

Testimony - Part 1

by Corrie Ten Boom

Corrie Ten Boom shares her testimony of faith and hope in the midst of tribulation and persecution, highlighting the power of God's presence and the importance of living a life of love and forgiveness.

Duration: 30:23

Scripture: Matthew 10:22, John 13:34, Romans 5:5, Romans 12:20, Ephesians 4:6, Philippians 3:8, 2 Timothy 1:7

Topics: "Testimony"

Description

In this video, a woman shares her personal experience of being imprisoned by the Nazis for hiding Jewish people in Holland. She spent 11 months in prison, including time in solitary confinement and a concentration camp where her sister died. Despite the difficult circumstances, she credits God for keeping her sweet and tender. She shares a message of encouragement to the audience, reminding them that suffering for Jesus is a privilege and that God will provide the strength needed in those moments. She concludes by reading a passage from 1 Peter 4:12, emphasizing the joy that awaits those who share in Christ's sufferings.

Transcript

Inspirational Tapes apologize for the quality of this recording. The technical quality was deficient in the original master, but I'm sure you'll agree that the testimony it contains is unique in the library. If I understand, you were hiding Jewish people in Holland, and the Nazis or the Germans took you, and because of this, and put you into prison.

Yes. How long were you in the prison? I was 11 months a prisoner. First four months in solitary confinement, alone in a cell, and then in a concentration camp in Holland, a German concentration camp, and then in Ravensbruck, the terrible place north of Berlin.

And that's where my sister died. She died there. Yes.

And in that time, God somehow kept you sweet and tender towards Him. How did you do it? How did you keep from being just terribly despairing? What kept you buoyed up at this time? That's good, but you know what kept me up? Who kept me up? Who kept you up? I can tell you, there are circumstances that you cannot do anything, and it was only the Lord who has carried me through, and that is so good that I have experienced that. I have always believed.

Now I know from experience that Jesus' light is stronger than the deepest darkness, and a child of God cannot go so deep, always deeper than the everlasting earth. It matters not how dark it is. His light is always brighter.

Yes, yes. The devil is strong, but his power is limited, and Jesus' power is unlimited. And you've been there, and you know.

Was His grace always sufficient? There was never a time when His grace was not sufficient for you. Indeed it was always sufficient, but sometimes I lost courage. You did? Yes, and I remember that once I said, when I looked on the stars, I said, Oh Lord, all the stars are in your guidance, but have you forgotten your child, Corita Mom? And then, but I had my Bible with me, and that was such a great joy.

The hairs of our head are numbered, and God has the whole universe in His hands. That means that God has a telescopic and a microscopic interest in us. Yes.

Did you feel at this time, how did you get that copy of the copy? We were, they took away everything that we had hidden. Send your angels, let them surround me. But then I thought, yes, but angels are spirits, so you can look through a spirit.

Let your angels this time not be transparent. You can pray very unorthodox when you are. God did it.

The woman who stood before me was searched, and then my sister who was behind me, and they did not see me. And so I came in the prison with my Bible. But if God is actually valuable, they couldn't see you.

We mustn't be too amazed when God does miracles. And his hand was built for two hundred years. We used to say the soul for eternity is worth.

I cannot say that there was resistance. The people who didn't like to hear didn't come. He got my messages.

And I, and then he said, He will lift us up into a place of glory with no intervening suffering. Did you believe that's the case? The Bible tells that the Lord Jesus has said, pray that you will be strong enough to come through all what will happen before my coming. And that Jesus is coming soon? Yes.

I think we all. The signs of eternity we can now read in the newspapers. Yes.

And when these things happen, Jesus said, when all these things happen, that generation will not pass away before I come. And I believe we are the generation when these things happen. The Bible tells that the Lord said, in the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer.

I have overcome the world. So you think that's a promise? Yes, yes. There's no question about it.

And you know, we mustn't be too amazed when we have to suffer for the Lord. It is written in the Bible, you know, I believe that will be translated, oh sure, the best is yet to be. We will meet the Lord in the air and then we will be with him.

The best is yet to be. But before that happens, I believe we will have to go through a part of the tribulation. And there is now tribulation.

Sir, I have worked behind the Iron Curtain and I can tell you subject that 60% of the body of Christ is suffering. Now, what many said, when my feet were whipped, my hands suffered pain. And I believe we as body of Christ must suffer with that part that is suffering.

Now persecution is terrible. But I was once in Ushuwara in Africa. And I don't know the political background, but that week every day there was a new government and every day Christians were killed.

And I remember that I stood there in the church and I saw that the people were afraid. They looked at each other. Will he be killed? Will he be alive next week? Will they kill me? And then I said, Oh God, give me a message for these people.

And the Lord gave me 1 Peter 4.12 from the translation of Philips. And I read, Now dear friends of mine, I beg you not to be unduly alarmed at the fiery ordeals which come to test your faith as though this were some abnormal experience. You should be glad because it means that you are called to share Christ's sufferings.

