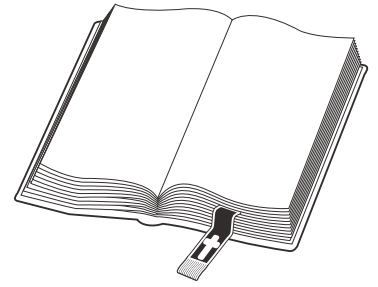


Saved by the Bible

"I am Yours, save me; for I have sought Your precepts." Psalm 119:94



Number 41 in the series "The Joy of Obeying God's Word"

When a baby is born, it is *hungry*. That was a good description of me as a baby Christian in 1976. I was *hungry* to know Jesus Christ who loved me so much that He gave His life for me. I had a *hunger* to know the one and only true and living God who created me, sent His Son to die for me (a sinner, such a terrible sinner), and who adopted me into His family. I had a *hunger* to know the Holy Spirit. Like a newborn baby, I wanted to *eat* a lot, so every chance I got, I would read my Bible. Just like a new baby wants to be fed in the middle of the night, I often woke in the night and would *feast* on the Word of God.

Over the years through joy, sorrow, tests, trials, and temptations, I have constantly gone to the Bible for the answers to every situation in my life. And, beloved, the Lord has never failed me! Obedience to the Bible saved my marriage. It brought me from hating my husband to loving and respecting him more every day. Obedience to the Bible saved my husband and me many thousands of dollars as we paid off the mortgage on our home years ahead of time.

Years ago my husband and I attended a church that had serious problems. It ended up splitting, and many were hurt. Obedience to the Bible saved Richard and me as the Holy Spirit empowered us by GOD'S AMAZING GRACE to love, forgive, and stay free of bitterness.

Beloved, you and I know all true children of God are attacked daily by Satan. It may be physical, emotional, or financial; it may be our marriage, our

children, or the workplace; or it may be all of the above. Over and over again, I have experienced God's faithfulness to save me from hopelessness and despair as I would read and obey the Bible. Psalm 3:1-3 reads, "*Lord, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are those who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, 'There is no help for him in God.'* But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head." Psalm 23:4 reads, "*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*"

Beloved, some of you are in deep valleys of sorrow, pain, temptations, and despair. Do not run to food, television, ungodly relationships, or other things of this world. Run to Jesus and the Bible. You will get true love, wisdom, guidance, counsel, comfort, and help there. Jesus loves you. Obey Him. He will not fail you. Beloved believer, stay close to Jesus and His Word every day. He loves you. He will never leave you nor forsake you. And unbeliever, this would be the day to surrender your life to Jesus Christ. He died for you, He loves you, and He wants to help you.

— *Janice McBride*

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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