

# Testimony Barry Spears

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Brother Brent called me and asked me to share this testimony with you and when I do I normally use this passage of Scripture and I've read this verse of Scripture many times but when I got saved, John 3:3 born again, it made a whole lot more sense to me as the word of God does. When the Spirit of God gets in and gives us direction in the word of God then we understand it, right?

Let's pray.

*Father, I need you tonight. I thank you for this opportunity. I love you with all my heart. Thank you for changing my life and making me a new creature in Christ. I ask that you give me the power that I need tonight. I pray that you speak through me, speak to each heart that is here. I pray that the power and the Holy Spirit of the living God would come down and deal with our hearts and that your power would be so real that we would leave giving you all the glory. We won't say what a preacher but what a Savior. We love you and we thank you in Jesus' name. Amen.*

Proverbs 28:1, the Bible says this,

1 The wicked flee when no man pursues: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

You'll notice that any time you deal with crowds of the public back in school, you'll find that there are always 2 crowds: there is always the in crowd and there is always the out crowd. When I was in high school, I graduated high school in 1990, I wasn't in the in crowd, I was in the out crowd. I was always the one that was sneaking around smoking in the bathroom, skipping school and fighting and all that junk and trying to get in as much trouble as I could. I was not on the yearbook committee. I was not the one that was the teacher's aide. I was the one that was running from the principal most of the time. But I want to preach for just a few minutes on this thought: I ain't scared anymore.

The wicked flee when no man pursues: but the righteous are bold as a lion. I'm here to tell you tonight by God's grace I just ain't scared anymore. There was a time when I was but now I ain't and you'll notice also in the world that there is roaring crowd and then there is the crowd that is running, amen? That crowd that's running, they know not God. I remember before I got saved every time I would go somewhere, if I saw blue lights up

ahead and I saw a sign that said "Road Check," I was shoving liquor bottles under the seat. I was hiding marijuana cigarettes. I was throwing dope out both windows. I was scared to death and if there were any side road that I could take, I was going to take it because the wicked flee, amen? If I saw blue lights a mile away and I didn't even know if it was a road check, I was taking the side street. Why is that? Because the wicked flee when no man pursues.

That crowd that's running, they know not God. I remember one time and I'll get to my testimony in just a minute, I remember one time I was coming back from a Hell's Angels coalition party and I was on Highway 601 on that motorcycle, as a matter of fact. Me and a friend of mine built that bike. It's a 69. It's raked, it's chopped, it's rigid on the back, it's got 19 inch ape hangers. It was a beautiful bike. It's all muddy because we were down in a mud pit should rooster tails out, but that bike is the one I was on. In fact, it was probably within 6 or 8 months of when that picture was taken and I was coming down Highways 601 heading toward Camden and I had the throttle laid back and I was speed balling. I had done cocaine and I had done heroin at the same time and I was in my own little world. I said, "It's a beautiful day out." Just rolled the throttle back, kicked back, go about 110, it's all that bike would really do on a straightaway and I said, "Just enjoy life for a little while."

You could see at least 3 miles down Highways 601 because of how flat the road is but as I rolled that throttle back, I saw across the top of the hill as far as I could see, I saw a state trooper cross the top of that hill. My heart sank down into the top of that twin evo, that motor. My heart was actually in those heads that were on that v-twin when I saw that cop. I was loaded to the gills with heroin, OxyContin and cocaine. I had it duct-taped to my legs and my chest. I was dealing it at a Hell's Angels' party and when I saw that cop I knew I was going way over the speed limit and guess what? He hit his blue lights. At that time I knew my life was over. I said, "That's it. I'll never see my wife again. I'll never see my children again. I'm going to do major time for this. This is a major felony. I won't get out of jail for 20 years. There is my life. What is it worth?" I started thinking, "my life is over."

