

James Landrum's Testimony

When I had come to the age that I knew right and wrong, I was going to a Nazarene Church in Bellevue, Kentucky and when I heard the preachers preach and have an altar call I wanted to go up. But I kept putting it off because I kept thinking about everyone watching me and what my friends would think if I went to the altar.

The years passed and I soon became a teenager. Whenever anyone would ask me in church about my salvation I would lie to them and tell them I was saved. I was the biggest hypocrite in the churches that I would go to and played the part very well. When I became a man, I still played the hypocrite life but I did not fool God.

At the age of 40, I stopped going to church and my wife left me. She filed for a divorce and while I was still married to her, I was committing adultery with another man's wife. I was living deep in sin at that point of my life and never once thought about God or about how many ungodly sins I was committing. I was in Satan's control and wanted all the things this world could give to me. Nothing ever seemed to satisfy me or my desires.

I worked as a meat cutter for most of my life and in 1997 I was a meat manager for I.G.A, a grocery store in Falmouth, Kentucky. On March 2nd of that year a flood had taken place and destroyed most of Falmouth. I lost my job, my home and all of my possessions and I stopped cutting meat and two months later, opened a small business which only lasted for two years, for

business had really fallen off and no longer could I afford to pay the bills. I closed up and went to work in a machine shop in Florence, Kentucky and worked there for about 2 years. I soon quit that job and went to work as a truck driver for Bay Global and the Expediting Company in Hebron, Kentucky.

I had a serious accident on the way to work one morning, as I was headed to my son's house to pick him up, since we both worked for the same company. I was driving down Highway 1054, off of Highway 27 and I was going about 50 miles per hour and came to this sharp curve and lost control when the wheels of my pickup truck had left the pavement and I hit an embankment. The truck flipped over on its top and skidded up the road for about 75 feet and I had my seatbelt on at that time. It all happened so fast but I still remember how the roof of the truck was pushing my head and chest against the steering wheel causing me to have severe pain as it kept coming in on me. I thought I was going to die but someone told me to undo my seat belt and push away from the steering wheel. The passenger door had opened up and I did as the voice had told me. I crawled out of the door and I looked into the cab and saw that the steering wheel was pushed all the way to the seat and at the time I had not realized that it was my chest that had pushed it down since the roof of the truck was not even close enough to the steering wheel to push it down.

Some man had stopped and asked me if I was ok and I thought I was. He drove me to his house where I called the police and my son and then I went back to the scene of the accident and the police had already arrived.

An ambulance had also pulled up. The officer was questioning me about the accident and asked me if I wanted to go to the hospital and I told him no, for at the time I was in no pain. As I stood there answering the questions, I felt pain in my chest and I told him I needed to go to the hospital. The adrenalin had worn off of my body and I was in a lot of pain which became unbearable as they strapped me onto the stretcher. They took me to Saint Luke Hospital in Fort Thomas, Kentucky where my son James had already arrived ahead of the ambulance. I was rushed into the emergency room where they examined me and took x-rays. They put me in a private room in ICU and my son came in to be with me. A doctor came in and talked to me about my injuries and told me that my sternum was crushed and my heart was badly bruised. He went on to tell me that because of my injuries that I would have a heart attack that night and die and that if I had any family members for me to have my son James call them. My son started crying and as I looked at him someone again told me to tell them both I would not die.

As I told my son and the doctor that I would not die, the Doctor looked at me and said, "Mr. Landrum, you are going to die tonight. Your heart is seriously injured and you are going to have a heart attack and for me to have my son call in my family" and I again told him and my son that I would not die that night. Three days later, the hospital released me to send me home and I was still in so much pain that I could hardly sit up.

Well, I am a living miracle and after I had recovered, I still thought about the wreck and what the Doctor told me and where I would be at if I had died that day. I felt like I

had a second chance at life. I had almost forgotten that I could be in Hell had it not been for the grace of God keeping me alive. I still rebelled and did not seek the Lord. Things began to fall apart in my life and I was soon arrested in April of 2007 and was sent to the Boone County Jail in Burlington, Kentucky where God would work another miracle in my life.

After being in jail a few weeks I became very bored and wanted something to read. I saw a hall boy outside of my cell and he was carrying a paperback book to the garbage area and I asked him for it and he gave it to me. I looked at it and it said, "Holy bible" and I thought to myself, "Why a Bible?" I was bored and so I began to read and about the 3rd week of May, I heard that voice asking me, "James, where would you be now if I had let you die in that wreck?" I then felt the need for Christ and I asked Him to forgive me for the way I was and for all of the sins that I had done. He saved me that day!

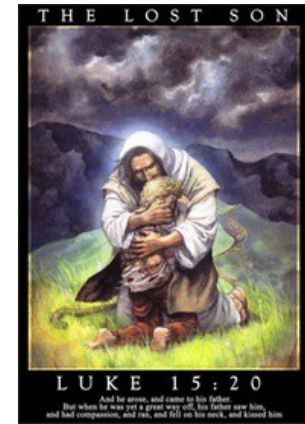
Since I have accepted Christ as my Saviour, everything is not a bed of roses for me, but now I do have peace with God. Satan is no longer in control of my life as I have Jesus who leads and directs my life now. I know that the problems and difficult times that I do face in this prison are ahead of me, but now I have the Holy Spirit in me who helps me get through the hard times. I know the Lord gave me a second chance because it is appointed for men to die and I am so grateful and thankful that He spared my life.

Not everyone will get a second chance as we all will die. I was 58 years old when I finally accepted the Lord as my Saviour and now I have that hope and I now

look towards the day when I shall be with the Lord forever. Since the Lord has come into my heart, my attitude, life style, relationship with my family, language and my thinking has now all changed and I am no longer in bondage to sin. In **Romans 8:24** it says, "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?" Thanks to that place called Calvary, where my Lord had done the finished work and rose the third day. The victory was won at Calvary! Thanks to Calvary I am not the same man I used to be. "This has been my Testimony!"

I hope this testimony has been a blessing to you. If you would like to read how others in similar situations have experienced the life transforming power of God please write to me at the address below. We now have over 100 testimonies of those whose lives have been transformed by God's amazing Grace. We also have over 100 Con-tracts. Please send us your testimony as well. We also appreciate artwork and poetry to use in this ministry.

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Jesus, Savior, Friend

VERSE 1

I don't know what tomorrow holds,
but I know who holds tomorrow
So when I'm drowning in my grief,
surrounded by my sorrow
When the pain and fear is drawing near
And the hurt comes creeping in
I think of Jesus, my Savior, my Friend.

CHORUS

And I'll be going home
when my time comes to walk those streets of gold
Walking hand in hand, with my sweet Lord,
where I will not grow old
Where peace and love and happiness
and joy will never end
With my Jesus, my Savior, my Friend

VERSE 2

So when in life you find yourself
backed against a wall
With no one you can turn to, no one you can call
Just call upon the one who died
to save you from your sins
Your Jesus, your Savior, your Friend
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