Bruxelles October 2008

## ARISE...

(Testimony of my calling to the ministry.)

It is an absolute duty, for every man who claims to be called of God, to give testimony to men especially to the people of God, to explain how he has been called and give the purpose of his calling.

It is important for the people of God to be taught in such a manner that they will recognize the true ministers of God, who should be honored as servants of God as they really serve God, but also the so-called servants who seek only the glory and popularity.

We are living in the time where people love pleasure more than God; they like to be called servants of God when they are not. In reality, they serve their master Satan.

"Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love m: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God."

John 8: 42-47.

All true servants of God really serve God.

What is sad is to note that today the people of God accept anyone and anything. The scripture is clear enough telling us:

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, BUT TRY THE SPIRITS WHETHER

THEY ARE OF GOD: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4: 1-2.

It is not a lack of respect toward a person who calls himself a servant of God, to ask him the testimony of his calling; it is an absolute duty for every son and daughter of God.

It shows respect toward the Word of God and this must be put into practice.

We have not been asked to despise anybody or his testimony but to try the spirits. We recognize the tree by its fruit, even if the tree is covered by many leaves, that is to say much of: « me, I am » etc. What we need, is to see the fruit that the tree bears. Everybody has the Lord Jesus Christ as their reference. Every church refers to him but the fruits show which one is the real church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We should consider that every seed should produce according to his kind. Even those which are grafted; they may receive the same sap that goes from the main seed but the fruits they will bear will prove from which seed they are from.

The Bible says: « We shall then discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not ».

May the people of God be reassured, things will not continue as before. It seems as if God was not seeing and was not acting, but the One who created the ear would He not hear? The One who created the eyes would He not see?

I was very touched by an e-mail from a brother who, after reading the <u>testimony from above</u>, (see website) wrote to me asking me to give the testimony of my calling and to say what my ministry is. I find this right and correct from his part. It is only because of this that I was led to put in writing my testimony because I had responded to him by saying: "I'll do it and I will make it available to everybody".

Here is the e-mail from the beloved brother:

From: Kazadi

Sent: Friday, May 18 2007 11:32 To: International Mission Center

Subject: RE: comments on the photo (column of fire)

### "Thank you for your reply brothers

I am surprised to have the response to a question that I did not ask My question is, as it was the case of Moses and Brother Branham in the pillar of fire there was a voice and for Brother Lifese what is the voice that came out from the pillar of fire? In the commentary it is written that it is the testimony from above. So when God testifies he speaks.

If then He did not speak when this pillar of fire appeared I am curious to know the words that the Lord had already spoken to Brother Lifese even under other circumstances. If he is an apostle, pastor, evangelist etc... I want to know what the Lord had already said to him because every servant of God must introduce himself, we must know his divine calling, his commission, his genealogical tree.

It is written "do whatever he tells you." We know by the grace of God what God told Brother Branham, Brother Frank, Brother Barilier, Brother Genton. In other words I want to know in detail the divine calling of Brother Lifese because my concern is to receive those who God has sent because by receiving them I receive God. "Those who listen to you listen to me." By accepting the testimony of the divine calling of the brother I will know where to stand because the children of God listen to the words of God and those who are of God say the words of God. So this story concerning the question of the authentication of the photo by science is not my question, because being a child of God I have nothing to do with science. You have wearied from my preoccupations. Today the true children of God must listen only to the preachers who are sent that is why I am asking to know the divine calling of Brother Lifese who we see nearby Brother Frank and Brother Barilier, who we know by revelation after their testimony. Thank you I expect to read from you. May peace be with you"

#### Brother Kazadi.

I will start the testimony of my calling to the ministry by the words of this scripture in Acts 26: 16 – 23:

"But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sin, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judæa, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me. Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the gentiles."

I give glory to the Lord for He has permitted me today to give the testimony of my calling in writing because I have already done so verbally on several occasions in different countries.

I must admit one thing. If the Lord did not give me the grace to accept Him as my personal Savior, you would never hear of a certain Leonard LIFESE. Indeed, since I was a child until the age of fifteen, no one had ever preached the Word of God to me, I had never read the Bible, I was living like all the young people of my age at that time. But the only difference was, I feared and had respect for God in my heart.

I could not act as the youth of my age because something always

prevented me to do so. In my heart I tried to be like others. But there was a barrier every time. What was strange was that I knelt down, and prayed to God without knowing Him, I referred to Him as a father without knowing what it was all about. I was someone who loved my studies. I remember that every time before going to take my exams, I prayed to God telling Him that if I succeeded it was not because I was intelligent but it was because of his help.

I always succeeded and I knew that it was this God who was helping me. But there is something unforgettable that happened to me that I could never explain to myself. One day I was passing by a Catholic church, the doors were opened; people were entering to pray because there was no mass on that day. As I was passing by, I had the desire to enter. I was about thirteen and a half years old; there I kneeled like everyone else, I was in a corner. This is where I realized something strange, I began to think of the Lord, I felt guilt and regret for my sins. A deep sense of sadness took hold of me, I started crying and I repented. I asked the Lord to forgive my sins; I cried with deep regret of any harm that I had done. I was alone and no one had talked to me about repentance or how to pray to God. I cried, I prayed and I did not realize there were people around me. When I finished, I felt and found myself a little strange for what had happened to me. I am deeply marked till this day.

In the years 1979 and 1980 there was an upheaval in my life. Indeed, I was studying, it was my only occupation, I liked studying, I've never repeated a year, I was always passing. This situation caused certain people to hate me seeing that I was succeeding and they were not. They decided to kill me, they first planned to make me crazy and secondly to finish off with me. You wonder how I knew this, is it not so?

Here's how I knew it! It was during the exams, I had to study for my exams but something strange was happening. Whenever I took my books to study, I felt unbearable and inexplicable headaches. It was not the whole head but only the forehead. I was suffering terribly; I

was not able to concentrate to read the books. As I liked studying, I forced myself to study while suffering. Despite the pain, I did not say anything to my parents. So one day, a cousin by marriage came to visit us; he invited my parents to go to his church where he prayed. As the parents could not go there, he asked his Pastor and some members of his church to come to the house to pray.

They came to my house, my parents were there and I was at school. It was during the exams and I was on my way back home. While I was on the way, the members of that church were praying in our home and a prophecy came out saying: "There are two children who are of this house, they are coming back from school, both are on the way to the house, but one of them is making the other suffer." Indeed, we were two, we left school, we were coming back home and the one that was suffering was me. I was unaware of what was happening at home; moreover I did not know these people and they also did not know me.