Sure enough, as that cop passed me, he did a U-turn. I looked in that drop-down mirror that I had on them ape hangers and I said, "Unto God, he's after me." I pulled over. There was no way I could run from him. He pulled up behind me and he walked and I thought if I would've had to stand up I would of fallen over not only because I was high but because I was nervous. So I sat down on the seat of my motorcycle and that cop walked up, there were 2 of them, 2 state troopers, and he said, "Can I see your driver's license and your registration?" I thought, "This is it. I'm going to hand him my license and he's going to do a sobriety check and he's going to pat me down and he's going to call in the SWAT team."

So as I was reaching for my wallet and I was opening it up, I heard his radio go off. Somebody had gotten in a little bit more trouble than what I was in and as I was handing him my driver's license, he looked at it and he said, "Mr. Spears, you need to slow down." He said, "Did you hear that?" He looked at his partner and he said, "We've got to go." He

said, "Slow down." They got in their car and they did another U-turn and they went the opposite way of where I was going and I'm sitting there going. Here's what God told me that very day: somebody else suffered so that I could go free. There is not a doubt in my mind that God instituted whatever happened down the road because he knew that Barry Spears was going to get born again and didn't need to do 20 or 30 years in prison. He was going to call me to preach, organize a church and win souls to Jesus Christ. It reminds me of when Jesus suffered on the cross. The godly dying for the ungodly. Who in the world would give their life for somebody like that, nobody but a holy, holy, holy God. Hey, listen to me, if you have been born again, you've got a whole lot to be happy about.

Psalm 119, the psalmist says, "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies. I made haste to keep thy commandments." You see, the psalmist said this, "When I thought about what I did with my life and I had seen how real and true you were, I made haste to turn from the way I was going and I said, God, I want to make haste to keep your laws. Your Bible says in Galatians 5:18, But if you be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law." Do you know what that means? When you are yielding to the Spirit of God and God is hovering over your life, you no longer have to be told not to cheat on your wife. You no longer have to be told thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not covet, thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. When you are yielding to the Spirit of the living God, his law is not grievous unto you. His yoke is easy and his burden is light.

But, you see, I couldn't redeem myself and I started realizing, "Hey, I'm making a mess out of my life." Do you remember when Moses was walking by that Bush and the Spirit of the living God cried out to him out of that fire and he said, "Moses, take your shoes off because you're on holy ground." Have you ever thought about why God told him to take his shoes off? In Leviticus, in the law, if a man and a woman were married in Israel and the man died and he had no children with that wife, then the next of kin, the brother, was to marry that woman so that she could have children by that man so his name be not caught off from Israel, but if that man could not or would not redeem his brother's wife, he was to take his shoe off and give it to somebody who could. She was to spit in his face and he was to be called the barefoot man in Israel. Here's what God was telling Moses: "Do you remember back in Egypt when you looked this way and that way and you should have been looking that way and you slew that Egyptian and you tried to do it on your own?" He said, "You're not doing the redeeming anymore. Take your shoes off. I'll be going to redeem in Israel now."

Do you remember when Joshua came up against Jericho and he crossed over the water and there was the angel of the Lord standing there and he said, "Whose side are you on?" That angel said, "I'm not here to take sides. I'm here to take over. Unlatch your shoe from off your foot." He said, "You're not going to redeem Jericho, it's going to be me that does the redeeming." I couldn't redeem myself. I couldn't do anything for myself. I had to rely on a 3 times holy God how to do it.

I ain't scared anymore. I was scared to death before I got saved. I talked to a fellow one time on the side of the road, he was an alcoholic, he even admitted to me that he needed

help. He asked me to pray for him and I did right there and I talked to him about 15 minutes. He smoked 3 cigarettes while I was talking to him and, mind you, he's an alcoholic, he admitted it to me. He had track marks in his arm. I said, "Son, you need to give your life to the Lord Jesus Christ. You need to make him Lord of your life." He said, "I don't want anything ruling my life." I said, "Now, you're an alcoholic, you've got track marks in your arm and I've talked to you 15 minutes and you've smoked 2 1/2 cigarettes but you don't want anything ruling your life. Do you know that someone is going to rule your life whether it be God of the devil? If you're not God's child, you're a child of Satan." Listen to me, kids, listen to me, guys: we must yield to God. We must make him the Lord of our lives. There is no power in the name of Jesus unless he is Lord Jesus. There were more Jesuses than were Paul's but it's when Christ Jesus becomes Lord of your life, that's when the name becomes a powerful name.

