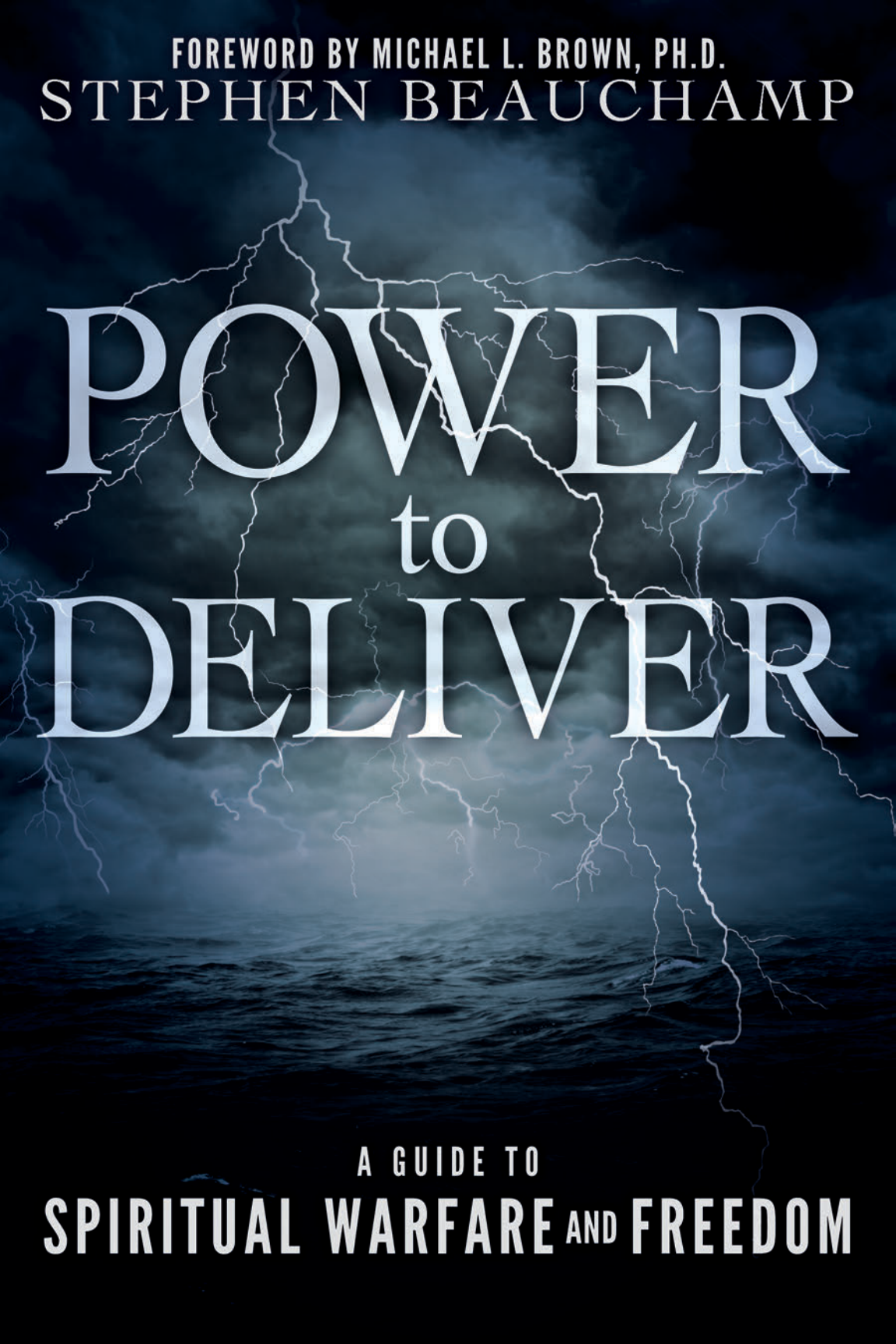


FOREWORD BY MICHAEL L. BROWN, PH.D.
STEPHEN BEAUCHAMP



POWER
to
DELIVER

A GUIDE TO
SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND FREEDOM

ENDORSEMENTS

It is encouraging to see this subject addressed with clarity, biblical integrity, and accessibility. Stephen Beauchamp has faithfully served as a leader of the IHOP-KC prophetic, healing, and deliverance ministries, and now he has translated his many years of experience into a practical deliverance resource for all believers. I recommend this book for anyone interested in developing their understanding of spiritual warfare and strengthening their approach to pastoral ministry.