I was seized by the following: Entering the house, I found people inside praying in a wonderful atmosphere of holiness. Suddenly, a woman under the influence of a power that I did not know looked at me and told me: "You, you have pain at your forehead, you are suffering a lot."

I was shakened, put yourself in my place! I did not know this lady I had never seen her and she did not know me. It was the first time she saw me, neither did my parents know what I had. But she, from the first time she saw me, pointed her finger at me and told me exactly my problem. Imagine the fear that came over me!

I had never heard or seen such a thing! God was in action! I would like to clarify here that these people did not belong to a church of the message. No, they did not know the message but they knew the God of the Bible.

After she told me this, she then said: "If you believe and we pray, the thing will go".

I immediately said yes, I want them to pray for me. When I said this,

they asked the Pastor to pray for me. In truth, this man was really a servant of God, he prayed for me and since that day the headaches left me. It was at that time that the origin of my pain was revealed. It was revealed that this young boy, with whom I was, had the spirit of witchcraft; he hated me with the members of his clan. They decided to kill me but first they wanted to take my intelligence away. That was the reason for the pain I had. After that, I will become crazy and it is at this time that they would kill me. Indeed, it was that day that the young boy, before witnesses, acknowledged and confessed everything. Hatred, slander, Cain and Abel, Jesus and Judas it has always been like that.

What did I do to these people? Nothing! They wanted to kill me because of jealousy because the young man said:

"We wanted to kill him because he is succeeding in his studies and he is going to succeed in his life."

After they prayed for me and all these things were revealed, they asked us to go to pray with them in their church, they invited my parents to go there and the parents invited us.

I agreed to go. The first time I went to the church, I was struck by the spiritual atmosphere which was even in the precincts of the plot, the consecration of these people to God; it inspired respect and fear, I had the impression of being in the midst of the angels. God was acting powerfully in this small church. I started going with my parents but I did not want to give my heart to the Lord Jesus Christ. I said to myself that I was still young, I had time and I will give my heart to the Lord when I reach fifty years of age. In fact, I was going to that church, I was listening to the sermons but I was not paying attention because I was preoccupied with my projects. In reality, I was running away, I did not want to give my heart to God.

But one day, I've never forgotten that day. It was a Sunday morning; I was still going to the church. But that day would be marked in my life and I did not know. Indeed this day, there was a Preacher who came from another church to visit the church where I was going. He

took his Bible and opened it in the book of Matthew in Chapter 25 and read from verse 31 to Verse 46.

## The scripture was saying:

"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungred, and fed thee? Or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these brethren, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was hungred, and ye gave men no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them saying, Verily, I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. »

It was like a bomb for me, I had never heard this scripture. It was the first time for me in my life to hear that the Lord Jesus Christ would return. I thought that the end was when death strikes us and it is when we die that we'll see Him but never that He will return. It was new for me. When I heard that He will come back, I no longer

paid attention to the Preacher. The reading of only this scripture was enough to turn my life around. I said this: Where will I be if he returned today? I knew that if he returned that day in the condition in which I was, it was hell that was waiting for me. All my plans were forgotten, I needed salvation. I felt that day the need to be saved. They did not even make the call to the altar to ask if there was someone who wanted to give his life to the Lord. I had not even waited until they made the call to the altar. Myself on the bench where I was sitting, I said:

"Lord Jesus Christ, even today, I accept you as my personal Savior, I give you my heart, my soul and everything that I am, I leave everything in your hands."

I was alone sitting on my bench that Sunday.

Having said that, something really happened, I felt as if a weight had left my heart, I felt very light, I saw as if rain had fallen and everything was cleaned, the outside was changed, as if scales had fallen from my eyes. At this point, I realized that these people, who were prophesying, had something valuable because they lived a pious and holy life. A thirst then came in my heart; I understood at that time what they had.

## EXPERIENCE OF THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CALL TO THE MINISTRY

After that Sunday, I returned home, I did not say anything and nobody knew what had happened to me, only God knew. On the way back home, I said this to the Lord:

"Lord! What these men have I also want to have because it is your Spirit, I also want to be holy as they are and also be filled with thy Holy Spirit. I want to fast for three days and three nights, I will not get on my bed, I will lay here on the floor."

So I began to fast and pray while lying on the floor seeking the face of God with the desire to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

I wanted to start fasting so that the third day will be the day before

the where we go to church. I therefore ended the fast, that day and the next day we had to go to church. After the fast, that is the next day, the day when we had meeting, I began to feel something different in myself but I did not understand. It was very strange; I had peace, holiness, purity in me that I could not explain. I felt that something was in me. When we arrived at the usual place of gathering for meetings (before the time of worship), I was sitting on a chair, suddenly, I was seized at the point where I could know the thought of the person who was next to me and what he wanted to say. This really happened because he spoke the words exactly as I had received it. I was seized with fear because I did not realize what was happening to me.

The meeting started and we entered the small room to take part in the meeting. But that day, I entered and went to sit at the back, at the last row on the right, in the corner. Nobody knew what was happening to me. I felt there was something in me, around me and it pushed me to pray, to keep my thoughts pure in the fear of God. In this congregation, the Lord acted powerfully through gifts, there were authentic gifts and people were receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It was really Pentecost! Holiness was not a sermon but a reality; the baptism of the Holy Spirit was not a sermon but a reality. The Pastor always used to ask those who had received gifts to first put themselves in order before God and pray before the service. Thus before the service all those who had received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and had gifts were called to move forward so that they could be prayed for so that the true gift of God will act and not the imitation as Satan could also imitate. I want to make it clear that this small church was unaware of the end -time message.

Usually when these people were prayed for, the gifts were manifested; and the true and correct prophecies were given and accomplished. The Pastor himself received visions from the Lord. But that day, there were not many manifestations of the Spirit. Only two people were under the power of the Spirit, a brother and a sister, we

continued to sing and the Lord's presence was there. Meanwhile, in the corner where I was, I began to feel a power that overcame me; there was something new in my heart like a fire that filled my heart. I did not know what was happening to me, I started praying.

Then I heard the Pastor who was in front, crying saying: "You there, at the back, come forward."

He pointed his finger at me asking me to come forward. My heart was seized, I thought to myself:

'What have I done my God because those who are called in front are those who have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and manifested the gifts and me why am I called? ".

I was scared and the whole church heard that I was called forward, I was there in front of everyone and everyone was looking at me.