But I ain't scared anymore. I got ripped off by the devil when I was about 17 years old. My mother will testify I was raised in a godly home and I was raised to quote Scripture. I was raised in an independent, fundamental, King James, Bible believing, hell hating, Jesus loving Baptist church but when I turned 16, 17 years old, I took everything that I had, all the morals, all the laws, all the obedience, all the teachings, all the services I had been to, all the songs I had sung as a child and I walked up to the devil and I said, "I want what you've got and I'm going to give you what I've got." And I laid it down and I got ripped off. Have you ever gone to the grocery store and bought a TV dinner and on the outside it's got this big plump piece of chicken and this big glowing corn on the cob and apple cobbler that looks like it has come out of grandma's oven 5 minutes ago and you go, "Man, that's worth 5 bucks." So you buy it and you take it home and you open it and unto God, you go, "What in the world is this?" And what do you think? You say, "I got ripped off," and you throw it in the trashcan and you go to Burger King and you get a whopper.

That's what happened to me. I was 16, 17 years old and I took everything that I had been taught. I knew not to smoke. I knew not to drink. I knew not to swear. I knew not to do drugs. I knew not to get involved with the pagans of the Hell's Angels. I knew that but yet I walked up with my eyes open to this devil himself and I said, "Here it is. I want what you've got. You can have what I've got." Little did I know that 13 years later I'd be laying literally in the ditch with the sewage running over me, with the mug in one hand and a Coors light or a Budweiser in this hand and my motorcycle had fallen over on me that day. It was raining and I said, "How did I get here? How did I go from going to Sunday school on Sunday morning and prayer meeting on Wednesday night, how did I go to being a patch holder with the Carolina Rebels, a member of the Hell's Angels coalition? How did I get there?" The devil, do you know what he wasn't doing? He wasn't up there going, "Yeah, you my man. Now listen, when we get to hell, you're going to be my main dealer. You're going to have all the power. You are it." He wasn't doing that. Do you know what he was doing? He's standing back here laughing, "I fooled you, you big dummy. You should have listened to the preacher but you didn't." He thought he had made me.

I remember that day I was on my way back from the clubhouse that particular day and my wife had been going to church. She wasn't saved, she was just trying to do the right thing. She would try anything. You've got to understand, all hours of the night, 3 nights at a time I wouldn't sleep, I wouldn't eat. There was heroin and cocaine, staying up 3 and 4 nights in a row. Bringing people in, motorcycles all over the yard. People coming in that she didn't know, doing lines on the desk, dealing dope out of the bottom, just wickedness. My wife was at her wits end. She said, "I've got to do something, at least I'll try church." So she would dress the kids up and she would take them to church on Sunday morning and she tried to talk to my mom and my dad and her eyes just weren't open yet.

I remember that day that I fell over, I had stopped on the side of the road to smoke a cigarette and drink a beer on the side of the road and I fell over in the ditch and my bike fell over on top of me and the sewage was running across my leg and I said, "How did I get here?" I picked myself up and I was going home and I passed my wife that Sunday morning and I looked in the car as I passed her and she had a nice top on and my children were in the backseat and it looked like they were going to church and God said, "Son, how long are you going to live this way? How long are you going to spit in my face? How long are you going to trample my blood in the street?" And I got home and I'll never forget, had hair down to here, tattooed from my neck to my belt, strung out on the road, I mean, just worn out from the devil. I got into my house and I laid down on that cold bathroom floor with my head by the toilet and listen to me, don't get ahead of me, I cried out to God. I said, "God, I can't get out. I'm in chains. I have tried to quit the heroine. I can't. If I'm not shooting up, I'm crushing OxyContin 180s. If I'm not doing that, I'm speed balling. God, I'm in bondage not only to the drugs but to the gang. They said if I ever got out that they would take sandpaper to my back or peel the skin off of it because of the club colors. God, I'm in bondage, how do I get out?"

