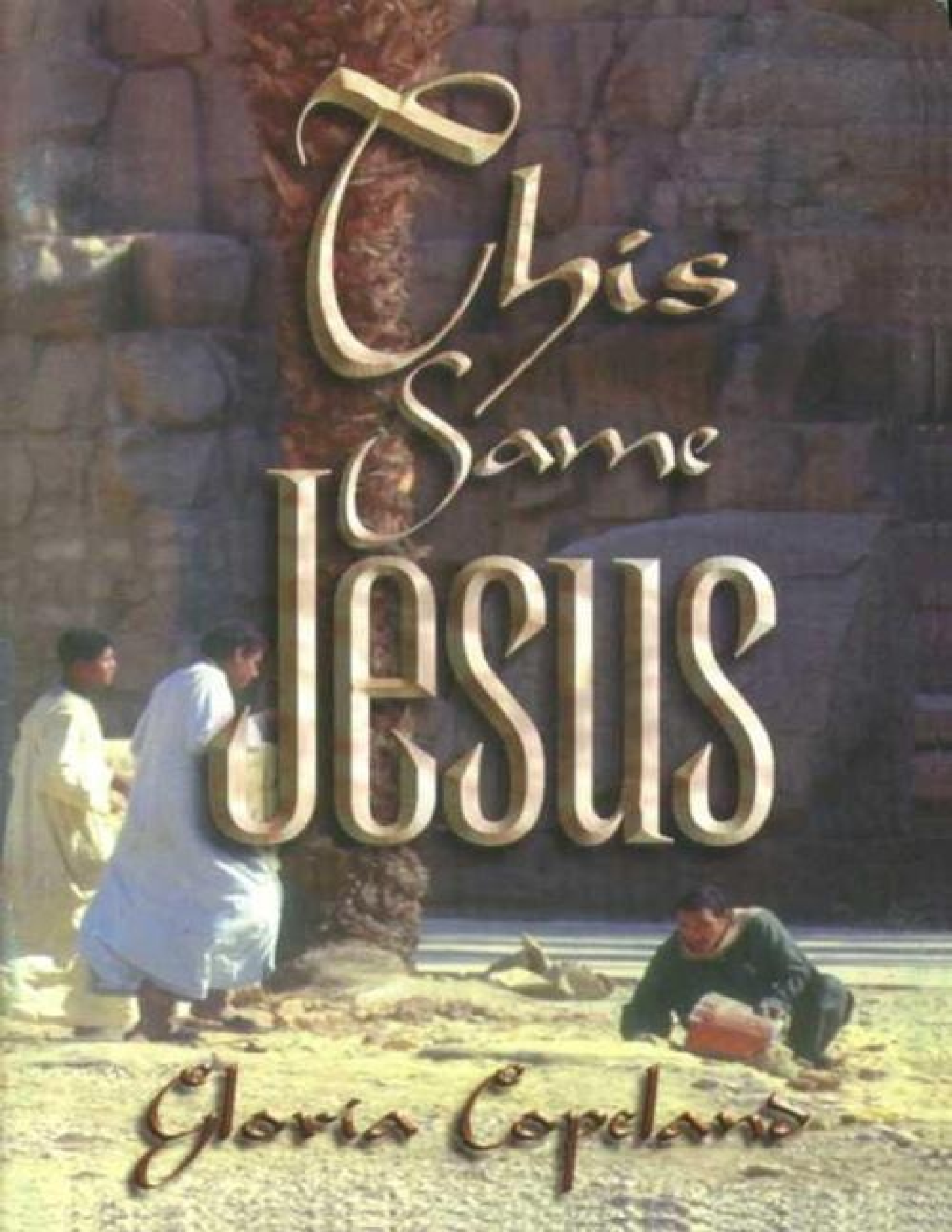
This Same
Jesus
Gloria Copeland

This Same Jesus

One of the most wonderful things about Jesus is that He never changes. I love that about Him! He's not kind one day and harsh the next. He's not ready to heal one minute and reluctant the next. He's always *"Jesus Christ [the Anointed One] the same yesterday, and today, and for ever "* (Hebrews 13:8).

He is always the same as He was in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. There, we see a Jesus Who is easily entreated. We see Him healing and delivering people at every turn. The people who came to Him on the dusty roads of Galilee didn't have to struggle and convince Him to help them. They simply asked, and He answered. It was easy for them to receive from Jesus.

Most outstanding of all, Jesus never said no to the people who came to Him in faith. He always supplied their need.

Religious tradition has taught us that at some time during the past 2,000 years, Jesus changed. He started telling people no when they asked for healing. He told them their sickness was teaching them something. Religious tradition has said the days of Jesus' miracles have passed away.

But that's just not true.