It was at that moment that the Pastor said this:

"I saw something like a star above your head and the Lord asked me to pray for you for this, because the Lord has granted you something, kneel down and I will pray for you ".

I knelt down for him to pray for me and before he prayed in accordance with the vision he had received concerning me, a prophecy was given. It was a brother who gave this prophecy in which the Lord confirmed that He called me to the ministry to bring His word among nations. It was at that moment that the pastor came and took his Bible; he placed it first on my head and put his hand on the Bible to pray because my calling was a calling to the ministry.

As the apostle Paul, I was called to serve the Lord by traveling through countries to give His word. The whole church was singing, the Pastor approached me, put his hand on the Bible which was on my head and he began to pray. It is when he put his Bible on my head and his hand on top that he began to pray then something happened (the meeting in the burning bush). An extraordinary power came from the sky and filled my whole being. I was kneeling with my eyes closed and all of a sudden a light came, I saw the Lord Jesus Christ. Yes, this is the truth and the God that I serve is my witness. I have seen the Lord Jesus Christ. He was suspended in front of me above the earth, his clothes floating in the wind, I saw his feet (He

had tanned feet), it is as if it was yesterday. He was in front of me and I was filled with a great power, my whole being was filled and I could feel how the scriptures of the Bible, which was put on me was coming down in my heart and was filling my whole being. The word of God descending in my being, I was filled with the Spirit and the Word of God. During all this, the Lord Jesus Christ was in front of me. Let me clarify something: I have seen the Lord; He appeared to me wearing a red robe and not white, but rather a red robe floating in the wind. That's how I saw Him. It was an inexplicable power.

I know the Lord that I serve and the Lord knows me. I did not first know men. I first met the Lord. He granted me the grace to know Him in the power of his resurrection.

After the Pastor had finished praying, the vision left me and the Pastor asked me to get up and go and sit down. I declare before God that I could not get up, it was as if I had a ton of concrete above me, impossible to get up. The Pastor tried to lift me up but it was not possible. This is where I experienced for the first time the power that lies in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Pastor spoke these words: "In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ get up!"

I felt like a feather and all of a sudden I got up and went to sit down. I did not understand what had happened, I was fifteen years.

I remember the day and the hour.

Why? Simply because it is something unforgettable that marks your whole life. It was an extraordinary event in my life. Meeting with the one who is my Savior, my Lord and my Master, Jesus the Christ. How do I remember the day? Simply because it was a day of the week when we used to have meetings. It was a Tuesday.

The hour? It is also simply because it was in the week and the meetings were held in the evening. It was around nineteen hours. The day Tuesday, hour: more or less nineteen hours.

The year? End of 1979, early 1980.

How can I remember? Simply because of my school year. In fact, during all my studies, I was always designated as a delegate of the class that is to say that after the professor it was me who had the responsibility of the class and to report the conduct of all. It was always like that every school year. Even if I changed schools, I was always appointed head of the class and it even happened that I was designated as the one responsible for all the delegate of the whole school.

I took on this role until I accepted the Lord as my personal Savior and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It was at that moment that I refused to accept this responsibility. This is how things happened: after having experienced the Lord as I said earlier, I passed from the 3rd Secondary (where I was the delegate of the class) to the 4th Secondary. As soon as school reopened, the disciplinary prefect came to our class because it was necessary to present the delegate who would be responsible for the class and who will work in collaboration with him. He entered, sat down and then asked those who wanted to become delegates to present themselves for election and to proceed to vote. I, after my experience with the Lord, I did not want to have any problems with anyone because everyone knows what it means to be responsible for a class.

I did not give my name, I was always at the back and many gave their names. Strangely as it might seem, I said nothing, I did not pay attention to what the disciplinary prefect was doing with others, but I heard the prefect shouting at me:

"You there, at the back, I also want you to give me your name for the post of delegate, I want you for this position."

I was seized, but I said this: "I CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE."

I refused to postulate because I knew that if I did, I will be elected head of the class and I would be bringing the situations of students to the prefect; some would be punished and the others driven out of the school. I could no longer tolerate this situation because my life had changed; I feared God and I had to love everyone. It is this event which made me remember the year.

## SUPERNATURAL EXPERIENCES DURING THIS PERIOD

After the experience of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the call to ministry, my life changed completely, I had a deep thirst for the Word of God, I did nothing but read the Bible. I went to school and when I returned, I took my Bible and read. I no longer went out, I no longer had friends; all those who knew me sought me and could no longer see me because I was always at home in prayer and in reading the Bible. I did not want to do anything that could sadden the Spirit of God; I had to be pure, holy and available for the service of God. My life was only home, school and the assembly. The happiest days for me were the days of the meetings and it has never changed till today.

I remember that one day I took the decision to fast so that the Lord will help me to serve Him better. As usual, I lied on the floor and that day I was lying on the floor in the room, there was someone who was sleeping in the same room as me but who was on the bed. When I was fasting, I had set hours that I could not fail to pray even if I was in school or was busy doing something, I had to kneel down at the appointed hour and pray. I could pray at any time during the day but at these hours, I could not miss praying because it was for me an appointment with the Lord. That day after praying, I fell asleep and it is when I was sleeping that I felt the presence of a being in the room that took me by the feet and dragged me into the living room. I woke up to see what was happening, I saw nobody but I was still in the bedroom lying on the ground. I slept again, it was repeated three times and each time I woke up but still saw no one. It was only afterwards that a thought came to me: Maybe the Lord wants me to go and pray in the living room instead of remaining in the bedroom. I folded my sheets and went to lie in the living room, and then it stopped. That same night while I was sleeping in the living room in prayer, I saw myself in our bedroom and the young boy who was sleeping in the room standing in front of the window speaking with someone outside, it was a macabre chat in the dark. I was lying on the floor in the lounge, I saw this scene and I heard what they said. It was as if I were transported into the room

and that I was living the scene. The night passed and the next day I woke up. We prepared ourselves to go to school. I went to the young boy that I had seen in the night and told him this:

"This night your grandmother who bewitched you and who is in the village came to see you and you met and spoke together, is it not so?" He was overcome, he acknowledged that it was true and she came to see him so that they will perform another operation of destruction. The young boy was the one who had the spirit of witchcraft. This is when I realized that God could show me things and the acts of people.