Crying more than I have ever wept in my life. Puddles of tears. Dehydrating from the tears. God didn't save me, do you understand? Now this may go against all your philosophy. I'm just telling you what happened to me. I did not get saved that day. David said, "I waited patiently on the Lord and he inclined unto me and he brought me out of our horrible pit." The Lord listened to me that day but I didn't get saved. I guess my heart just was not ready enough yet. I was not ready to truly take up my cross and follow him. But I cried out to him.

A couple of weeks later, I woke up that morning, October 27, 2003. At 9 o'clock that morning I woke up with what little bit of sleep I got. God had really been dealing with me and I'll never forget as I rolled out of the bed. I did my little line. I crunched my little pill. That's what I had to do to get up. I sat on the edge of my bed, looked down at my legs as I was sitting there. My legs were that big around. I was 140 pounds. I'm 240 pounds now. That picture does not do justice of what sin did to me. That was about a year before I got saved. I got further down than that. I was a miserable wretch. I had no strength. It was all I could do to walk from my bed to the bathroom that day but I looked down and that long hair was hanging down and I was just shaking my head and I started crying and the Holy Spirit of God started dealing with my heart and I said, "God, I can't live this way anymore. I can't do my wife and my children this way anymore. I'm getting ready to die

and go to hell and, Lord, I don't want to." I stood up and I walked into the bathroom and I looked in the mirror and I had my shirt off and I saw how ugly I was and how just disgusting I was by sin.

And I looked and I remember the moment that I turned my eyes from the mirror to my bedroom and I said, "That's it. I'm calling mama." I walked in there and I got the phone and I picked up the phone, mama lives right next door. I dialed the number and I said, "Mom, there's something wrong with me. I need to talk to you." She hung up on me. You know your bad when mama hangs up on you. But what I didn't know was that just about 3 minutes after I hung up, she came through the back door with her Bible in her hand, her and my dad. She met me halfway across the living room floor. She said, "Son, you need to get born again. You need to give your life to Jesus Christ." I said, "Yes, mom. That's what I need to do. I'm a wretch. I can't deal with it anymore." I hit my knees right there at 9:30 that morning in my living room and I said, "God, I don't care about the Hell's Angels or the Carolina Rebels. I don't care about the the dope anymore. I don't care about this world, I just need you." I went down a beggar and came up a millionaire and I got the glory of God into my soul. I haven't gotten over it yet. I mean I got a double dose of what God has got to offer and I do every day. You will never get over it. We serve a great big God. He's able to reach down a whole lot further than you ever hit bottom. I'm glad we serve a God who doesn't give up. He doesn't want to beat you up when you get down. He didn't come down to call me a faggot. He didn't call me a long-haired hippie. He said, "Boy, you're broken and you need to be fixed. Boy, your life is in shambles and I can put the pieces back together. Son, won't you just call on me? Won't you just give me your life?"

God, I got in, I got so far and I got lost in it. I started reading that Bible, man. Oh God, it started just jumping on me. I'd go to bed with it at night and still do sometimes. I would say, "Oh God, I've got to have more of it." I'd lay it down under my pillow and I would hug it. I just put it everywhere all over me. I wanted to wake up with it because that's what I was believing in. That's what got me out. It was the power of the word of God that broke the chains. Did not the word become flesh and dwell among us? Was it not he that shed his blood? Is this not Jesus Christ right there? He's the one that saved me, man. I like going to bed with him. I like eating breakfast with him. I like eating supper with him. I like taking a nap with him. I like driving down the road and looking at him. I just like him. I'm in love with him.

