s and it took some years to walk through the valley of the shadows of those deaths. I remember thinking of myself at that time as a “dead dog,” as Mephiboseth described himself in 2 Samuel 9:8, feeling crippled, useless and a failure. A friend prophetically said that my life looked like a pile of rubble to me (and it did), while another man described me as a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief, as Jesus was described in Isaiah 53:3. During those years, I could relate to all of those descriptions very well. I felt great inner defeat, sadness and uncertainty.

But slowly and faithfully God began to work within me, and He has not only healed me, set me free, and immensely strengthened my inner spirit, He has literally transformed me both from the sorrows of those years as well as from the wounds and weaknesses of years before. I never knew life could be like this. Another friend said that an earthquake had come into my life but in that earthquake the Lord had redirected an underground stream of the Holy Spirit into me, my roots deepened there and the trunk became strong, and the Lord has brought new growth and He will make that stream into a river.

Praise God! Largely gone are the inner dynamics of self-condemnation and accusation, discouragement and uncertainties, worries, hurts, many fears, people-pleasing and anxieties – they just don’t ‘show up’ much on the inner radar screen anymore. Even with the great loss of my son Aaron Michael in 2004, I can no longer relate to being a man of sorrows, a “dead dog,” or see my life as a pile of rubble.

There is now an inner confidence and tranquility, a sense of positive expectation, a powerful bonding to my destiny and purpose in life and an ability to hear God’s voice much more clearly than ever before. With God’s healing and freedom, I’m no longer forced to try and cope with the difficulties of life, which was always a little like trying to ride herd on a pack of bucking broncos on the inside.

God truly does heal the brokenhearted and set the captives free (Isaiah 61:1). He truly does strengthen and transform the inner man in ways I never knew were possible on this planet – I literally never knew life could be this good on the inside, but its true – and God gets all the glory for it because it was He who worked it in me.