I still remember an event, it happened on a Tuesday during the evening service. We were all in the congregation, the Pastor preached the Word, he had to pray for the sick, and there were people who were in line waiting to be prayed for. I was sitting in the front row when the Pastor began to pray for the sick. There was a lady who was there, and who came forward and the Pastor was about to pray for her when all of a sudden, I do not know how it happened, I felt lifted and found myself standing next to the Pastor and the lady. Something strange happened, in front of everyone I begun to reveal the secrets of the heart of the lady, I said everything she had done and what she had in her heart while standing there.

I still remember the name of this lady, she was called Mi Tonga.

I still remember this scene as if it was yesterday even though I was only fifteen years old. It was so powerful that many were afraid and did not continue in the prayer line. God was really in action.

Since that day, I went from experience to experience.

I want to clarify a point; the church in which I was did not know the end-time message neither the messenger. I knew nothing concerning this, I did not even know that there was a message, nor knew what the message was.

## HOW DID I COME TO KNOW THE END TIME MESSAGE?

I will be very brief and skip some years to avoid being too long be-

cause if I should give all the testimonies and all the experiences I have had with the Lord, I will have to write a book. But as the question was to give my testimony about my calling to the ministry and to tell the content of my ministry and not to write the story of my life, I want to take only a few points to be brief.

A beloved brother one day asked me this question:

"Brother Lifese, who is your spiritual father?"

I think his question was: "Who brought you to the message?"

In fact, I do not have a spiritual father and nobody brought me to the message, but the Lord himself led me in his revealed Word. Between the years 1982 and 1983, I had the grace to meet a wonderful brother named Roger Godefroid. This man loved God and invited me to attend a meeting in their congregation. As I was living in Schaarbeek and their meeting was in Schaarbeek, I was not against it; I responded to his invitation. So I attended the meeting, they sang, the Pastor got on the pulpit and began his sermon. I appreciated his sermon. After the meeting, he introduced me to his Pastor and before leaving he led me to a shelf where some books (brochures) were exhibited and he said: "You can take some." I was very offended and I said to myself, oh! Where am I? These people have other books beside the Bible.

I said to myself: "**This is a sect**". But out of respect, I still took some of the books with me and left. I did not return. Brother Roger Godefroid never told me about a certain message or a prophet sent by God, he just invited me to their meeting and gave me some books.

Many years passed, there was a dark period in my walk during which I had strayed from the path of God because I no longer attended any meetings.

During the year 1985, I was at university and there I met someone named Michel. We were very close and even called each other cousins; he was attending the New Apostolic Church. One day we were in the library of the University where we were preparing our exams and he said this: "I invite you to come once to my church."

He knew that I was in the world and was not attending any church.

I never forgot that moment because it was also memorable in my life. I told him this: "Michel, I have fallen into the world today, but I know that one day I will serve the Lord."

He laughed a little, but he was touched to see the determination that was in my answer. In fact, he did not know me, but I knew what I was saying.

A few months later, I began to feel a little strange; I took no pleasure in anything, I started to feel very uncomfortable. When God loves a person, He truly loves him; and if that person is the choice of God, God will never abandon him. The Lord is really faithful despite our infidelity. One day, I was not feeling very well within myself, I was at home and I felt in my heart something telling me to go out and take the tram. I went out and took the tram in the direction the tram was going; I did not know where I was going. When we entered the tunnel, I said this: "Lord, where do you want me to go?"

Because I realized that He wanted me to go somewhere. I felt impelled to stop at the Rogier station; I went down and there were several directions and I said again: "Lord, where do you want me to go?" I felt led to the tram stop in the direction of the Gare du Nord. Schaarbeek. I think if someone could see me, he could take me for a mad person. But God had a purpose. So I descended the stairs to get on the platform at the Gare du Nord and who did I find on the platform waiting for his tram? Brother Roger Godefroid that I had not seen for several years. He recognized me, he was happy and immediately he said: "Brother Leonard, I now have an assembly, can you come with me to see the place?"

It was evening time and that day there was no meeting. I told him: Yes, I will like to come. We went together, he showed me the place, I was touched in my heart, he prayed and we separated and I went home.

## THE REPENTANCE

One day, a few weeks later, while sitting at the table in the living room where I used to study, something happened. I started to see the

film of my life unfolding before me, everything that I did, how I abandoned the Lord and fell into the world. I started to cry, I wept bitterly, I could not believe that I fell into the world, I said: "Lord this is not possible, this is not me."

I could not realize it was me who fell and had abandoned the Lord. I cried, I begged God; I implored his mercy and forgiveness. In my prayer I told him: "Lord as you brought me to you, I come back to you, now and forever and never the world."

I was alone in my apartment with the Lord. I took everything that was from the world in my apartment, I put everything outside.

I then returned to fasting and prayers. Sometimes I was fasting for a week and sometimes three days, I was imploring the grace of God. That's when I started to read the Bible again. But then there was also something special. Indeed, since the years 1983, I changed apartments several times and whenever I moved, I threw away almost everything but as for the small books that I had taken long ago, I did not throw them away. I moved each time with these brochures without knowing why, I did not throw them away.

## **DOCTRINE OF TRINITY**

Since my conversion and my experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, I had a very serious problem, it was the trinity. In the church where I was going, they were teaching that God was in three; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit and these three were One. I was baptized in the Trinitarian form, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. But I was troubled in myself about these three persons in one God. I asked the question so that they will explain it to me and the answer was: "It is a mystery." I had no peace because my problem was to satisfy the three. How will I be able to satisfy the three? Because for my salvation the three should be satisfied with me. So I decided to proceed as follows.

To satisfy all three and to not have any problem with one or the other I had to pray fifteen minutes to God the Father, fifteen minutes to

God the Son and fifteen minutes to God the Holy Spirit. I had to do this exercise all my life, but I had a problem. That is to say, when I was praying to God the Father I did not have much love because I did not know Him very well, the same for God the Holy Spirit. But when I prayed to God the Son, I loved Him with all my heart. I was overflowing with love and gratitude to him because I knew Him and He knew me. He is the one who saved me, died for me, suffered for me, so I loved the Lord Jesus Christ very much. There also was a problem. I told myself that I will have a problem because God the Father would be jealous because I loved God the Son very much. God the Holy Spirit would also be jealous because I loved God the Son very much. From then, my salvation had a problem.

There was my torture for years! I had no one to deliver me. I was bound, I had a problem with my salvation; it was too serious for my life.

You can not understand the suffering I endured. God is my witness, I truly and deeply suffered.