MIKE BICKLE
Founder, International House of Prayer
Kansas City, MO

Stephen Beauchamp has written a clear, practical book on very controversial subjects: spiritual warfare and the Christian ministry of deliverance. His treatment is evenly grounded in Scripture and personal experience. Rather than encumber the reader with thick, theological analysis, Mr. Beauchamp offers a simple ministerial approach to helping people regain spiritual health and wholeness. The book is a very good read.

CHUCK METTEER PhD
VP of Training/Academic Dean, IHOP University

Stephen Beauchamp sheds light on the often misunderstood topic of spiritual warfare. Through personal experience and Scriptural insight he will teach you to move in faith rather than fear to victory in Jesus.

EVANGELIST DANIEL KOLENDA
President of Christ for all Nations

Stephen is a good friend, a good man, and an effective minister. His book on deliverance is excellent. Rooted in Scripture and Stephen's own journey, its wisdom will steer you from common pitfalls and equip you with solid tools to help people experience Jesus Christ's delivering power. I highly recommend it.

ROBERT GLADSTONE PHD
Director of Kings People Church Charlotte, NC

My dear friend and comrade Stephen Beauchamp has done us a great service in the writing of *Power to Deliver*. He has taken out of the treasure chest of his ministry experience and godly character rich truths to strengthen the Body of Christ. Stephen's powerful anointing in deliverance is matched by his loving, pastoral heart. This book reflects both biblical truth and pastoral, practical insight."

ALLEN HOOD
Associate Director of IHOP-KC
President of IHOP University

POWER TO DELIVER

A Guide to
SPIRITUAL WARFARE *and* FREEDOM

STEPHEN BEAUCHAMP

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DEDICATION

I WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO MY WIFE SAGE BEAUCHAMP and my sister Cindy Graham. Both of these godly women contributed greatly to the formation of who I am today. The material in this book is the direct result of the sacrifice of their time and prayers. Thank you for every way you have laid your life down that I may know Jesus. You both have loved me well.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE JANE HARRIS TO WHOM I owe all the credit for the development and completion of this project. Without Jane Harris I could not have achieved this assignment from the Lord. Your reward will be great! And my family for all the ways they supported me in my calling and pursuit of God to make this book possible. The pastors, teachers, and leaders of the Brownsville Revival. My life has been forever changed from my experience during the time of the revival. The International House of Prayer in Kansas City for providing a place for me to grow in the knowledge of God through worship, intercession, and the meditation of His word. My dear friend Allen Hood who has been such a strength to me over the years. My King Jesus whom I long to see face to face—it's all for Your glory!

Thank you all.

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FOREWORD

SPIRITUAL WARFARE. DELIVERANCE. HOW MUCH DO YOU think about these important biblical subjects?

As I read Stephen's book, I was reminded of a time in my life and ministry when these topics received a lot more attention, and yet the spiritual realm hasn't changed at all and Satan's strategies are still the same. Why, then, do so many of us think so little about this very real and important realm of activity?

It remains true that our adversary, the devil, goes about like a roaring lion, looking for those he can devour (1 Peter 5:8). It remains true that our battle is not with flesh and blood but with spiritual powers in heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12). It remains true that all authority over Satan has been given to us in Jesus (Luke 10:19; Matthew 28:18). It remains true that the Son of God came into the world to set captives free, and we are His ambassadors, proclaiming freedom, deliverance, and reconciliation (Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38; 2 Corinthians 5:20).