I remember the day I got saved. My son, he must of been 9 years old, and he went to school that morning. He wasn't there when I got saved but he knew what saved meant because he went to church. Well, all that afternoon I didn't work. Man, I couldn't. I just sat at home. I went and got my hair cut. I cleaned up. I shaved. I tried to do as much as I knew I could do to make God pleased with me. I remember about 3:30 that afternoon, I had been sitting in my recliner all day reading my Bible and oh, it was so precious. I'll never forget that first day and Cody came through the door from school. He didn't have a clue what was going on. He opens up the door, slams it, throws his book bag down and he's walking through and he goes...I mean, daddy's got a haircut. Daddy's got a Bible. Daddy has not got a beer in his hand. Do you understand? He wasn't used to that. He

goes, "Dad, what are you doing?" I said, "Daddy got saved." He knew what saved meant. He knew that meant that I wasn't going to be doing the things I used to do.

Deedee is in the kitchen doing the dishes. She is just crying. "Mom, when did this happen?" "It happened this morning, son. It was great. You should have been here." I stood up and I walked up to him and I said, "Cody, daddy won't be coming home drunk anymore. Daddy won't be wasting his paycheck on wine and women and song anymore. Hey Cody, there will be food in the refrigerator from now on. Hey Cody, you won't have to worry about having good clothes to go to school in anymore. You won't have to worry about late nights in the morning. Daddy falling down. Wallowing in his own vomit. Hey Cody, there will be no more strangers wandering through the house. Hey Cody, you've got a brand new daddy. Now thanks to Calvary, we don't live here anymore. Thanks to Calvary, things are different than before." I'm here to tell you we serve a God who can do all things. We serve a great big God and I love him with all my heart. Oh, what a Savior. Oh, hallelujah. What a Savior. I love him with all my heart.

Listen man, thank you God for rolling back the curtain of memory, reminding me where I came from and what you did for me. It's all about Jesus. If you don't have the goods, you can get them. It doesn't take a whole lot of money. It doesn't take a big fancy car. All you've got to do is say, "Lord, here I are." Amen. It may not sound good in English class but God knows what you're talking about.

I ain't scared anymore. The wicked flee when no man pursues. The righteous are as bold as a lion. I'll give you this real quick just for outline sake because your pastor called me to do it. I don't have a transitional statement from that to this. I don't know where it's at. You help me out with it, Brother Brent. I'm not scared of the fire in the pit. I used to lay in bed at night and do you know what? 20 some years old, scared to death of hell. Do you know why? Because when I was a little boy, that mama back there took me to a church where an old old gray-headed man of God who just didn't know anything but to let it rip from the hip. He would get up and he would climb into the pulpit, he'd walk the pews, he'd hang out over hell. He'd stick his finger down to that water and he'd say, "Now the man who lifted up his eyes in hell and all he wanted was one drip of water for his tongue," and boy, he'd take me to hell and he'd hang me there for a little while and that little boy, I had these visions of what hell was and as a 20-year-old man, 30-year-old man, I would lay in bed scared to death of hell. I pictured that bony finger going... And I pictured the flames of hell lapping me up and never dying and the worm dying not and I mean, the chaos, scared to death but can I tell you tonight in 2010, I ain't scared of hell anymore. I ain't scared of the fire in the pit. I ain't scared.

I ain't scared of the filth of my past. I've got some bad memories. I used to take my little boy and put him on the back of that motorcycle. Had a fat boy, had that chopper, had a 69 iron head. I had a 1200 custom, similar to yours, man, believe it or not. I had many bikes. I would put him on the back of that fat boy and I'd run him down to the bar and he was a vice president of the gang I rode in. I could do anything I wanted to do in that bar. I would take Cody there and I would sit him up on the bar. He would watch us snort coke and slam beers. I would get so drunk and I would wobble to my bike. He'd get on the

back, put his little helmet on and trust daddy, put his arms around me and I would ride him home, wake up the next morning and say, "Oh God, did I drive my son home that drunk?"

Oh God, how could I do that to my family? I'm talking about memories that would blow your mind. Every once in a while I get down in my prayer closet and the old devil he will try to remind me, "Do you remember this time? Do you remember that time? Do you remember when you did this? And do you remember when you did that?" and I always remember the Baptist Church, that choir getting up and singing this song,

"What sins are you talking about  
I don't remember them anymore.  
From the Book of Life they've all been torn out  
I don't remember them anymore."

