

214. Tell Sickness About God

By Arland Steen

John Tesh is an American pianist and composer of pop music, as well as a radio host and television presenter. His *Your Life* radio show airs on 300 stations. He was a co-host for *Entertainment Tonight* from 1986 – 1996.

He is also a Christian raised Baptist. He was involved in church during his youth, played organ, sang in the choir and attended youth camps. He became inactive during his adult life but became involved again after his future wife introduced him to pastor Louis Lapidès. I almost fell out of my car this past week as I was in a parking lot about to exit when I heard this.

John Tesh interview on *The Story* with Martha MacCallum

John Tesh said: *

"When the cancer kept coming back, at a certain point, we were in a study on basic scriptures – Mark 11:23 and Proverbs 18:21. It's the promise that when Jesus went to the Cross, He took not only our sins but He also took our sicknesses. We believed on that and got the revelation of that.

When it came time for one more big treatment which was 62 treatments of radiating my pelvis, and they told us of all the complications, faith was born in earnest at that point. Connie and I shared a look in the exam room and it was like, 'We're done with this. We're gonna stand on our faith.' So, originally, we had faith for the doctors and I wouldn't be alive if weren't for them. But ultimately, I've been well for two years... My blood tests are clear.

*It's a different kind of way to pray. You're not begging God. *Instead of telling God about your sickness, you're telling your sickness about God. Mark 11:23 quickly, is: "Whoever says to this mountain be removed and be cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will be done, will have what he says."*

When you speak life over yourself, you end up with a better result."

Mark 11:23

(NKJ): *For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.*

For assuredly, I say to you:

Jesus is speaking and He shouldn't have to use the word "assuredly" but He does. Maybe He does because He knew people would doubt this.

Whoever:

Who is included in the word "whoever?"

Says to this mountain:

Not thinks, considers, comes to a conclusion or believes but whoever "says."

Be removed:

Please, leave? Please, go away? Please, don't bother me? No. "Be removed" is a command.

When you are able to command something, it's because you recognize you have authority to do so.

You need to know God has given you authority in life over sickness and disease or any other obstacle.

And he cast into the sea:

What is the significance of that? When something is cast into the sea, you can't even see it any longer because the sea is so vast and deep.

And does not doubt in his heart:

That is your spirit. Not your mind!

Faith will work with doubt in your mind! Just don't allow it to slip a foot-and-a-half and get into your heart. Then, it won't work.

But believes those things he says will be done:

Where does the believing come from? The Word that Jesus has spoken to you or the Word that you have read from your Bible or Bible app that is lodged in your heart.

If you "believe the things" you say, Jesus says it will be done.

He will have whatever he says.

This doesn't say, "He will have whatever he says IMMEDIATELY."

Compare Mark 11:13 with 11:20. In Jesus' case, it was the next day. So, it's not immediate but it is within a "reasonable amount of time."

There are two things that stand out to me about this passage:

First is the amazement of the disciples when they saw what Jesus told the fig tree come to pass.

Second is the casual attitude of Jesus about the incident expressed in His reply. He seemed to be saying, "And you are amazed about this? Anyone who can run their mouth can do the same thing if they believe their words will come to pass."

Proverbs 18:21

(NKJ): *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*

(Complete Jewish Bible): *The tongue has power over life and death; those who indulge it must eat its fruit.*

(Contemporary English Version): *Words can bring death or life! Talk too much, and you will eat everything you say.*

(Easy-To-Read): *The tongue can speak words that bring life or death. Those who love to talk must be ready to accept what it brings.*

(Living Bible): *Those who love to talk will suffer the consequences. Men have died for saying the wrong thing.*

Johnny Hart

DOB = February 18, 1931

DOD = April 7, 2007 (76)

There was a young boy born February 18, 1931 and all he ever wanted to do with his life was draw. He never considered doing anything else. His life was one long example of the power of words but he didn't know it until the early 1990's.