Why, then, are the subjects of spiritual warfare and deliverance almost off limits in many of our circles today, including so-called “Spirit-filled” circles? If the Spirit is really moving in our midst, won’t that bring with it a victorious conflict with the powers of darkness?

Perhaps we have been burned by unbiblical practices and teachings or by an overemphasis on Satan and demons or by various forms of spiritual extremism. Perhaps we have needed to refocus our eyes on the Lord Jesus and get our eyes off the enemy. To paraphrase a comment made to me years ago by a Scottish pastor, “The way some people talk you would think there was a great big devil and a little bitty God.” May we never make such a grievous mistake!

The fact is, though, if we keep our eyes on Jesus and walk in the Spirit, we will come in contact with demonic powers, some of which are holding people captive. How will we respond? And as we seek God earnestly in prayer, we will have to engage in spiritual warfare. How can we pray effectively? Just look at how much Jesus and the apostles encountered demonic powers in the Gospels and Acts, and then ask yourself: Where have all the demons gone?

If they are still here (and they are), we need to know how to deal with them effectively and biblically.

In this very practical, faith-building book, Stephen Beauchamp, a spiritual son who graduated from the Brownsville Revival School of Ministry in Pensacola, lays out clear scriptural principles for deliverance, giving no place to the flesh and demonstrating real spiritual maturity. Based on years of hands-on ministry experience, Stephen has learned to avoid common pitfalls, to answer the most important questions, and to inspire real confidence in the Spirit’s delivering power working through each of us.

Foreword

As I read this book, I was convicted by my own neglect in these areas and I was stirred afresh to see the manifestation of Jesus' victory over Satan today as we war in the Spirit for the souls of this generation.

Forward!

DR. MICHAEL L. BROWN



CHAPTER ONE

THE POWER TO DELIVER

I GREW UP IN A SMALL GEORGIA TOWN, IN A CHRISTIAN HOME. My family believed in the present-day power of the Holy Spirit, and I was exposed to many of the charismatic gifts at a young age. I remember as a boy hearing my father stand up in the middle of church and begin speaking in tongues. I didn't understand what was going on, and more importantly, I didn't understand why the things I witnessed at church seemed to have so little effect at home. I probably could not have articulated this sentiment at the time, but in my heart I knew there was a breakdown between what my family believed and how we lived.

After years of painful conflict, my parents finally divorced when I was ten. Like so many others, I chose to respond by rebelling against everyone and everything—my mom and dad, my teachers, and even God. By the time I hit high school I was drinking and partying with older students, hanging out in clubs, and experiencing the drug scene. When I turned sixteen

my dad bought me a car, and this created greater opportunities for me to immerse myself in the world of drugs. Soon I began driving into the projects of Atlanta to pick up crack cocaine. I had to tint my windows and call in advance before I showed up on a drug run in order to avoid potentially life-threatening situations.

Then things got worse. I was introduced to LSD and ecstasy at seventeen, and they became my drugs of choice. It was during this period in my life that I began to experience the realities of demonic activity. In retrospect, I can sort through my memories and differentiate between the hallucinations and demonic spirits, but at the time the lines between the two were fairly blurred. However, I do remember seeing creatures and dark shadows that I knew were distinct from the chemically-induced visions. There is a reason that taking LSD is referred to as “tripping.” This drug’s power to open up the human spirit and send individuals on a journey into the demonic realm was widely recognized during the 1960s and 1970s, when young people across the nation were searching for their spiritual identity through drugs and rock ’n’ roll. My experience was no different; when I took hits of LSD, I often saw into the spirit realm, and sometimes demons would appear in the room and talk to me. Gradually my world was consumed by darkness, violence, and addiction.

