

A Heavenly Moment

VOLUME II



FRESH ENERGIZING DEVOTIONALS

DRAWING YOU DEEP INTO THE FATHER'S HEART

Dr. Amy LaVon McMillan

A Heavenly Moment



Volume II

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by

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Printed in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is on file at the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

ISBN: 978-1-64786-085-1

Author's website: www.SpiritUnlimited.org

*For whatever was written in former days,
was written for our instruction, that through
endurance and through the encouragement
of the Scriptures, we might have hope.*

ROMANS 15:4

Dedication



I would never have completed this book without the love and support of a great *general* in Christ. Our war is not carnal, and rare is the one who knows how to fight spiritual battles with skill.

With that said, I dedicate this book to my dear brother and general in Christ, Pastor Todd Rocha.

Thank you for your Caleb-like spirit during my wilderness experience.

You are a man of great courage, always encouraging me to *fear not* because God is on our side.

A man of a *different spirit*, teaching me how to stay, stand, and fight, never giving up.

A man saying, “Give me this mountain, for we *can* take it!” strengthening my faith to believe in the impossible.

Preface



*Moses continued saying,
“Then, as the Lord our God commanded us, we set out...
through all that vast and DREADFUL desert
that you have seen...”*

Deuteronomy 1:19

God’s tests and trials in our lives can be referred to as ‘wilderness’ times. In Hebrew, the word for wilderness is *midbar*. I find it interesting that the root of *midbar* has the meaning of “speak” or “word.” That means God speaks to us in the wilderness. Depending on how quickly we learn to LISTEN and humble ourselves will determine the time period we spend there. Hopefully, it’s as little as forty *days*, like Jesus, and not forty *years* as with the Israelites – Right?

This second book was birthed forth during my *wilderness* experience. My time lasted forty-two months. Then one day, the Lover of my soul said, “*Who is this coming out from the wilderness, clinging to her beloved?*”

You know what? CLINGING to our beloved is His greatest desire, and many times this can only happen through a divine experience in the wilderness. A place where we are stripped of the world, forced to loosen the

grip of being in control, and truly being able to depend and cling to the one who designed and created us to be ONE with.

You see, it's in the wilderness that we develop perseverance and acquire maturity. Joshua and Caleb were survivors of a forty-year wilderness journey. Joshua had the strength and maturity to lead Israel into the land and gain victory over all the enemies. At age 85, Caleb was able to *take the mountain* of Hebron and drive out the giants who lived there for centuries.

All in all, with all its testing, the wilderness time is to be a precious memory. When we think back over all those trials, it often brings tears to our eyes. It softens our hearts because it's a vital part of the salvation experience, and it profoundly affects the way we relate to and minister with others.

I believe we can say that the wilderness experience, with all its tests and trials, can be summed up in the words of the song written by Andre Crouch:

*Through it all, through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus,
I've learned to trust in God.
Through it all, through it all,
I've learned to depend upon His word.*

I pray that these devotional insights into God's Word will strengthen and encourage you in your daily living as much as it has in mine!

– *Shalom*

Romans 8:27

And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

How many times have you faced a situation where you have decided for yourself what was right or wrong WITHOUT even talking to God about it? Have you ever found yourself doing something that seemed to be the 'right thing' to do, only to find out later that it wasn't? Yes, we all have been there and done that – Right?

Let me ask, can any of God's children be DEFEATED when they have the Holy Spirit petitioning on their behalf, and the Great High Priest, the Son of the living God, making intercession for them? Of course not.

It's the Holy Spirit who guides us so that we WILL do *the good and perfect will of the Father*. The key to staying in Father's *perfect will* is to yield to the work of the Spirit, who is continuously moving us into a place where we have no will of our own. Giving up our will may seem like the most difficult thing in the world to do. You know what? It is! But you are not alone. Jesus demonstrated how to submit to the Father's will while praying in the garden. You see, He, too, had to get to the place where He could say, "Father, not my will, but *your* will be done."