#### **HERE IS THE DELIVRANCE**

As the Lord brought me back, I was thirsty to read the Bible, I began to read it and one day I said:

"Whenever I move, I throw almost everything away but these little books (brochures) I don't throw them away. But why didn't I throw them away?" Then I had the desire to take them and read.

I think the message book that I read for the first time was, "the revelation of seals." I therefore took these small books, I started to read the first, I started with the first page, I continued reading and while I was reading I felt something strange. The words penetrated my soul and it was as if these things that were said, were written in me. I said, but it is odd, it is as if this man speaking was in my heart. For everything was punctuated with an amen in my heart.

I continued to read and I arrived on the page where brother Branham said: "I was then transported in this constellation, and I heard a bang and the first revelation that I was given was this: THE JAH-

## WEH OF THE OLD TESTAMENT IS THE JESUS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT."

It was a bomb, and an explosion took place in my soul. This is a reality. It was a total deliverance from years of slavery; I was free, liberated, I could sing, glorify the Lord for his love and his grace towards me. You cannot imagine the joy that overflowed in my heart! For me, that man was a true servant of God. Nobody taught me that William Branham was a prophet of God. It is God himself who taught me. Brother Branham had the Word of God which was within my soul. It was thus that I came to know the end time message.

As God never does things halfway, he had prepared my meeting with Brother Roger Godefroid, at the Rogier station, on the platform in the direction of Gare du Nord because he knew that I had to pray somewhere when He will bring me back. And the Lord knew that Brother Roger Godefroid had received the message and it is in his congregation that I should go. This is the perfection of God!

After that, I took the tram, I went to the address Brother ROGER gave me and I found them in prayer, I entered and prayed with them.

After the meeting, he came to me and told me: "Brother Leonard will you come to the next meeting?"

My answer was:" **from now, you'll see me very often at the meetings.**" This was my first congregation in the message.

## REOPENING OF THE ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR

From the reopening of the academic year at University, I was someone else because my change was sudden and total. My friends no longer recognized me. I spoke about the Word of God to anyone who approached me, I was called: "mad about God."

People were told not to approach me because if someone approaches me, he would only hear the Word of God. I became a topic of conversation at the University. Michel heard it and he came to check for himself. Then he said to me: "It is true what you were telling me one day in the library because today I can see it."

He told me: "It's really incredible!"

### AS IN ACTS 10

It is first important to note that when the Lord brought me back, he used me in an extraordinary manner to the point that churches in Brussels heard of me and wanted to see me. I brought many souls to the Lord even those who were at University. Thus Michel became attached to me and together we had a few experiences where he could see how the Lord was acting in my life.

There was a man in a district who did not know me, he was in deep distress and he wanted salvation. Here is his testimony: He was at home and had serious problems, he needed to know God and receive his salvation but did not know how to get it. Then in the middle of the night in his apartment, he heard a voice that told him: "Look for a person called Leon (that was how they were calling me) in this city, he will come and announce the Word of God to you."

The man was disturbed and did not know me. How to find the man known as Leon in a country like Belgium? Then my friend Michel went to this man (they were friends) and Michel did not know what had happened in the night. The day after, he was pushed to visit his friend. When he got to the man's house he found him in a state and the man told Michel what had happened to him and told him even the name that the voice had mentioned. Michel touched, said to his friend: "I know this man, he is also a friend. The Lord uses him powerfully, I'll talk to him and I'll bring him to you."

That day we had classes in the afternoon. I was in the auditorium during the course and I saw Michel coming, he sat beside me and said: "I believe the Lord wants you to go and pray for someone." And he told me everything that had happened. Sincerely, I thought: "Oh my God! I do not want to fall into the trap of the devil. What is happening to me again?"

I did not want to hurt my friend because he was asking me to go immediately after classes. In reality, not to fall into the trap of the ene-

my, I did not want to act in haste; I wanted first to seek the Lord. So I told Michel to give me time and we would go the next day. I went home concerned about the matter. I knelt down and said: "Lord, if it is you who wants me to go there, give me a sign."

I fell asleep. During the night, I saw myself somewhere in a house, I was speaking of the word of God and many people came to hear the Word. As I was going to ask the question of who wanted to accept the Lord as his personal Savior, everyone left while giving excuses but only one person remained who gave his life to the Lord Jesus Christ. And then I heard a voice from Heaven, which said: "There is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents."

I woke up and I said to Michel, there is no problem, we can go. We went and arrived at the house of this man. He told me what had happened and while he was speaking to me people began to come into his house and I began to speak of the word of God. Everyone was listening. The time I was going to ask the question of who would accept the Lord as his personal Savior, all were already gone. I was only left with the one who invited me. It is at this moment that I remembered what I saw and he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Personnel Savior.

## A PARALYTIC WHO WALKED CORRECTLY

One day, Michel came to find me and told me: There is a woman who is in hospital, she is paralyzed and cannot walk, doctors have done everything but there is no change. Can you not come to pray for her? We were in my house and were praying, I said this: "If it is the will of the Lord that I pray for this person I will go but now we can pray for her together."

We started to pray for the person. At the end of the prayer, the Lord told me to tell Michel this: "If the lady believes she will walk."

I repeated what I had been told to Michel. We slept. I had a dream in which I saw that we were going somewhere and I was going to pray for someone. On our way we met an acquaintance. I saw that we were in a tramway; I was standing, holding the bar of the tram to

avoid falling because of the circulation. A woman was beside me, she suddenly turned to me and started saying: "Remove your hands; you should not put your hands here!"

She was shouting in front of everyone and was treating me like a thief as if I had put my hands in her bag to steal. I was hurt. I told the lady: "Madam what have I done to you? I have done nothing it is your thoughts, I can not steal from you and also why will I do this? I am a believer."

I was very sad; the sadness was so profound that we got down from that tramway. Getting off the tram, I looked at my hands and I saw something that was like a clear transparent crystal liquid dropping from my hands and I woke up. I told Michel the dream, we prayed and we went to the hospital. On our way to the hospital, we took the tram and we met a friend of Michel who was also going to the hospital to visit the paralyzed person. We walked up together to the hospital and we went into the room where the paralytic was. We found a lady who had come to visit her in the room. The person with whom we came sat beside the lady that we found on the other side of the bed. Michel and I were also seated on the other side of the bed facing them, we were standing. As I did not know the lady, I stood behind Michel to talk with the lady. It came to pass that there was a silence, nobody spoke and the lady who was paralyzed asked the question: "Did someone pray for me last night?"

The two people who were in front of us responded by saying: "No, we did not pray for you last night."