One of the few remaining good things in my life was my sister. I moved in with her in my early teens, and she immediately began to wage war for my soul. She used to anoint my room with oil when I was out of the house, and pray over a handkerchief that she placed under my pillow. I was convinced I had her fooled—that my dangerous and illegal activities were a brilliantly kept secret—but in reality she knew exactly how

bad things were. To this day it amazes me that she chose to let me remain in her house despite the risk to her family.

One morning my brother-in-law woke me up and told me he was taking me to get a drug test. My response was, “Why? I don’t do drugs.” He then proceeded to name my various dealers and contacts one by one. It turns out he and my sister had wire-tapped my phone and knew all about my secret life. When I realized this, I agreed to take the test and we drove to a nearby facility. I assumed it was a hospital, but once inside I realized I had been tricked. I was in rehab.

Although I was not allowed to contact anyone other than immediate family members, I managed to call one of my friends and ask for help in busting out. He later showed up with a ladder and hacksaw and tried to cut through the bars of my window! After that unsuccessful attempt, I gave up trying to escape and settled in to endure my time. It didn’t take me long to realize there were a lot of patients in the facility with bigger problems than mine. Despite being a rebellious drug addict, I still believed in Jesus. I started reading my Bible, and even began preaching to some of the other patients. I remember sharing the love of God with a deeply troubled and suicidal girl; I actually led her to Christ despite the fact that I wasn’t saved! God was clearly moving on my heart, but I wasn’t ready to surrender my life to Him.

I was released from rehab after a few weeks—they could not compel me to stay unless they could prove I was mentally unstable—and I returned to my sister’s house, clean and sober. For the first time in a long time I felt free. I truly believed I was a changed person, but in reality my journey into freedom (and the intense spiritual warfare it entailed) was just beginning. My system was free of drugs, but my heart and mind still belonged to darkness. Not long after my release, I met up with a group

of friends at a high school football game and they offered me a joint of marijuana. I will never forget what happened next: as I began to smoke the joint, I literally felt demonic spirits enter my body. The experience was so dark, so intense, that I actually passed out. My friends attributed it to the strength of the marijuana, but I knew something far stronger was at work.

In Matthew 12 Jesus describes the danger of emptying our lives of darkness without filling ourselves with God.

Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find it. Then it says, "I will return to my house from which I came"; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first (Matthew 12:43-45).

This was exactly what happened to me. I had grown up in the Church and so I knew about Jesus, but I did not actually know Him. And because I had yet to experience a true spiritual birth, there was nothing to fill the void left by the drugs, pain, and demonic bondage. Through the process of detoxification and counseling in rehab, I began to sweep my house and put it in order. But this was not enough. I needed more than a good cleaning; I needed to be made new. When I inhaled that marijuana at the game, it felt like everything I had gained during my time in recovery was sucked out of me in a moment. The bondage in my life really did increase sevenfold. I stood up after that experience filled with greater darkness than ever before.

For the next six months I engaged in the most severe drug abuse of my life. LSD, cocaine, crystal meth, ecstasy—I took whatever I could get my hands on. I started exchanging ecstasy for cocaine at a popular club in downtown Atlanta. The owner gave me VIP access, and my opportunities in the drug world began to rapidly expand. But my addiction was spiraling out of control.

I needed more than a good cleaning;
I needed to be made new.

That summer I went on a crystal meth drug binge. For two weeks I barely slept or ate. The binge culminated in a trip to Lollapalooza, a music festival known for its debauchery. I mixed LSD with ecstasy on that trip, which is a potentially lethal combination. The hallucinations I experienced were some of the most intense I had ever seen. I could feel demonic energy flowing through me and filling me. My friends were really concerned for me. They were afraid I was going to overdose and kill myself. But I was in way too deep to listen to them.

When I got back from the festival, a shipment of LSD I had been waiting for arrived in town. I took a friend with me to pick it up. Together we sold the majority, but I reserved some for myself. I knew I would have to double the dosage in order to feel anything with all of the other drugs in my system, so I took six hits. Soon after, my friend called with a warning. Apparently someone who purchased our LSD had taken half a hit and gone off the deep end. He stripped off all his clothes, beat up my friend's parents, and even broke a pair of handcuffs when the cops showed up to arrest him.