As a young man in the Air Force, he would come home every night and draw. Many times, he would get a clear mental picture of what he wanted to draw but was unable to duplicate it on paper. One frustrating night he accidentally spilled ink all over his paper and snapped. He kicked the table over and was ranting like a mad man. He looked up and saw his wife and shouted to her, "Before I'm 27 years old I will have a nationally syndicated comic strip!"

It was a number of years and many frustrating failures before the New York Herald Tribune finally bought his comic strip. On the evening of February 17, 1958 his biggest success – *B.C.* – began national daily appearances.

Also, on that evening his wife asked him if he remembered what he had said the night he kicked the table over but he didn't.

So, she told him and of course the next day he turned 27.

He was also the co-creator of another successful strip called *The Wizard of Id*. At the time he simply thought it was just a strange coincidence. But what he discovered was one of the purposes of speech, which is to change things.

The man's name is Johnny Hart.

It wasn't until 1977 when a father-son team of contractors was installing a satellite dish in his home and witnessed to him about Jesus that he began living for God and this began to be reflected in his comic strips.

He passed away in 2007 at the age of 76.

Gerald James Wilson

DOB = September 23, 1955

DOD = September 14, 1986 (30)

A young boy was born on September 23, 1955 and grew up in a Pentecostal church. He was saved when he was 13 years of age and at age 19 (1974) found himself in Europe guarding a nuclear weapons site. He was under so much stress that he began having complications in his urinary tract. Doctors told him if he did not have regular treatments, he would not live past his 30th birthday.

When people in positions of authority tell you something, it tends to stick with you. The doctor said, "If you don't have regular treatments, you won't live past your 30th birthday."

He started attending our church in 1984. He was a bass player and joined our Praise Team. He eventually married a young girl who also attended the church. He was a great guy, loved his pastor and believed in the vision of the church. He had the treatments recommended by the doctor for a while but got tired of being poked and probed and stopped them.

I didn't find out about any of this until the day in the late summer of 1986 when he came to my house and informed me that he was having physical problems again and related his medical history that I just told you.

The first question I asked him was, "Why didn't you let me know about this sooner so I could stand in faith with you?" His answer at the time perplexed and frustrated me. He said, "Pastor, I know you are a busy man and I didn't want to bother you." I felt horrible. Bother me? It wouldn't bother me. I thought to myself - 'that's the reason I'm here.'

But in fairness to him, understand my life *was* extremely full at the time. I had a growing church. Attendance and giving was at an all-time high. I was preaching three services each week, conducting weekly staff meetings and having corporate prayer once a week. We were six months into a capital stewardship campaign to raise half a million dollars in 3 years. Plus, my mother was scheduled for surgery in SC to remove a tumor and my father recently had a light heart attack. Jerry was aware of this.

Can't you imagine how the words of that doctor must have haunted him for 10 years. All during his 20's he could hear the doctor's voice saying, "You won't live past 30, you won't live past 30, past 30." At some point fear got a foothold in his mind.

In a few weeks Jerry ended up in the hospital. We tried to pump the Word into him and pray with him but at this late stage it was an uphill battle. He was going into surgery and on that Thursday morning in September (the 11th) 1986 I left the house at 5:15 AM to pray with him. Then I spent the day with our engineer and architect to discuss floor plans for the new church we were planning to build. While there I got a call that the doctor could do nothing for Jerry. Two days later

(Saturday, September 13, 1986) I spent six hours with Jerry in the hospital. His kidneys were shutting down and he was on morphine.

The next day we celebrated our 5th church anniversary with 11 testimonies from church members and received \$30,000 for our building fund. But at 10:15 PM that night Jerry passed away with me and 3 others present.

Remember what the doctor said years earlier? You won't make it past age 30. Jerry passed away on September 14, 1986. I presided over his funeral 5 days *before* his 31st birthday.

Proverbs 18:21 says, *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*