Sowing Seeds of Faith Newsletter

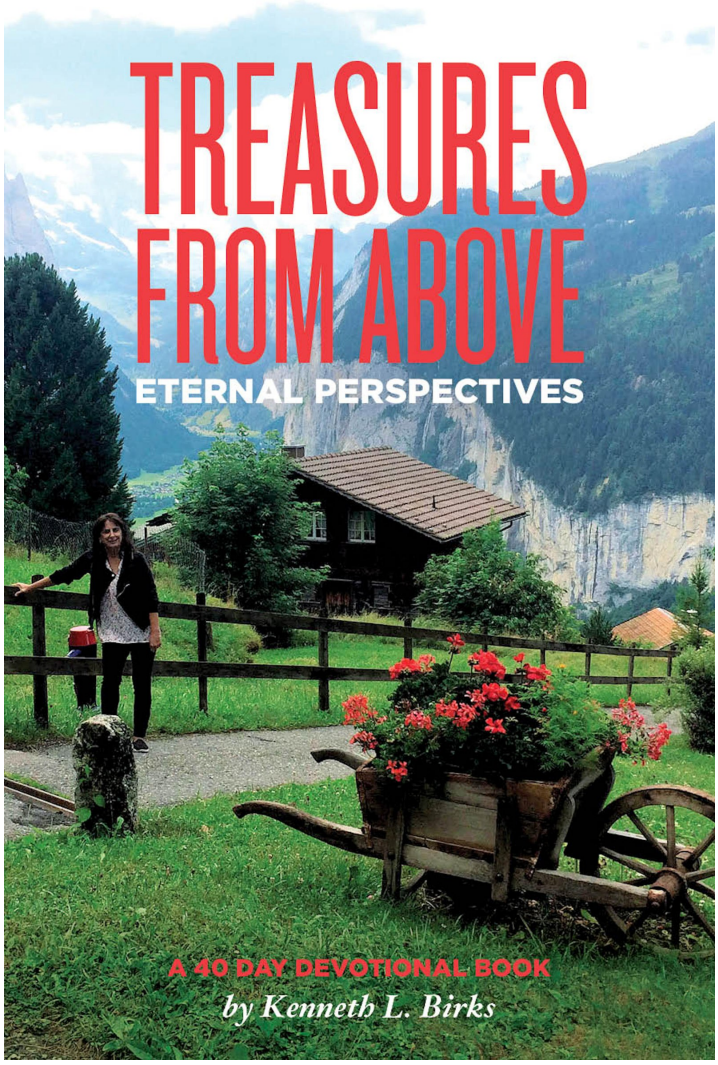
Straight Arrow Ministries

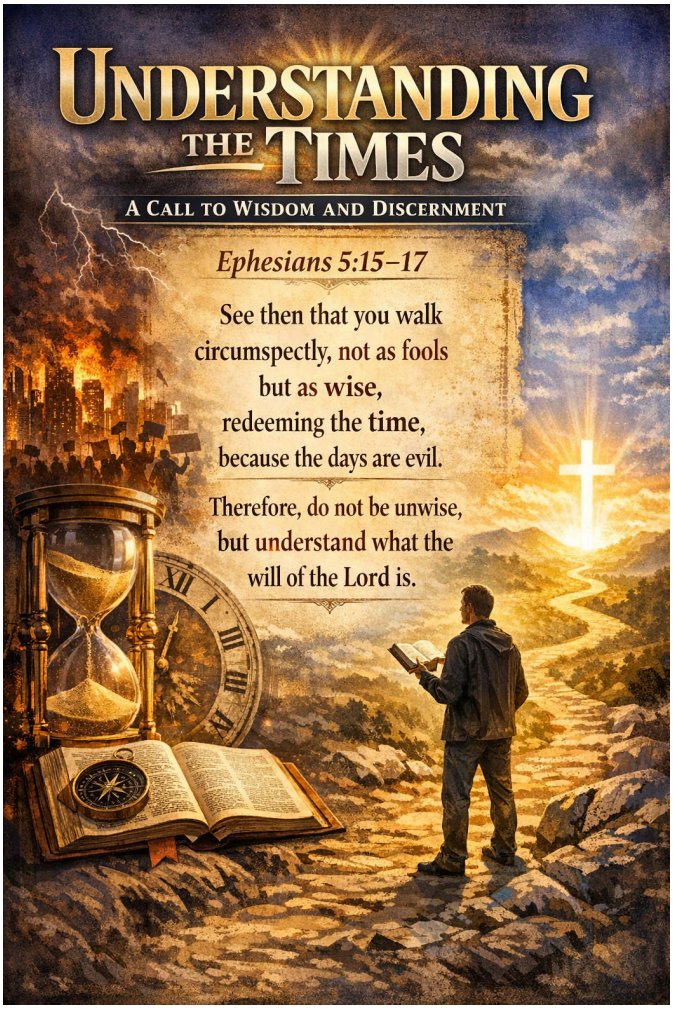
March—April 2026— Volume 7, Issue 2
Straitarrow.net