POWER TO DELIVER

It is hard to describe how terrified I was when I heard this news. I had just taken six hits of this LSD—and it was so potent that just half a hit had driven a man crazy and filled him with supernatural strength. I knew I was in for the ride of my life. I told everyone to leave the house where I was staying, wrapped myself in a blanket, lay down on the couch, and braced myself. My heart was racing and I was scared out of my mind. I knew I had overdosed. I couldn't talk, couldn't move—everything was melting around me. The walls were moving and voices were speaking to me. I was convinced I was going to die.

In the midst of these hallucinations I heard a demonic spirit speak directly to me: “You are mine, and you are always going to be mine.” In that moment something broke within me. I was filled with anger, and suppressed realities of the faith I had in God came rushing to the surface. I thought, “No, I am not!” Somehow I made it outside to my car and drove to my sister's house. My heart was still racing and I knew I was fighting for my life, physically and spiritually. I climbed into the shower and started singing a song I learned from my father. When I was little, he used to bring me to the church late at night and let me listen as he played and sang to the Lord. This is the song that came to me in the shower that night:

*I love You, Lord
And I lift my voice
To worship You
Oh, my soul rejoice
Take joy, my King
In what You hear
Let it be a sweet,
Sweet sound in Your ear.¹*

As I was worshipping, the presence of the Holy Spirit filled the shower. I fell to my knees, weeping uncontrollably and thanking Jesus. I was so overwhelmed by the power of God I couldn't even feel the water falling on me. I didn't understand what was happening, I didn't have the language to explain everything I was feeling, but I knew God was there. I literally crawled out of that shower on my hands and knees and made my way to my room—the same room where my sister had been praying for God to encounter me year after year! As I knelt on the floor, trembling and weeping with my eyes tightly closed, I saw Jesus walking toward me. He put His arm around me and said, “I am faithful, and I will establish you and guard you from the evil one.” He was quoting 2 Thessalonians 3:3, though I didn't know it at the time.

Immediately, in the midst of an overdose, I became sober. Despite my years of addiction, I had no withdrawal symptoms. I was set free in an instant. With just one touch, Jesus Christ saved my soul and delivered me from demonic bondage. From that moment, I threw myself into my faith as radically as I had once pursued drugs. I *knew* the power of God was real, and I was desperately hungry for more.

“I am faithful, and I will establish you
and guard you from the evil one.”

I started attending services at a local church in Atlanta, and in many ways this was an incredible blessing. The members disciplined me in my earliest days of faith (which couldn't have been easy), and they gave me a foundation in the Word of God. However, there were some inconsistencies in their approach to the power of the Holy Spirit, and this ended up creating trouble

for me. I like to describe the church as an interesting fusion of Baptist and Pentecostal tendencies: they believed in the power of the Spirit, but there was enough structure and order to keep the more conservative members of the congregation happy. At the time, of course, I didn't understand the tension between these tendencies. I just knew that God was real and He had the power to heal, save, and deliver. I also knew the enemy was real and the battle for each and every human soul was inevitable.

I wanted to do everything I could to prepare for this battle. And so I walked into church looking for something real, something from heaven to fill me with light. I remember hearing messages preached on Matthew 10:7-8 and the power of God:

And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

This was what I was desperately seeking! According to these verses, Jesus promised to release the power to destroy every work of darkness I had ever encountered. I eagerly anticipated seeing this power manifest in the lives of believers around me. Instead, I saw people who loved to talk about power but mostly lived without the reality. My anticipation turned to disappointment and frustration. Where was the healing and deliverance? Where were the things God promised in His Word?

Most Christians hear hundreds of messages each year, yet have so little fruit to show for it. Have you ever stopped to ask why?