I was reading Acts recently when the Lord strongly reminded me of that. In fact, He used the first few verses of Acts 1 to impress it on my heart in a fresh way. In those verses, we see Jesus preparing to leave the earth to go sit at the Father's right hand. He is speaking to the disciples, saying:

Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? ***this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven*** *(verses 8-11).*

Don’t Reason It Away

Consider for a moment what the angel said. I know you've probably heard it many times before, but I want you to let it sink in as a revelation in your heart. He said, *"This same Jesus..."* is going to come back. *This same Jesus!*

Let me ask you something. If Jesus was one way when He was on the earth, and He is going to be the same way when He comes back, what do you think

He's going to be like during the time in between?

He's going to be the same!

This same Jesus! He's the same right now as He was when He walked the earth. He has the same heart of compassion. He's just as easily moved now as He was then. He's just as quick to heal now as He ever was. He truly is the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

That's such a simple revelation. We ought to just receive it like little children and believe it. But most of us don't. We start reasoning it away in our minds. We think, *Well my disease is so serious and I've had it for such a long time, it just couldn't be that easy for me to be healed.*

Thoughts like that are lies of the devil! Jesus healed a number of people who had been sick for a long time. It wasn't hard for Him. Nothing was hard for Him! What we need to do is quit reasoning so much and just believe!

"But Gloria," you may say, "how can Jesus minister to me the way He did to those who walked with Him 2,000 years ago? He isn't here anymore. He's in heaven."

Yes, He is in heaven, but He is still ministering here on the earth through His Word, and through the Holy Spirit Who is working through the Church. That's why He could say to the disciples just before His ascension, *"Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world"* (Matthew 28:20).

Read through the Gospels and then through Acts and you'll see that Jesus' ministry didn't change after He ascended to heaven. He just continued to do through the Church what He had done personally during His earthly ministry. Through His disciples, He continued to heal, deliver and cast out devils by the power of the Holy Ghost.

Thank God that Holy Ghost power is still in our midst. Thank God the same anointing that was on Jesus is on the Church! This same Jesus is still available to minister to us and through us today!

He Went About Doing Good

With that in mind, we can take a fresh look at what Jesus said and did during His time on earth. Let's start with Luke 4, where we see the foundational message Jesus preached everywhere He went:

The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed Me [the Anointed One, the Messiah] to preach the good news (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind; to send forth delivered those who are oppressed—who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed and broken down by calamity;

To proclaim the accepted and acceptable year of the Lord—the day when salvation and the free favors of God profusely abound (verses 18-19, The Amplified Bible).

Now remember, Jesus is still preaching that message today. So if you fall into any of the categories He listed there—if you're blind, if you're oppressed by sickness, if you're depressed, in bondage to drugs or alcohol, or simply beaten down by the calamity of this world—Jesus is here to deliver you. Today is the day of your salvation!

This is the day when the free favors of God profusely abound. Those favors haven't abated. They're still flowing today as freely as they were when Jesus first spoke those words.

If you want to see just how freely those divine favors flow, and how easy it is to obtain them, just read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and watch Jesus in action. Acts 10:38 says of Him, *"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."*

Jesus just went about doing good. He would simply go from one place to another blessing people and healing them and delivering them. It wasn't hard to get Jesus to work miracles. It was easy!

Look at one day in Jesus' life, as recorded in Mark 1, and you can see that for yourself:

On the sabbath day he (Jesus) entered into the synagogue, and taught....And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out...And Jesus rebuked him (the unclean spirit), saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this?...for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him (verses 21, 23, 25-27).

Notice what Jesus did there. He came across a man who needed a burden removed and a devil cast out of him, so He simply did it. He didn't stop there, either. The Scripture tells us He went on that day *"...into the house of Simon...But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her. And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her"* (verses 29-31).

Isn't that something? The very next place He went, Jesus ran into another need. What did Jesus do about it? He took care of it! He ministered healing. But His day wasn't over yet.

The next verses tell us that *"at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils. And all the city was gathered together at the door. And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils... "* (verses 32-34).

I love to see Jesus with the eye of my heart, walking around, loving people and ministering to them. I love to see Him go about His day casting out devils, bringing healing and working miracles!

What's more, I love to think about the fact that Jesus still wants to spend His day that way. He's still the same Jesus!

What Do You Want Him to Do for You?

It's just as easy to receive from Jesus today as it ever was. Back in the days when He walked the earth, Jesus would just be going from one place to another and someone would rush up to Him with faith in their heart, and in their mouth —and He'd do whatever they asked Him to do.

It was as simple as that! He did whatever they asked for in faith.

You can see that in the life of blind Bartimaeus. The Bible says he was sitting by the highway begging one day when Jesus came walking by: *"And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me"* (Mark 10:47-48).