In This Issue

- Devotional: Understanding the Times
- Featured Product: Treasures from Above
- Poem: In Times Like These
- Podcast: D.O.T.T—Dwelling On These Things
- Bible Study: Is Hell for Real
- Website Features: Firm Foundation Studies

Featured Product





Featured Devotional

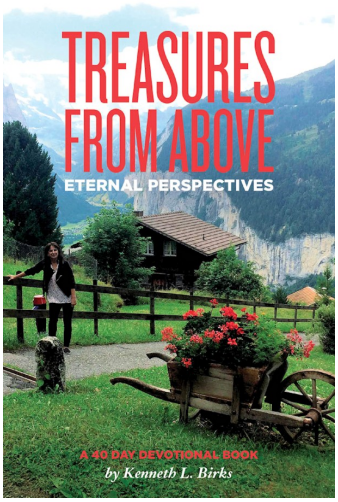
Understanding the Times

A Call to Wisdom and Discernment

Ephesians 5:15–17 *See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

To live as on-fire disciples of Jesus today, we must recognize and understand the divine shifts in our lives and the world around us — moments when God changes the times and seasons. The prophet Isaiah says God wants us to be aware when new seasons spring forth in our lives and in the earth. He says, He will set new paths before us, showing the way. He not only makes us aware but lets us know ahead of time as seasons come and go with new seasons coming.

Continued on Page 2



About Ken's Featured Book

Many spend their whole lives looking for lost treasures, only to come up empty. Yet searching for hidden treasure is a God-given desire in most of us. I see this longing every time my granddaughter slips her small hand into mine and whispers, "Papa, let's go find buried treasure." Her eyes shine with wonder, as if the whole backyard might be hiding a chest of jewels. And in that moment, I'm reminded: **the desire to search for treasure is not childish—it is God-given.** Something deep in the human spirit knows there is more than meets the eye.

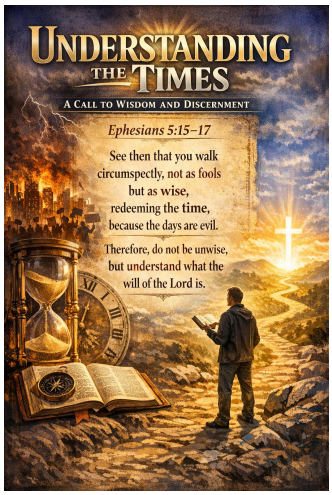
The remarkable truth is this: **the greatest treasures in the universe are already within our reach.** Heaven has never been stingy. God has placed eternal riches within arm's length of anyone willing to seek Him with a sincere heart.

From the Foreword — by Doug Hartline

When approaching any devotional, two questions matter: Is it relevant? And what sets it apart from the countless others available? Devotionals, at their best, deepen our quiet moments with God. They illuminate Scripture—not overshadow it. Scripture must always remain the centerpiece, for it alone carries the power to pierce the soul with wisdom and guidance. Ken understands this. In these pages, God's Word is not merely referenced; it is enthroned. It remains timeless, central, and alive.

Yet what truly distinguishes this book is the poetry. Poetry has a way of refracting truth—like light passing through a prism—revealing colors and contours we might otherwise miss. Ken's poetry does exactly that. It invites us to see God's Word from fresh angles, to feel its weight and wonder in new ways. Suddenly, familiar passages shimmer with unexpected beauty. Our understanding deepens. Our hearts awaken.

Continued from Page 1



For God to prepare new seasons for us, we must continually undergo a metamorphosis as He moves in our lives. God does not use the phrase *"That's good enough"* in His ways of moving in us and the world around us. He is continually preparing us for more anointing, for another dose of His Spirit's outpouring. These changes may not always be fun, but they are always necessary and good. This is what true repentance is. It changes the way we think, because we are always coming to a deeper understanding of God and His ways of thinking and doing. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God's ways and thoughts are far higher than ours. Therefore, we must be constantly shifting our thoughts and ways to God's.

The world is shifting, and the spiritual atmosphere is charged. Every headline, every cultural trend, every challenge we face whispers the same truth: this is no ordinary time. As true believers in Jesus Christ, we are called not to drift with the tide but to stand anchored in wisdom and discernment.

We are living in a pivotal season—one that demands clarity, courage, and conviction from us as disciples of Christ. The times we face are marked by intense spiritual warfare, both in the heavenly realms and here on earth. In such an hour, wisdom and discernment are not optional; they are essential. We must guard our steps, refusing to be ensnared by the enemy's traps.

God's Word is a treasure chest overflowing with prophetic promises—each one given for His divine purposes on earth. These promises are not mere words; they are anchors of hope, guiding us to understand His will across every generation—from Adam to the glorious return of Christ.

By His divine power, God has granted us exceedingly great and precious promises, so that through them we might partake of His very nature. With the Father's strength at work within us, we are called to rise like the sons of Issachar—men who understood the times and knew how Israel should respond. That same call echoes to us today, just as Paul urged the Ephesian church as seen in the opening scripture.