After their response, Michel took the floor and said: "My friend here and I prayed for you last night."

The lady replied by saying: "I asked this because last night I heard a voice telling me: they are praying for you".

No sooner had she completed her sentence than I was seized by a power and all of a sudden I found myself in front of the bed of the lady, my hands already on her knees praying for her healing. To my surprise, while I was praying, I felt someone taking my hands from the knees of the lady. When I opened my eyes to see what was happening, I saw the other lady that we had found seated, standing, tak-

ing my hands from the knees of the sick lady.

I watched this lady, I told her: "Madam why did you do this? If perhaps you knew me in the world and thought that I am joking, I am no longer the person you knew, I am another person."

There was a silence, nobody said a word and I turned back to the paralyzed lady, and I told her: "Madam you will walk."

I went out of the hospital room with my friend Michel. It is when we left this room that I remembered the dream, I said to Michel: "Do you remember the dream?"

He said yes exactly. This was accomplished exactly. A week later, I went to visit a brother, I rang the doorbell and he was not there. But in the next apartment, there was a door opened. I saw a lady and she also saw me, she began to descend the stairs quickly; she came and took me in her arms. I told myself: 'My God what is happening?". And the woman said to me: "You don't know me?"

I said to her: "Excuse me lady, but I don't know you."

She said: "But I am the paralyzed woman for whom you prayed; now I can walk!"

I said: "Oh yes! Now I remember." She was happy and was glorifying the Lord. She was healed, she was walking properly.

## TRANSPORTED INTO HEAVEN

Since my youth, the Lord visited me and I also experienced a powerful baptism of the Holy Spirit. I had at one point abandoned the Lord but by His grace, He brought me back. One day I was at home, I began to wonder whether the Lord had really forgiven me and if He still loved me as I first knew Him. I wanted to know if I still pleased Him despite all that I had done.

I was also troubled by this, so I knelt down that night. I was really sincere before the Lord and I prayed like this: "Lord, I know that I have not been firm, I have not paid attention as you wanted me to, I went astray and you brought me back. Do I still please you? Do you still accept me? If I still please you and you accept me, please give me a sign."

I finished my prayer. I was in the kitchen and there was a small folding bed with a small mattress on it; it was a small bed with a spring, I laid on it to rest. I do not know how it happened but it's like a deep sleep that befell me. What I declare, I say before the Lord and the Lord Jesus Christ is my witness. "I was transported in heaven". What is extraordinary is that I was conscious and unconscious at the same time. I had my faculties, I knew I was in Heaven, what I saw was really indescribable. I was in an extraordinarily beautiful place where the light rays were of an extraordinary purity. There was holiness even in the rays of light, everything was very pure. Where I was walking, was not the earth, it was something sweet, white, pure, I don't know how to describe it, but it was more than wonderful. There is nothing on the earth that is comparable; the sunlight that we have is impure but the rays of light that I saw was of an extraordinary purity and holiness. Oh it's wonderful the place where the saints will go!

As I was walking in that place, I knew I was in heaven and I was shouting while walking: "Jesus, I love you, Jesus, I love you".

It was wonderful; it is indescribable beyond human understanding. As I was walking, I saw a door in front of me on the right side and as I was moving forward to reach the door and to enter, I was brought back to earth. When I opened my eyes, I fell on my knees filled with fear; joyful noise, thanksgiving and gratitude rose in my heart toward the Lord and Savior Who confirmed to me that He still loved me and that I still pleased Him. He gave me the confirmation.

### WHEN THE ANGEL CAME TO ME

I still remember this event; I was passing through very painful time, Satan was constantly harassing me with odious thoughts such as:

"It is impossible that God forgives you and accept you because you who received the baptism of Holy Spirit, fell, and are lost."

I was continually harassed and tormented by such thoughts. I suffered a lot. I was praying, I was fasting so that it will depart from me, but it was a trial. I will not go into details.

Then one day in the afternoon, I prayed and I was sitting on the floor in my kitchen, my back against the heater and suddenly I dozed off.

I saw two people standing in front of me, one of them moved toward me and said: "I bring you a shield", he approached me and touched my forehead.

After that, he said this: "When you wake up, cut your hair." I answered him by saying: "But I have already cut my hair."

And then he said with a powerful voice and with authority "When you wake up, cut your hair."

I said: "Yes, yes I will do it". Immediately, when I woke up, there was a sister in the room, I told her this: "Take the scissors and cut my hair." She was very surprised because I woke up telling her to cut my hair. She asked me why? I only told her, not to ask any questions but to cut my hair. She took the scissors and immediately cut my hair. Since that day, I was delivered from those thoughts. The door that was opened closed and Satan could no longer inject his thoughts. Why did the angel insist that I should cut my hair? As I just left the world, I still had my hair straighten as the youth of that time.

The fashion was to curl your hair (American expression because this fashion was coming from the USA). I had to remove it from my head and keep my hair natural. That's why he asked me to cut my hair!

### **DIFFICULT TIMES**

The Pastor of the assembly in which I was, was Roger Godefroid. I learnt from the Lord to love everybody and to respect the servants of God. I loved this man very much, I was constantly praying for him. It was he who baptized me biblically in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was my assembly and we were serving the Lord with all our heart and I was leading the songs. It must be said that I never told him that I was called by God to serve Him; I was in the assembly as everyone, praising and serving the Lord. But aside from the

congregation, I was continuing to serve the Lord and each day of the week people gathered to pray at my home. The Lord was healing and was saving the lost. Most of those who received the Lord as their personal savior wherever I went, and even from my home, I brought to the assembly to hear the Word of God. One day the Pastor came to my house by surprise, he found all of us in prayer and he was very touched. He gave testimony in the congregation seeing how the Lord was acting through me. This was the beginning of problems for me, the hatred of brothers. Brother Roger himself took the decision that I should assist him and lead the hymns during the meetings.

I experienced very difficult times with so-called brothers. I will not go into details.