Look what happened when Bartimaeus cried out: *"And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called..."* (verse 49). That's always the way Jesus was. No matter what He was doing, when a person cried out in faith, Jesus would stop and minister to that person. He's still that way. At the call of faith today, all of heaven moves to answer that prayer.

When they brought Bartimaeus to Jesus, do you know what He said? He said, *"What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?"* (verse 51). In *The Amplified Bible* it reads, *"What do you want Me to do for you?" "The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way"* (verses 51-52).

Isn't that easy? Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted. Bartimaeus answered...and Jesus did it.

Glory to God! Jesus has that same attitude toward us today. Every morning when you get up, He's saying, *What do you want Me to do for you?*

Now, you can see how foolish it is for you to go to work without praying and telling Him what He can do for you today. If you just ignore Him and go on about your busy life, you won't receive anything from Him. Because He works by faith! You have to talk to Him like Bartimaeus did—and you have to believe He'll answer!

Jesus Is an Easy Touch

Someone might say, "Now wait a minute. The healing of Bartimaeus alone

doesn't prove Jesus always responded like that. It's just one incident."

I know it, but if I had time and space here I could give you many, many others. I could tell you about the leper in Matthew 8 who came to Jesus and worshiped him, saying, *"Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean"* (verse 2).

Do you know what Jesus' response was to him? *"I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed"* (verse 3).

I could tell you about the centurion who had a sick servant and came to Jesus, saying, *"Lord...speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed"* (verse 8).

Jesus didn't say to that man, "Now, listen here. I'm the One Who decides what needs to happen in these situations and I think I need to go lay My hands on that servant." No, he simply did what the centurion asked Him to do. He said, *"Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour"* (verse 13).

I could tell you about Jairus, who fell at Jesus' feet *"And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live"* (Mark 5:23). Even though that little girl died before Jesus arrived, He still did exactly what that man said. He took her by the hand, healed her and raised her from the dead!

I could tell you about the woman who had an issue of blood for 12 years and said to herself, *"If I may touch but [Jesus'] clothes, I shall be whole"* (verse 28). No doubt by now, even if you haven't read the story, you can guess what happened to that woman.

She was healed when she touched Jesus' clothes, just like she said she'd be! And He said to her, *"Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague"* (verse 34).

Do you see how easy Jesus was to deal with back then? He's just as easy to deal with now! He is easily touched with the feeling of our infirmities (Hebrews 4:15). Whatever they said that's what Jesus said and did. And whatever you say with your mouth and believe with your heart, He'll do for you! How do I know? Because He's the same Jesus.

Whatever you need from Him today—whether it's healing in your body, deliverance from oppression, devils, drugs, pornography or anything else that has attached itself to your life—Jesus is saying, *What can I do for you? What is it that you want from Me?*

If you need money in your bank account, Jesus can handle it. He knows how to get you money. If you'll give Him faith, and you'll give Him words to work with, He'll get you whatever you need.

If you need your children to come into the kingdom of God, Jesus knows how to rescue them. He knows how to bring in your children. He's saying, *What can I do for you today?*

Whatever you want, ask for it. Believe you receive it, and put it in your mouth! Start saying what you want Jesus to bring to pass.

This same Jesus! Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, the same yesterday, today and forever, wants to move in your life. He wants to remove the burdens and destroy the yokes the devil has used to oppress you. He wants to bless you and deliver to you the profusely abounding favors of the Lord.

That was His ministry 2,000 years ago. It's still His ministry today. That's what He does every day, 24 hours a day.

Call on Him in faith and let Him do it for you.

He is the same, wonderful Jesus!

Prayer for Salvation and Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, *"Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (Acts 2:21). I am calling on You. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to Romans 10:9-10. *"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."* I do that now. I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

I am now reborn! I am a Christian—a child of Almighty God! I am saved! You also said in Your Word, *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"* (Luke 11:13). I'm also asking You to fill me with the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to speak with other tongues as You give me the utterance (Acts 2:4).

Begin to praise God for filling you with the Holy Spirit. Speak those words and syllables you receive—not in your own language, but the language given to you by the Holy Spirit. You have to use your own voice. God will not force you to speak. Worship and praise Him in your heavenly language—in other tongues.

Continue with the blessing God has given you and pray in tongues each day.

You are a born-again, Spirit-filled believer. You'll never be the same!

Find a good Word of God preaching church, and become a part of a church family who will love and care for you as you love and care for them.

We need to be hooked up to each other. It increases our strength in God. It's God's plan for us.

About the Author

For more than 32 years, Kenneth Copeland has led countless believers on a journey to maturity in the principles of faith, love, healing, prosperity, redemption and righteousness. Through the Believers Voice of Victory broadcast —one of the top five Neilsen-rated inspirational programs—and BVOV Magazine, he has brought revelation knowledge on the truths of God's Word. He has taught Christians everywhere that they can conquer the problems and challenges life brings through faith in God's Word.