One day when he shows himself in full splendor to men, it's a great privilege for you can be sure that God's spirit of power, the spirit of glory is resting upon you. And I show these people that in heaven there will be a martyr crowd. What you can read in my book, when you go to travel with a train to Amsterdam, when do I give you the train ticket? Three weeks before the day that I go to travel.

In the church, the people, some started, it was at the end of that week. But the spirit of glory was waiting for years, bringing the gospel. Why is that? And I said, Your friends, they're all killed.

Oh! When I heard that, I was so sad. And she said, she laid her hand on my shoulder and she said, But Corrie, they are promoted ahead of us. Do you know? I said, And you? Do you go back? She said, Immediately after Congress I go back.

Oh no! It can mean that I will be killed. But I'm not afraid. Do you see? This woman had not a spirit of fear, but of power.

For times of tribulation, it's in the promises of the Bible. And the Lord will give us strength. And that's the great joy.

There the Lord was with secure. And you know, when all fall away, then it's the security in the Lord. One of the new translations, And then son of privilege.

And who is it that overcomes the world? He that believes that Jesus is the Son of God. Terrible thing. I'll tell you something.

These people were in sick. And Betsy said, Here was an old, stout young woman. Pray for your, pray.

Oh, I don't know how to pray. Yes, this man is a prayer warrior. And they are praying.

And then I always say, what is written in Romans 8, that the Spirit Himself will teach us how to pray. There was a little boy. And they said to him, You must pray.

He had never prayed before. And he went home. And he was sitting in the corner of his room.

And he knew one thing. When you pray, you fold your hands and you close your eyes. And his mother was in the same room.

And she heard suddenly that he said, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A. And the mother said, What am I doing? He said, Mom, I, they say I must pray, but I've never prayed before. I don't know how to do it. So I said, Jesus, I give you all the letters of the alphabet.

Now you must make a good prayer. But Paul said, The Spirit will teach you how to pray. Also you.

It's very important. There has never been such... In the Bible it says that before Jesus comes, those who are clean will be cleansed. Those who are filthy will be filthier.

Everything goes through. There's nothing in between. And oh, what is there a terrible hatred.

And the love of many. There was called, the Bible says, And now you and I, we are called to represent God's love in this world. And the Bible says, Live your lives in love.

The same sort of love which Christ gives us and which he perfectly expressed when he gave himself as a sacrifice to God. You know, there is, there is a love that never fails. That is not human love.

That is God's. And that is not only God's love in his heart, but the love of God is shed abroad into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who is given to us. And that love, we must live.

And there is written, He has made us welcome into the everlasting love he bears for his Son. We are accepted in the beloved. This is a new translation.

Did you ever doubt your love for God? I doubted mine. For Jesus? Never. And into that love you and me have been made welcome.

Isn't that tremendous? And we can represent that love of God in this world that is in the grip of hatred and of fear. And that love is available through the Holy Spirit. And there is one thing that is written in the Bible when we know that Jesus is coming very soon, we must be sure that we are at peace with God and men.

How is that possible? At peace with God. Our sins come between God and us. But the Bible tells us very clear what to do with our sins.

There are two ways to know your sins. When the devil tells you your sins, he says, and so you are. And you are proud, and you are unfaithful.

That's exactly your character, and there's no hope for you, and you will always remain like that. Quite different is it when the Holy Spirit shows us our sins. It is always in the floodlight of the cross of Jesus.

And the Holy Spirit says, for these sins of yours, Jesus died at the cross. And the Bible is very clear what He will do with our sins when we confess it. He cast it into the depths of the sea, forgiven and forgotten.

It is not in the Bible, but I always think there comes a sign, no fishing allowed. He brought Him out like clouds. Did you ever see a cloud for the second time? Never.

When a cloud is away, it disappears. And that's what God will do with our sins. So when we bring our sins to the Lord, He forgives and cleanses our heart.

And heart cleansed by the Holy Spirit, He fills, cleansed by the blood of Jesus. It's love, peace, kindness, goodness, self-control, just opposite of our sins. You know, I like that little poem of John Bunyan.

He said, John, run, the law commands, but gives us neither feet nor hands. Far better news the gospel brings, it makes us fly and gives us wings. Isn't that good? And what is it? He says, love your enemies.

When Jesus tells you that, He gives you the love that He demands from you. And that is how to be at peace with men. We have to forgive.

I was not, I was not at peace with men. There was hatred in my heart. When God will call for my friends and for Betsy and me, became such a hatred in my heart.

Oh, and then I learned to take the promise of Romans 5.5. Thank you, Jesus, that you have brought through the Holy Spirit what was given to me. And thank you, Father, that your love in me a long time ago secured experience that I was set free. And after the war, I started to go over the world.

68 countries. And what it means to go through terrible suffering with Jesus.

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