But the most painful part is this. We received a preacher from Kinshasa. First I received one of his videotapes where he was preaching in a province in Congo. I appreciated his sermons and he had the desire to come to Brussels. I was happy to receive him because I loved this brother because of the Word of God. I knew nothing about him, nor had heard anything bad about him. I didn't know what was happening in Kinshasa, I was aware of nothing about him. He therefore came to Brussels, he arrived in the assembly, I was happy to see him and he had to preach the word of God. To my surprise, when I began to listen to my beloved brother it was quite another thing, it was no longer the same person that I had heard nor the same Word he had preached. I was surprised, I told myself:

## "No it is I who has a problem, I must pray because it is the same brother and not another."

But in fact, it was not me who had a problem but the brother. He deviated from the teachings of the Bible and had begun to provide non-scriptural teachings. Of course he was referring to the scriptures, but the meaning he was giving was twisted. The proof is that I began to see our brothers and sisters turn cold, the carnal nature was back and took over. Especially among the sisters, we began to notice the return of worldly habits, thoughtlessness toward spiritual things. The Word of God was no longer as important and considered as before. It was

another gospel. I experienced these things myself. In fact, the Pastor was not seeing very well, he was a bit excited especially because of the publicity that was made for him. One day I called the pastor, I told him to accompany me because I wanted to talk to the preacher in his presence because there were things he was preaching that were contrary to the Word of God.

The Pastor agreed and we went. I saw my brother, the preacher and showed him in the Holy Scriptures that the things he was preaching were contrary to the exact thought of the Word and he was giving another meaning to the scriptures. I gave him an example of what he had said and asked him to prove it to me by the Holy Scriptures. Here is his answer: "I cannot prove it to you by the scriptures but I know that such a brother speaks of it in his writings."

I then asked him to show me, he took some small books he had, he started to search and he said: "I cannot find it."

I replied by saying: "This is nothing but we should correct things." We then left and left him. He continued to preach as he was used to.

One day, I was sleeping, I saw that we were in the congregation; the Pastor was sitting in his place and had given the pulpit to someone to preach. When I turned to see the one who was preaching, I saw that the Pastor had given the pulpit to a woman to preach and she was dressed immorally and was also under the influence of evil spirits that was stirring her and pushing her to misbehave. What was surprising was to see that the Pastor was pleased to see this and the whole congregation was under the influence of this woman who was herself under the influence of evil spirits. It was horrible to see!

A few days later, I went to see Pastor Roger Godefroid, I told him the dream and I said to him:

"You have acted badly for having let things contrary to the Holy Scriptures be taught, you were also pleased with it and you have led the whole congregation in it. From today, you can no longer lead the people of God, you have to sit down. The Lord wants you to sit down."

I do not know why I spoke to the brother like that. But he laughed at me and said: "I am a servant of God and who gives you the right to tell me such a thing?"

I replied: "It's not me, this is what God wants."

Things took another turn; the congregation began to gossip everywhere saying: Brother Leonard is against this brother. But in reality I was against no one, I never said anything bad about anybody. I will not go into details.

#### SEPARATION FROM BROTHER ROGER

It is the Brother Roger Godefroid himself who called me on the phone and left me a message saying: "He wants to change nothing; he wants to continue like that."

So I was disturbing him in his business. I asked him this question: Do you want me to go? He told me: If you want, you can leave. I told him: "But I do not want to leave, it's you who wants me to leave, so it is your will that I go and as you don't want me to disturb you in your business, I will then leave. Thus, we separated with my brother Roger. He remained with the assembly and I left alone.

## THE VOICE OF THE LORD

When I separated with my brother Roger, I did not know where to go and pray and I could not think of forming a group elsewhere, because people would say that was what I was looking for. But this was neither my thought nor my desire. I was alone and I could not go anywhere to pray. I stayed at home. I was suffering from it, I was thinking of my brothers and sisters, but I could not see them because I was ousted from their midst. I began to think of leaving for another country and I started to pack my things.

During this period, as I was no longer attending any congregation, I started my own company; I created a business and organized the schedule of my company. What is true is that, since I was no longer attending a church, I was always at home. I began to immerse myself

in my work; I committed myself deeply because my business began to expand. I was very pleased to see this and my whole heart was in it because I really liked what I was doing. I no longer thought about the things of God, I had another concern: customers and expansion of my business.

One day, I was going out from my office to go to the main room where another department was because my company had two departments. I arrived in the main aisle, I took the vacuum cleaner and I bent down to take the handle of the vacuum cleaner which was on the carpet, I was not even thinking of God. Suddenly, I felt a strong presence of the Lord who filled me. At that moment, I heard the voice of the Lord in French: "I CALLED YOU TO SERVE ME, YOU HAVE ABANDONED THE WORK FOR WHICH I CALLED YOU, YOU HAVE COMMITTED YOURSELF TO THE THINGS OF THE WORLD WITH ALL YOUR HEART. ARISE NOW AND ATTACH YOURSELF TO THE WORK FOR WHICH I CALLED YOU."

It was so powerful that I lost my strength, I was shaking, and I no longer had any strength. This happened on the Chaussee de Louvain at number 155 at Sainte Josse-ten-Noode before midday. Everything I say here is the pure truth. The Lord Jesus Christ is my witness, it is the truth. I went out from my office; I went to see a brother called Norbert. I told him this:

"Brother, you know what happened in the assembly, you also know that I did not want to do anything, but today the Lord has spoken to me and he told me that I should arise and serve Him. I want to start praying, no matter what people will think. I must obey the Lord."

He said: "What will you do?"

I replied: "I will be neutral." The same day, I went to see Brother Joseph at night, I also told him of the matter, how the Lord just spoke to me and the order He gave me. These two brothers are with me until this day and they are witnesses of these things.

Thus, the assembly began in 1995 in a cellar on the chaussee de Wavre in Ixelles. I was working and was holding the meetings. A year later, the Lord put in my heart to organize a public meeting where all the churches would be invited to come and listen to the Word of God. When I issued the invitations, some laughed at me. But a Brother called Jean-Claude who was in another assembly was very keen to participate and take part in organizing this great reunion. This was the beginning of our collaboration. The day of the meeting came and to the great surprise of all, the big hall was full of people coming from everywhere. I brought the Word of God; it was a great blessing for all. Everyone rejoiced and glorified the Lord. After the meeting, many came to see me to tell me:

# 'Brother, why did you wait so long before organizing such a meeting? This is what we all need."

Thus I organized several major meetings where I brought the Word of God. I even remember that our brothers in France came to participate in some meetings. It was moving to see the distance they had come to have brotherly fellowship with us.

I have never forgotten that. May the Lord remember them and reward them.

