

My Testimony

by Heather Olson



My name is Heather Olson and this is the story of how God, in His grace, saved my precious soul.

I was born in 1949 in Vancouver, British Columbia, to Marie and Fred Lougheed. I was their only daughter and Rick their only son. Mom and Dad were very good to us in the event of a protected life.

Life was not always easy for me, especially after I started high school. Due to different circumstances I hated school, and due to problems with my eyesight, everything was a struggle. I was thankful I was able to finish grade 12 with the rest of my peers.

The teenage years were ones of heartache and struggle. When I was 20 years of age, I was introduced to a man and we began dating. In time we eventually became engaged to be married, only to be devastated by the news that he was about to father a child out of wedlock to another young lady. To me, the minister did not handle the situation in a spiritual manner which gave me bad feelings about religion.

When I was in my thirty's, another gentleman, with whom I had high hopes, came into my life. Again devastation caused me heartaches for it was soon evident that he was an alcoholic and an abuser. It was at this time, although I did not realize it, God tried to get my attention. We were in a bad car accident, in which we were rear ended, and despite having a canister of gas in the back of the car, God's mercy was manifested when it did not explode. I ended the relationship and went back to live with my parents. Looking back, it is evident God had other plans for me. His mercy was great for had I died in that accident I would have immediately been in Hell. I had never had a living relationship with the Lord Jesus, and knowing almost nothing about salvation, I was "without hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12).

Becoming very lonely and despondent, I was in my bedroom one night crying when my parents suggested that I go back to church. Being somewhat reluctant because of the previous experience, I was hesitating when my brother came with the same suggestion. Skepticism still filled my heart.

It was at this point that I decided the only thing I could do was turn the whole situation over to someone who could help. Getting down on my knees I prayed to God that he would bring a man into my life who would love me for just the way I was.

Some time later I was on a cruise in the Mediterranean with my girlfriend. Shortly afterwards she introduced me to Don, the man who is now my husband. We started dating and were married in October 1977. Besides the Lord, my husband is the best gift God has ever given me.

Shortly after we were married I was diagnosed with cancer. I had to have surgery and as of this year, I have been 30 years cancer free. I thank the Lord for his mercy and loving kindness.

My husband Don started reading a booklet on spiritual matters and this aroused my interest in spiritual things. A friend from years past, Mr. John Matheson and his wife gently nudged us in the "way" of the Lord. They recommended that we watch Jack Van Impe on the TV. We also started listening to David Hocking on the radio. Because of my past I was deeply convicted.

I professed my faith in the Lord in the early 1990's while listening to the Jack Van Impe TV program. For this I will forever be thankful for the life God has given me, and I know I can always rely on him and that I will be with him forever. He is faithful, and no matter what the circumstances, I will always put my faith and trust in him.

The following verses have been very dear to my heart.

“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

(Hebrews 13:5)

“Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go before thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake me. And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.”

(Deuteronomy 31:6, 8)