You talk about a redneck, hilly-billy, biker boy, getting happy for Jesus. I'm telling you, that song made me do cartwheels. I said, "God, you mean as far as the east is from the west? If you can do that I just want to give you glory tonight." God put your sin in the sea of forgetfulness and drew up a sign and said, "Don't go swimming in the sea. Leave him alone. Let him be." I don't know about you but when I think about my sins being gone, I get the heebie-jeebies going on. There aren't any drugs that can do that, man.

I ain't scared of the filth of my past. I remember my brother got out of prison, one of the few times he got out. He's back in now but he said he got saved. You pray for him. He's looking at some big-time this time. He messed up bad. He spent 20 something years of his life in prison. He's a year and a half older than me. He started at the age of 18, but he got saved in prison. Last time he got out, the time before last, he said, "There was a man I went to prison with and I promised him when I got out I would go to an AA meeting." I said, "Okay, you go." He said, "No, you're going with me." I said, "Man, I've never been to any AA meeting. I'm not going there. I'm just not going. It's not that I'm against them, I'm just not for them." I didn't need that. He said, "Will you go with me one time?" I said, "Sure, man." So being the pastor there in the town that the meeting was in, I put on my suit and tie, I shined my shoes up. I wanted to look good for the Lord and represent my church right, amen? So I did that. That isn't what you've got to do to be a Christian but I did it.

So we walked in there in he was dressed pretty good. We walked into a room about this size and there were about 100 people there and I think 90 of them were smoking. It was like a furnace. If you smoke, I'll pray for you. I'm not preaching against smoking tonight. I know a lot of people that have that habit. It's bad for you, that's all. Listen to me though, I walked into there and I was choking to death. I said, "Oh God, get me through this quick." So they started at one end. "Hello, I'm John Bob and I'm an alcoholic. Hello, I'm So-and-so and I'm an alcoholic." They started with a guy right to the left of us so I know it's got to go all the way around the room and I'm the last one and I'm going, "I'm not an alcoholic. I can't stand up and say I am an alcoholic. I've been born again. I've been broken, the chains are gone. I'm not an alcoholic anymore."

So it got all the way around and I said, "I'm Barry Spears and I used to be an alcoholic." Well, I knew it was coming, man. You just don't tell them that. I sat down and my brother stood up and he said, "I'm Randy Spears and I'm," whatever he was. Well, the fellow in the middle of the room, he's the ring leader and he stood up. He goes, he looks at me and he goes, "I know your kind. You're a high rolling drunk. You've just never been to the bottom. You've never been where we've been. You've never been on the scrap heap of humanity but you will be and then you'll be able to say that I am an alcoholic." My brother is sitting there snickering and for about 5 minutes he continued to tell me how I had never gotten as far down as anybody in that room and that's why I was dressed the way I was and that I was just high rolling and rich and up to do and pretty much made fun of me.

He said, "Now, do you have anything you'd like to say?" I said, "Yes Sir." I stood up. I said, "Let me tell you why I'm wearing a new suit. Let me tell you why I've got a shiny pair of shoes on. Let me tell you why I can dress the way I am and come in here with a smile on my face because just a few years ago I was as far down as you could go," and I told them the story and I said, "But now I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me." Then I said, "You ought to love not the world, neither the things that are in the world for if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world and the world passes away and the lusts thereof. But he that doeth the will of God abideth forever. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk after the flesh and after the spirit for the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death." I said, "Can I ask you something, sir? Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior? Have you been born again, washed in the blood?" He goes, "We'll talk after the meeting." Thank you.

