RELIGIOUS BUT LOST

OR

HOW GOD SAVED A PREACHER'S WIFE

by: Becky McGilliard

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On December 6, 1980 on a Thursday morning I, Becky McGilliard, the wife of an evangelist was marvelously saved by the grace of God. Now some may ask why I wasn't saved before then, especially those that know how we live, every night in a revival service, and also how strong my husband preaches on real salvation. Why? Because Satan had slipped me some counterfeits, which I want to tell you about in the next few pages. Please continue to read since there is a good chance that Satan may have slipped you one of these, too. Are you aware that few people have a know so salvation? My husband has never doubted his salvation since July 31, 1964, which is the day he was saved. He has never doubted, but yet I seemed to be plagued with doubts. Is this you? If it is, I wish you would read the rest of this little book because you are not alone. God showed me through His word why I had the doubts and He will also show you.

Counterfeit I

I went to church with my grandparents from the time I was five years old. I guess I just grew up liking church. It wasn't a duty to go, I enjoyed it. When I was about twelve, we had a revival and a group of us kids were sitting in our usual place on the back row. That particular night the evangelist preached on Hell. At the invitation one of us said, "I'll go up if you will." So we all went forward. The pastor met me in the aisle, shook my hand and said, "Do you want to be saved?" I remember how my knees shook and I whispered,

"Yes." He then said for me to sit on the front pew. At the close of the invitation he lined us up and told the folks we were saved. The next Sunday night we were baptized. My grandparents were so happy and so was I. The preacher had said that I was saved, so surely I was saved.

Time went on and I grew older. We had G.A.'s in our church and my sisters and I worked hard on our steps. Some of us girls started a quartet and began singing at church. Soon other churches were asking us to sing. I was so happy because I felt that God was so proud of me.

Counterfeit II

By the time I was nineteen, our group was singing regularly. We lost our piano player but my girlfriend who was also in the group knew a person who agreed to play for us. This person later became my husband. On the first time I saw him I felt sorry for him because he was crippled but after a couple of hours of knowing him I had already fallen for him. He was so full of life, actually he was full of Christ and it just kind of spilled out of him. Anyway he kind of became our boss. He took us to the singing, had prayer before we sang, and on the way home. Actually, before this the only time I prayed was at church. I wanted him to think I was spiritual so I began reading my Bible. Bob used to call me at night and read family altar to me over the phone. I began to realize that what he had was real. He did more than just talk it, he lived it. One night in October of 1969, our group sang at a revival

Bob's pastor was preaching. He preached on, "Lost, Hell bound church members." I was so frightened because I knew that was me. After church I calmed down so as we got in the car I told Bobby that I had doubts and he stopped the car and took me back in to talk to Bro. Jim. They opened the Bible and started showing me how to be saved. Now here I need to explain that it wasn't their fault I didn't get saved, it was mine. You see I was so scared and I didn't really listen. The only thing that caught my attention was when he said, "Now do you want to ask the Lord to save you?" So I did, I got on my knees and asked the Lord to save me. I can see you scratching your head and saying, "What's counterfeit about that? That's what you do to be saved. I don't understand!" Well, in a minute I'll explain but first, let me tell you the last two counterfeits.

Counterfeit III

As the time passed, Bobby fell in love with me and on May 25, 1973, we were married. We were married on Friday and started a revival in Callao, Virginia on Sunday. By now I had learned my Bible well. I could lead anyone to the Lord. I could teach and everything was fine except for the doubts. Why did I have doubts and Bobby didn't? Oh, by the way, I didn't have them every day. They would only show up once every 3 or 4 months. On these nights I used to keep Bobby awake and ask him what was the matter with me. He would open his Bible and go over it again and again. Again and again, I would kneel and say,

"Lord, if I'm lost – save me." Sometimes I would say, "Lord, if I'm lost let Bro. So and So ask me." You see I was wanting some sort of a sign. As time went on I started just rededicating my life whenever I had doubts. I can hear you saying, "Oh, how did you know that I do that?" I was still happy most of the time because I saw God work in people's lives through my husband's ministry. Then I accepted counterfeit IV.