It gives me great comfort in knowing, if the Father has a perfect will for me, then I am more than willing to exchange my will for His. How about you?

Deuteronomy 30:14



***The word is very near you, in your mouth
and in your heart, that you may perform it.***

Every living creature has a unique sound. Lions roar, bears growl, monkeys make funny noises, and mankind speaks words.

Genesis tells us that man became a *living soul*. Translated in Hebrew, it means that man became a *speaking spirit*. Since we are created in God's image, the sound we make should be His words. Right?

Father God said, "*Life and death are in the power of the tongue.*" He intentionally put power in our words giving us the ability to articulate and decree His will and purposes on earth as it is in heaven. And, by the authority of the Holy Spirit, we can bind and revoke every plan the enemy attempts to make.

There is something about you that Hell is afraid of. That is why the 'tongue' is the first thing the enemy attacks. He tries to put demeaning, belittling, and unnecessary words in your mouth.

Hear the words of Jesus gently say, "*Beloved, don't speak the world's way because these words will never produce anything. Don't allow your words to be idle. Instead, let them be productive, effective, and energizing. Let them be active in changing your circumstances. I have made you a speaking spirit to subdue your world. Put My words in your heart and let My decrees flow from your mouth; then, watch Me perform My WORD!*"

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is. His good, pleasing and perfect will.

Do you realize, at the same time God is CONFORMING you to the image of His Son, the devil is trying to conform you to be like the *world*?


King David divinely advised us to 'Let God Arise!' When you do this, then he adds, '...your enemies will be scattered.' Do you know who your enemies are? Paul tells us that *carnality is enmity against God*. Negative emotions and the ways of the flesh are called carnality.

Here is something to think about: What if you let the God of PEACE arise over the enemy of anxiety? What if you let the God of LOVE arise over the enemy of frustration, or let the God of JOY arise over the enemy of anger?

You see, we are commanded to crucify the flesh. We are to cast it under the feet of Jesus to be a footstool and then let Him arise! Let Him be LORD! Let Him be King! You must *let* His image arise in you, and when you do, the enemy WILL scatter.

I encourage you to conform to God's image by allowing the *Spirit of God* to ar in you, then watch the enemy be scattered in your life!

Joel 3:10



Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.

I feel like stepping on the head of the devil right now! And I hope you do too because he has LIED long enough!

Since the garden's exit, Satan has told mankind that he is *weak* and susceptible to weakness. But today, I proclaim, you are NOT made in the image of weakness. You are NOT made in the image of deficiency, but you are made in the image of the Almighty God. You are not without power but made in the image of a *powerful* God.

Our God has the ability, in all His power, to bring forth His will and purposes. When He wanted you, He said, "Let us make THEM in our image!"

We were not made of *dust* for the devil to wipe his feet on. No! We are the CROWNING adornment of God's glory. You and I were made to be the highest order of all creation and have dominion over all the earth.

Although Adam lost his dominion in the garden, it's through Jesus that our authority is restored, with an added bonus! Jesus said, "I GIVE you power and authority over ALL the powers of the ENEMY!"

You see, Jesus is the only one who is able to bring man back to his destiny and fulfill HIS purpose. So remember who you are! And let the weak say, "I AM STRONG!"

Luke 8:18a



***Pay attention to how you hear.
To those who listen to my teaching,
more understanding will be given.***

Too often, we *say* we are LISTENING, but in reality, we only *hear* what we want to hear – Right?


Do you realize that God passionately desires to speak to His children? He wants to reveal His will, purpose, and plans and lead us to accomplish them. Why? Because He loves to share His secrets with those He loves. Paul tells us that He eagerly speaks to us in many ways.

When he gave the parable of *seeds* planted on four different soil types, Jesus expressed how God spreads His word abroad to *any* heart that will listen. Then, He implores the listener to understand that God’s word can only be received in a correctly prepared heart, one that is humble, hungry, and thirsty.