I sat down and I shook their hands and here's what they did, here was their religion. After they were done, they all stood in a big circle and held hands and they quoted the Lord's prayer. That was their religion. I said, "Oh my, God, please save them." I wasn't mad at them. Listen to me, I didn't go in there with a haughty spirit. I was not angry. They were doing what sinners do. Their eyes were still closed. The scales had not come off their eyes. I left there and me and my brother got on our knees down the road outside of the car and said, "Oh God, would you show them the truth? Would you show them it's not a support group that gets you to heaven, it's trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ? Except ye also likewise repent, ye shall perish." You see, they were trusting in the Lord's prayer but not the Lord who said the prayer. They were trusting in the people who did not know God instead of the God who made the people. Can I tell you something? We've got to put all of our trust in Jesus, not just the name Jesus but the Lord Jesus Christ.

But I ain't scared anymore. You know, God can use anybody. He can take somebody like me and somebody like you and put a suit and tie on us and let us preach and sing and give God praise. Do you know who wrote Proverbs 31, the virtuous woman? A fellow named

Lemuel. Every commentator I've read behind said this: Lemuel was a nickname Bathsheba gave to Solomon. Who was Bathsheba? She was an adulterous. She cheated on her husband. She stood beside David when he had him killed. But she had a man named Solomon as her son and the same woman who was an adulterous, God saved, got a hold of her heart and she taught her son, "Look, you don't treat a woman like that. You write these words down and you teach that ladies ought to live right and talk right and act right and dress right. Teach them how to be right." So God used an adulterous to write Proverbs 31.

Do you remember when Boaz was out in the field and he looked out there and Ruth was out there doing her thing and he goes, "I like her." And he told them fellows, "You keep your stinking filthy hands off of her. Don't anybody mess with her. Let her eat from my table. Let her drink from my water. In fact, as you're going by, you just drop handfuls on purpose so that she can have something to take home with her." Who taught Boaz how to treat a woman that way? If you read in Matthew chapter 1, you'll hear that there was a lady named Rahab who married a man named Solomon and they had a man named Boaz and had some children by a woman named Ruth. Do you know who taught Boaz how to treat a woman right? Just an old harlot that was sitting up on the wall one day and gave her heart to Jesus Christ and said, "I don't want to be a harlot anymore. I want to be saved." She put a scarlet thread out of her window and trusted in the blood.

Hey, God used an old dope dealer to deal with some people who have been down the same road I've been down. I've got people in my church, hey, listen, I'm in a hurry. There is a lady named Mary who came to this door of my storefront one day and she walked into there and I said, "Mary!" She goes, "Barry!" This lady owned a bar that I used to go to all the time. She heard that Bandy Rooster got saved. She had to come and see it for herself.

She walked through the door and she said, "Unto God, it's real. It's really you." I said, "Yeah. Look what the Lord did for me." She poured her heart out to Jesus Christ right there in the storefront. After the service I walked up to her and I said, "Mary, do you remember this? Do you remember that?" She said, "Yeah, I remember." She said, "Son, you used to come in and I was scared to see you walk through the door. I knew that every dime I had in my pocket I was going to give to you for your dope." She was a heavy dope user. She said, "I dreaded to see you come through the front door because I knew I could not contain myself. I had to have your dope." She said, "But now you're going to be getting my money for a whole other reason."

Hey, God used a dope dealer to win a bartender for Jesus. She has missed 5 services in a year. She is serving God. Listen to me, if God can use me, he can use you, Rachel. God help Rachel. She came to the storefront that morning and, I mean, just as wicked as you can get. I'm not even going to tell you all the junk she was involved in. Everything she owned in 2 bags walking down the street with her 2 young ones, strung out on sin. Fighting the demons of hell. Worst thing I've ever seen in my life that day. Had to rebuke Satan openly after the service. About 10 minutes after the service, I said, "Rachel, has something bad, wrong, you're eaten up with the demons of hell." She slid to the altar,

poured her heart out to Jesus Christ. I had never seen anybody weep so much in all of my life when that girl got saved. That was a year ago. She has missed one service. I'm talking about Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday, every revival. She cleans the church. I'm telling you, God is the one who does that. When the devil says all hope is gone, he's a liar and the father of lies.