Counterfeit IV

I had now been married six years. In these six years I'd seen over 3,000 folks saved, yet here I was still having doubts. I think my husband had just about given up on me when I came up with counterfeit IV. It just came to me and I became very satisfied with it. Here it is: Some people have strong dogmatic personalities – this was Bobby. Then other people like me were just weak and because of this, because of my emotional make-up, I would never have "Full Assurance." Now I was happy it wasn't my fault. I doubted it just because God made me that way. By the way, in all the seven years we were married, no one but Bobby ever knew I doubted.

Now I ask you, "Is this you? How many times have you been like I was?" What's amazing is that now I have that Know-So-Salvation. Let me tell you about it on the next few pages. What is so precious about it is that the more I tell it – the more I want to shout, "I KNOW I'M SAVED!"

Real Salvation

On Thursday, December 4, 1980, we were in

revival in Milton, Florida. We were having services both in the morning and the evening. Folks all around were getting saved and a couple of years back I would have been doubting my salvation but since I had accepted counterfeit IV, it no longer disturbed me. I thought that I would never have a know-so-salvation but I was saved because I had done all that I was supposed to do. That morning the pastor, Dr. Mac Johnson, was talking before he introduced my husband and said he wanted to read a verse. That verse was Isaiah 32:17.

"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and **assurance for ever.**" That verse gripped my heart. I wasn't saved because I didn't have assurance. There it was in black and white on the pages of God's precious book. For the first time in all my 29½ years I knew that I, Becky McGilliard was lost. Not might be lost but definitely lost and on the way to Hell. Satan had blinded me. I had good works but no salvation. I sat there in amazement, scared, but I knew I was lost. I read the verse over and over and in that verse was also how to be saved. The work of righteousness: "Who is this?" None other but Jesus Christ, He is the Righteousness of God and His work was dying on Calvary. His death on Calvary will bring to them that believe it — PEACE. Oh my, I saw it! There was nothing that I could do to go to Heaven but what Christ did for me. He died, was buried, and rose again that I could go to Heaven if I would just trust that. You see I knew before that Christ

had died but I didn't trust that, instead I trusted in what I prayed. All the nights I prayed, "Lord save me," was because I thought I had to do part of it but I didn't.

Romans 10:13 says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Many have taken that verse out of context and say that if you pray, you'll be saved, but that's not true. The very next line says, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?" I prayed not because I believed in what Christ had done but because I thought that was saving me. If that were true then Jesus would not have had to die. We could just pray and get to Heaven. Oh, it is so simple, yet we in our foolish pride want to do something, instead of just believe. At the moment I took God at His Word, and put faith in what Christ had done to save me — I was saved! When the invitation was given, I was to play the piano. So I went to the piano and knelt down beside it and thanked Him for what He had done for me.

From that day on I have had the rest of that verse, "The effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever." No longer when it gets late and Bobby is not home do I feel that the rapture has taken place because I have that quietness and the assurance for ever. Now friend, if this sounds like you, my prayer is that you will put your faith in Christ's finished work. At that moment you too will have a Know-So-Salvation. Don't worry about folks putting you down. Those that are really saved will be thrilled, my husband was, and

those that aren't saved won't understand but you can help them to see the truth.

That truth is the truth that is in John 3:16.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Note that it does not say whosoever prayeth but believeth.

It is my request that if this little booklet has helped you, please write us and let us rejoice with you.

See You in the Rapture,
Becky McGilliard

The story you have just read is true and nothing has been changed. I'm so thankful for that day when Becky really trusted the Lord. It didn't change the way she lived because she was already the cleanest living lady I've ever met. She was a great wife and mother of our children. The real difference is a total change of attitude from a spirit of fear to one of peace. (See II Timothy 1:7.) This has helped Becky and myself to better deal with others who had similar problems and hundreds have been saved because of it.

Please don't let Satan slip you a counterfeit. If you have anything less than real salvation Hell will be your home for all eternity. Make sure today!

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