Many of you can probably relate to this disappointment and frustration. My experience is not an isolated one. Too many congregations are filled with leaders and believers who profess a theology of power but never see the manifestation. Most Christians hear hundreds of messages each year, yet have so little fruit to show for it. Have you ever stopped to ask why? Where is the breakdown? Why do we say we believe in God's power when we barely walk in it?

The answer to these questions is found in the book of James. Here, the apostle highlights a form of deception which has become widespread in the Body of Christ today:

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only,
deceiving yourselves* (James 1:22 NKJV).

When we hear something and fail to put it into practice, we make ourselves vulnerable to deception. There are many ways this can happen. Some believers choose outright rebellion, refusing to obey God's Word, while others are held back by fear and brokenness. However, I want to specifically highlight a form of deception that I call "secondhand faith." It is not enough to know someone who knows someone who walks in the power of God, or to learn about the miraculous healings occurring in distant places. Simply hearing about the power of God secondhand is dangerous. The more we hear, the more we tend to appropriate these stories for ourselves until we can no longer distinguish between the testimony of another and the fruit in our own lives. We end up believing we walk in the power of God because we have heard about it. This is deception!

Art Katz, a well-known theologian and preacher, made this challenging statement regarding our tendency to divorce the Word of God from action: "Truth must be lived, or it will

cease to be truth.”² If we believe in the Word of God and claim to have received the authority to heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out demons, yet fail to exercise this authority, can we really say we walk in truth? You see, truth is not just correct information; truth is a Person. Jesus declared, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). The manifestation of truth ought to be the life of Christ overflowing from within the human spirit.

This reality characterized the ministry of the apostles. On the day of Pentecost, when Peter stood up and proclaimed the gospel, it says those who heard him were cut to the heart and three thousand were converted (see Acts 2:37, 41). The crowds were not swayed by Peter’s oratory. Only weeks ago, they had cried out for the death of Jesus. It takes more than charismatic preaching to transform hardened, bloodthirsty men and women into repentant believers. This was the power of God anointing words of truth spoken by a radically surrendered vessel conformed to that very truth.

If Peter were to visit our congregations today, what would he say? We need to repent for seeking information rather than revelation, substituting doctrine for truth, and settling for a powerless form of Christianity. Please do not think for one minute that I am standing at a distance and condemning anyone. Every man and woman on earth operates in a certain measure of deception. This is why we are in desperate need of the proclamation of the gospel and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. When truth is anointed and illuminated by the Spirit, deception is exposed and we are empowered to choose life or death, truth or falsehood. Truth is never passive; it always provokes a response and produces change, whether positive (repentance) or negative (rebellion). There is no middle ground.

I am convinced the only antidote to the entrenched deception within the western church lies in acknowledging our lack and returning to the spirit of truth. I often tell my students that if I say I believe in healing but do not see anyone healed when I pray for them, then the only thing I should be preaching about is our desperate need for more of God. It doesn't matter how well I perform in the pulpit, or how many scriptures I have memorized. The question I have to ask is whether the people I encounter are being set free, because only truth has the power to release freedom (see John 8:32).

The absence of power in the Church was my greatest source of frustration as a new believer. Though I probably would not have used this language at the time, in my heart I was desperate for truth. I didn't want power to just be a good message. I wanted it to be a testimony, a reality in my life. This desire ultimately led me to Pensacola, Florida and the Brownsville Revival.

NOTES

1. Laurie Klein, "I Love You, Lord," House of Mercy Music, 1978.
2. Arthur Katz, *The Spirit of Truth* (Burning Bush Press, 2008), 4.

ABOUT STEPHEN BEAUCHAMP

STEPHEN BEAUCHAMP IS THE DIRECTOR OF PROPHETIC, Healing, and Deliverance training at IHOP University in Kansas City, Missouri and has been in the deliverance ministry for over ten years. Stephen and his wife, Sage, are both graduates of the Brownsville Revival School of Ministry and are itinerate all over the world spreading the message of spiritual revival.

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