I ain't scared anymore, man. Let me give you this last point here real quick. I ain't scared of the foes that persecute. Man, I wish I had time to preach the rest of that but I don't. I remember I got saved on a Tuesday. I was in church Wednesday but the greatest challenge of my life was Friday night of that week. I had my colors. I had to go and turn them in. Now, a wimp would have put them in a nice little box, duct taped them real good and said, "Sorry, no return address. Carolina Rebels Clubhouse, South Carolina," and let the mailman handle it. I couldn't do that. I've never been scared of men. I've never been, I don't mean to say this in a bragging way, but I have never been a wimp. I said, "I've got to do this the right way." Now, I read in the book of Psalms that, "He is my strength. He is my help. What can man do unto you?" I read that verse and God said, "Now look, are you going to go down there and you going to trust me? Or are you going to ship them down like some pansy?" I said it, "Oh no, God, I'm not doing that. I have come too far now."

I had my mom help me and I took those patches off the back of my vest, unstitched them and made them as neat as I could. Put them in each individual little baggies. You've got the top rocker, the bottom rocker and the center patch and the little MC. They are all very important to the guys. That's their property and they had to get them back or they would have come and killed me, no joke. So we put them in little bags and dad said, "Do you want me to go with you, son?" I said, "No Pop, I'm going to do this by myself." So I jumped in my little car that Friday. The meeting starts at 7 o'clock. I got there about 6:45. I parked down at the end of a long driveway that goes up to the clubhouse. They've got a guard shack and they stand there with guns. I mean, you don't get onto that property unless you're somebody. So I parked way down at the end of the property and I got out and I got down on my knees and I said, "God, you saved me and if you are as real as that preacher in that book says you are, here I am. I'm going to walk through that door and I'm going to hand them these colors and if I've got to die for it, I'll go down serving you."

I walked through the doors at 7:05. They had already started the meeting. Now, word had already gotten around when I knocked on the door. They opened it and said, "Bandy Rooster, come on in." I walked up to the front. Pilgrim is sitting at the table and Chop is sitting here, Reb Jim is sitting over here. That was the format all the way around the table. I stood there and I put it down on the table. Pilgrim says, "You've got something you want to tell us?" I said, "Yeah, can't ride with you anymore." He stood up and he said, "Can you tell me why? You swore for life when you got in that you would never quit and you'd give your life for this gang. You tell me why you're getting out, Bandy Rooster." I said, "I'm going to tell you why. The Lord Jesus Christ saved me and I can't participate in the things y'all do anymore."

Now listen, I knew if there was one man that was going to jump on me it was going to be Chop. Chop is sitting at the end of the table. He's the treasurer. He stood up, big old fellow. He looked at me and I said, "Oh God, here we go. They're going to skin my back. I'm going to die right here but that's all right." Chop looked at me and he stuttered and stuttered and stuttered. He couldn't talk. He stuttered for about 10 seconds and he sat down and then in my mind, if I had known that song, I would've sung,

"And I see a great band of angels camped all around me  
And I see the captain rising up, the challenge to meet  
And I know I'm safe from harm when I'm trusting Jesus  
The battle is his, the victory is mine and victory is sweet."

I looked at Pilgrim and I said, "Have you got anything else you want to say?" He said, "What about the tattoo?" I said, "I'll get it covered up." He said, "Get the top rocker, the bottom rocker and the MC filled in and come back and show it to me and you'll be free to go." I said, "That ain't no problem." Monday morning I was in Georgia getting the top rocker filled in and the MC filled in. Went back Tuesday, showed it to him on his own turf. He said, "See ya and I don't want to see you no more around here." I said, "You ain't gotta worry about that." I left there. I said, "Oh God, God delivers again." If we would just trust him, have plenty of faith in him. Oh, what a Savior, hallelujah.

Do you know what? I ain't scared no more, man. I ain't scared of anything the devil throws at me. I know he's a strong man and I know that I'm no match for him but I've got somebody on my side who can take him out with just thinking about it and when he sees the blood, he trembles in his shoes. We serve a great big God. I ain't scared anymore.