God’s word is truth and light, and Jesus came to reveal the truth. The question is, *what are you doing with the truth after hearing it?* Are you allowing the enemy to steal it from you? Are you easily led astray? Are you choking it out with the cares of this world, or are you *hiding it in your heart* so that you might not sin against God? You see, how you listen and what you do with God’s truth will determine what you receive.

Let’s remember to pay careful attention to what we hear because the act of hearing falls under the law of ‘use it or lose it’; *for whosoever hath not, from him, it shall be taken, even that which he seems to have.*

Luke 22:43



*Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven
and strengthened Him.*

God's answer to Jesus' prayer was *not* to remove the CUP but to provide the strength to drink *from* it.

There are times in our life when the Father is not willing to take the 'bitter cup' from us, but rather, He STRENGTHENS us to be able to drink from it.

He gently reminds us that His GRACE is sufficient for us. His grace is HIS EMPOWERING presence, and He desires to strengthen us when we are weak.

Many times we go through things that we don't deserve. There are many unpleasant realities in life that we have no control over, nor can we remove ourselves from it.

The key to enduring *that* undeserved and unpleasant circumstance is trusting that God *will never leave you nor forsake you*; it's knowing that He is empowering you with His presence through the situation. You see, the Father was with Jesus in the garden. He was with Joseph the whole time that he was enslaved as a prisoner, and many other saints of old who suffered greatly.

Since we know that *those who live godly lives will suffer persecution and hardship*, there is an assurance that we, too, will be strengthened so that God's glory will be manifested, empowering us to drink from HIS cup.

Galatians 3:9



*All who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing
Abraham received because of his faith.*

Here's a reminder: Faith is not COMMON sense; it's REVELATION sense.

God called Abram by faith to leave his relatives and homeland to go to a land where God would send him, and you and I are no different. God has called us by faith to leave *all* that the world has taught us and walk in His Kingdom. Just as God said to Abram, "I will bless you, and you will be a *blessing*," Jesus says to us, "Seek first the kingdom of God, and all these *blessings* will follow."

As Abram journeyed to the new land, the story says that his total dependence was on God alone. He knew God desired, even demanded relationship, trust, and faith in Him. It's not a faith in *our* ability to please God; that's called *common* sense, but a faith trusting that the words spoken by God over us will come to pass. This *revelation* sense is a confident knowing that God's plans are for us to PROSPER. That's the *Rhema faith* that pleases the Lord.

We know that Abram made some wrong choices at times, but his faith in trusting God's word never wavered. Why? Because the life of faith says, "Lord, you have spoken! It may appear irrational in the natural, but I am going to step out and fully trust that You will perform Your word."



Scripture Prayers

Prayer for Healing



Jesus, I thank you for redeeming me from the curse of the law, bearing my sins in Your own body and making me righteous. Thank you for taking my infirmities and bearing my sicknesses. It's by Your Word that I am healed and delivered; for Your Word is health to my flesh, and strength to my bones.


I ask Lord, that You prosper me in all things, including good health, as my soul prospers. I thank you that healing shall arise and spring forth speedily, because Your righteousness goes before me, and Your glory is my rear guard.

Lord, I give you praise for healing the brokenhearted and binding up their wounds. As we confess our trespasses to one another and pray for one another, you said, we shall be forgiven and healed. Though sorrow may come in the night, joy comes in the morning, and a merry heart does good like a medicine.

I thank you, Lord, for the gift of faith to be manifested in my life, for the prayer of faith will save the sick. In Your name I will cast out demons, I will speak with new tongues, and I will lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover, and if any sins have been committed, You will forgive them.

I now proclaim and decree, that I shall live and not die, but declare the works of the Lord. AMEN!