Video Podcast: D.O.T.T Dwell On These Things

The video includes the worship service.
The preaching of the Word starts at point 55.01

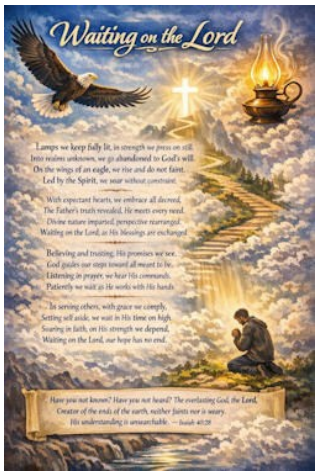
This Podcast focuses on the topic of *"Dwell on These Things,"* **D.O.T.T.** found in Philippians 4:8. This passage gives us an excellent prescription on how to live and reign in peace and purpose, with His presence, guiding us through all the turmoil and pollution of the world.

To dwell, as defined in Philippians 4:8, is a deep, intentional, and continuous state of mind, referring to abiding in God's presence, God, making his home in us as believers, with a focus on spiritual intimacy.

God's desire for every Christian to live a life of peace and purpose that is filled with His presence, no matter what circumstances we may be facing. As we dwell on all that's mentioned in Philippians 4:8, it is possible.

We should ask ourselves: Am I dwelling in peace? Do I have a passionate sense of purpose? Do I sense the presence of God guiding me in my daily life, or am I drowning in the pollution of the world, filled with anxiety? The world around us is not merely getting darker—it is accelerating into darkness with a speed that startles the soul.

Explore more of Ken's Poetry



Be sure to explore more of Ken's Devotional Poetry that has been described with a majestic rhythm unfolding with prophetic wisdom, fresh revelation, and holy encouragement flowing like living streams. The tone of his poetry is deeply Davidic and musical, echoing the raw honesty, worship, and spiritual depth found in the Psalms.

Enjoy by clicking the image

Rising from the East, the sun awakens our senses.
Clouds expressing glory reveal its magnificence.
As colors emanate beauty, our hearts refresh.
Reminded of God's love, our hearts rejoice.

The sun shining brightly, we give praise.
Opening our hearts to Him, we prepare.
Enlightened by His presence, we give praise.
Awakened, we turn our hearts towards Him.

Awakened by His beauty, we look to Him above.
Given to His magnificence, we bask in His love.
His Son rising in our hearts, we give praise.
His Spirit immersing, we rise in obedience.

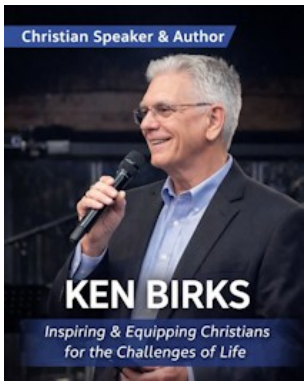
Called to emanate His glory, we rise to behold.
His Son rising in our hearts, we sense His power.
Refreshed and renewed in His beauty, we empower.
The Son emanating from within, His beauty spreads.

Awakened from slumber, we rise to proclaim.
Spreading Son-light, in His power we reclaim.
Given freely to His Spirit, we rise as His flames.
As flames of fire, His anointing spreads His fame.

Prayer

Awaken my heart today by the power of Your Spirit. Open my eyes where I have been spiritually asleep and stir me where complacency has taken root.

Find out more about Ken Birks and how he has walked with God through seasons of quiet wonder, deep refining, and unexpected grace — journeys that have shaped both his faith and voice. From early moments of sensing God's nearness to years of learning to listen more closely, Ken has discovered that the Lord often speaks in whispers, rhythms, and poetic impressions.



Bible Study

"Is Hell a Real Place"

In this lesson, we look into the eternal to answer a common question that has arisen across generations. The question is, ***"What happens to someone after death?"***

In another lesson, we looked at the reality of Heaven and saw that God has established and promised life after death.

The Bible teaches that life continues after the body's physical death. God created man with a natural, temporal body and an eternal soul. The soul is who we truly are—the center of our mind, will, and emotions. Because the soul is eternal, life is eternal: we will spend eternity either in Heaven or in Hell.

Daniel 12:2 *And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall wake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and* ***everlasting contempt****.*
(See Matthew 25:46 also).

In this lesson, we will examine what happens to the souls of those who choose to spend eternity in Hell and what that will be like. Although this subject is difficult, every Christian should understand its truth. Hebrews 6 teaches us to understand eternal judgment. A healthy fear of God in this respect helps us remain on the straight and narrow.

Matthew 10:28 *"And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.* ***But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.***

The word *"destroy"* in this setting means to literally give over to eternal misery. It is not talking about the death of the soul but rather giving the soul over to eternal misery.

There are many questions in people's minds concerning hell: Is it a real place? Do all unsaved people go there? Will it continue to exist forever? Will people who are consigned there be tormented forever, or will they be annihilated? The only way to understand this subject and answer these questions is to look to the Bible. You will find all the answers by clicking the Bible Study Below.

For the Complete Study on

"Is Hell for Real"

Click Here Now