A Heavenly Moment Prayer



What is more valuable than all the silver and gold in the world, maybe even *more* valuable than all the wealth in the world, AND that you are using right now but will never get back? If you answered TIME, you are correct.

Now, if the definition of eternity is *time without end* and the bible says that, “It is appointed unto men *once* to die,” where do you plan to spend eternity?

The Good News is, there is an absolute assurance of spending eternity in Heaven. It begins by believing that God, the Father, loves you more than anything else in the universe. He loves you as much as He loves His own Son, Jesus Christ. You see, before the foundations of the world were formed, you were on His heart and mind. You were tattooed in the palms of His hands.

When sin entered the garden, you inherited a sinful nature that caused you to become separated from the Father’s presence. Because He is holy, just, and righteous, sin required punishment. The Father knew that you would be condemned for eternity unless there was a way to restore you. So, He asked His Son Jesus if he would be willing to take *your* punishment for *your* sin. Jesus passionately said, “Yes, Father! Your heart is My heart, and your will is My will.” And that is precisely what He did. He died so that you can live for eternity.

Jesus’ death on the cross was an exchange of your sin for His righteousness. This exchange is simply done by *believing* in your heart that Jesus is the Son of God.

If you believe that Jesus came in the flesh, died on the cross, and rose again, if you ask Him to forgive all your sins, then you *will* spend an eternity of TIME with Him. Romans 10:9 says:

***If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord
and believe in your heart that God raised him
from the dead, you will be saved.***

Are you ready to confess by faith today?

Father in heaven, I come to you in the name of Jesus. I know I have sinned against you. As King David said, “Against you, and You alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight.”

I am genuinely sorry for my sinful actions and the selfish life I have lived; I ask for your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ, your only begotten Son, shed His precious blood on the cross at Calvary and died for my sins, and I am now willing to turn from my sin.

With my mouth, I now confess that Jesus is the Lord of my life. With my heart, I believe that God, the Father, raised him from the dead. I believe this very moment, and I accept Jesus Christ as my Savior, and according to His Word, right now, I believe I am saved from eternal death.

Thank you, Jesus, for your unmerited grace, which has saved me and cleansed me of my sins. I surrender my all to you and ask that you transform my life so that I may bring glory and honor to you alone and not to myself. Thank you, Jesus, for dying for me and giving me eternal life. AMEN!

About the Author



Dr. Amy McMillan, Dmin., is the author of fresh, energizing devotionals, inspirational stories, and biblical teachings engaging you to draw closer to the Father's heart. She is a wife and the mother of two young adults and four grandchildren. Dr. Amy's career as an accountant, piano player, and worship leader lasted only until her unexpected passion for writing began at fifty. She sacrificed everything she once enjoyed for her new passion. Her best writings flow while enjoying a hot chocolate at Starbucks, traveling on adventures, and relaxing in her sunny northern California home. As a motivational speaker, Dr. Amy loves to use humorous wordplay and compassionate revelations to transport her audience to see, hear, and feel the passion of God's heart toward His children in their everyday lives.

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End of Preview

BEGIN EACH DAY INSPIRED WITH

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This second volume was penned while walking through a forty-two month 'wilderness' season. Then one day, the lover of my soul said, "Who is this coming out from the wilderness, clinging to her beloved?"

CLINGING to our beloved is the greatest desire of God. However, this clinging can only happen through a divine experience in the wilderness. A place where we are stripped of the world, forced to loosen the grip of being in control so we can truly depend and cling to the one who designed and created us.

Encouraging to the extreme!

A Heavenly Moment is a definite page-flipper.



DR. AMY McMILLAN, founder of Spirit Unlimited, Int'l., is an author and speaker who brings forth God's word with fresh, exciting energy to draw you deep into the heart of the Father.

I pray these devotional insights into God's word will strengthen and encourage you in your daily living as much as it has in mine!
Shalom



RELIGION / Christian Life / Devotional

ISBN 978-164786085-1



US \$15.00

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