The Lord began Himself to add brothers and sisters to the congregation. The testimony was given by some of how the Lord spoke to them telling them to come and listen to the Word that I was preaching. I remember the testimony of a sister called Sylvie. Here is her testimony as she had testified. She was with Brother Roger and she said:

"In my dream, I was at the meeting where we were with Brother Roger, the meeting was over and while we were going out, I saw people running, there were many people. They were running to a certain place and I asked the question: Why are you running like that and where are you going? And they answered me by saying: If you still want to stay here stay, but we we're going to listen to the Word of God. That's when she went out to see where these people were going and who was preaching the Word. She said: when she lifted up her eyes she saw someone on the mountain who was

preaching the Word of God and everybody was running up to that person to hear the Word of God. When she came to see the face, it was the Brother Leonard LIFESE who was preaching the word of God."

Thus she left where she was to come where I was. So far she is still with me in the same congregation. I still think about the testimony of another sister called Nicole, brother Norbert's wife. Here is a brief testimony as she told it.

She said: "One day I was at home and I was praying a lot to the Lord for him to speak to me. I then had a dream where I saw myself in Brussels and I was going to the assembly where Brother Roger was a Pastor. When I was walking down the stairs to enter the meeting hall, I heard someone who was preaching but this was not the voice of Brother Roger, it was the voice of Brother Leonard. I told myself: How is it that it is the voice of brother Leonard that I hear and not that of brother Roger? She came down in the meeting hall to see who was preaching and here is what she saw, she said this: When I was walking down the stairs and entering the hall, I looked to see who was preaching. I saw that it was Brother Leonard. When I watched him preaching, I saw that while he was preaching FIRE WAS COMING OUT OF HIS MOUTH AND HIS EYES, it was so powerful that I could not bear to watch him. "

For me, she said," this was the confirmation from the Lord that this brother was a true servant of God."

She asked a servant of God the meaning of her dream and she was told this: it is the Lord who bears testimony of his servant. The sister is still in the Assembly till today.

### **BEGINNING OF MISSIONARY TRIPS**

It is during this period that I started to travel around the world to accomplish the purpose of my calling. My first missionary trip began with the Democratic Republic of Congo in the town of Goma because it was one of the cities the Lord had put in my heart. I went there because of an invitation. The Lord blessed us in a particular manner. The second trip was in Spain in the city of Bilbao, a Basque

country. This was the beginning and the Lord started to open doors in several countries in an extraordinary way. He continues to do so till this day.

## THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

After several years, I was one day in my office, I received a phone call. I was very surprised to receive this call because the person who was on the line was the Brother Roger who did not want me to stay with him. For several years he did everything to prove that what I said about him, namely that the Lord did not want him to continue to preach anymore was false and that he could continue to preach. Five years later, he called me because he said he was looking for me after he had met a brother or a sister who gave him my phone number. However, since the day we separated I told him this:

# "As you want me to go, there is no problem but know that I will always love you and will always respect you."

The Lord is my witness. I always love this brother and also respect him till this day.

When he called me, he told me he wanted to see me and talk with me. I told him that there was no problem and we arranged to meet at la Place De Brouckère. It was the first time we met since our effective separation. I was very touched; I hid my tears because I loved my brother a lot.

# He said: "Brother Leonard, I would like you to come and preach the word of God at the congregation this Sunday."

I told him that there was no problem. I returned home and we had to meet on Sunday. I told the brothers and sisters of my congregation what had happened and also the request of my Brother Roger. That Sunday, I went to the congregation of Brother Roger to preach the Word of God, I was accompanied by a brother living in Bilbao who came to Brussels for his biblical baptism.

His name is Claude. We arrived that Sunday in the assembly of Brother Roger. To my surprise, he told me in front of everyone that it was me who would lead the entire meeting and also to bring the

word of God. I was surprised and astonished. I started the meeting and brought the Word of God. At the end, we separated and before separating, Brother Roger expressed the desire to receive me at home, we set a date.

I went to his home and there he told me this: "Brother Leonard, you were right, I did not realize what was happening, I got carried away and many were telling me many things. I recognize that you were right, we were deceived and I can no longer be the Pastor of the congregation, I'll sit down. I ask you to come back to take the assembly and lead it. I'll sit down. I looked amongst all the brothers to know to whom I could give the Assembly, it is you that the Lord led me to contact. It is you; that is why I ask you to take the congregation. I have already prepared everything."

I had tears in my eyes. It is true that I was criticized, hated a lot and many things had been said, I was fought, some were even praying so that I would die. And that day, the brother admitted that what the Lord told me and showed me and what I told him from the Lord was true. My heart was touched for this man that I loved and to hear him saying what he had just told me and on the other hand I was grateful to God for his faithfulness toward his word. Hitherto Brother Roger is still seated, he no longer preaches and he is no longer a Pastor.

I have to also tell you this: In the same week that Brother Roger called me to tell me this, we were looking for another place to pray for two reasons:

- 1. The meeting hall had become small and could no longer contain everyone.
- 2. I found out me that the owner of the meeting hall wanted us to leave the place.

God is really true, He watches over His work. In the space of a week, He gave us everything for His work, thus we all went back to Schaarbeek till this day. The Lord our God is FAITHFUL.

#### THE CONTENT OF MY MINISTRY

### I have an Apostolic ministry:

"Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not; ) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity." 1 Tim. 2: 6-7

## With reference to the Word of God, I would say:

"For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honorable, but we are despised. Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace; And labour, working with own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: Being defamed, we entreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day." 1Cor. 4: 9-13.

As to Paul the apostle, "And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time." 1 Cor. 15: 8, the Lord granted me the grace to see Him, He also appeared to me as he did for his apostles and he also spoke to me as he did for the apostles.

I was born for the gospel, I live for the gospel and if it is His will, I will die also for the gospel. As the Lord could tell Pilate:

"To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice." Jean 18: 37b

## IF GOD IS WITH YOU WHERE ARE THE MIRACLES?

Throughout my ministry, the Lord Jesus Christ manifested himself always in an extraordinary manner by many miracles, by powerful divine healings. Several people were saved and brought back to the Lord. If the testimonies of healing and miracles should be given, I think I should write a book. Because till today He continues to act, to

heal and save. But I think it would be important that some testimonies should be given. There are many but I'll just take a few of them.

This is the healing of a small girl who was born with a deformed heart. I was invited to Uganda by the Pastor Bolhas of Kampala for a series of meetings. I held meetings in Kampala and during an afternoon meeting; he came to me and said this (in English): "Brother Leonard, there is a couple and the husband works in the government. They came after the meeting and they want to see you so that you pray for their child. She is a small girl but she is not growing because she was born with a deformed heart. They were advised to go to India for an operation. But as they heard that you'd be here, they have come so that you may pray for their child."

I told Pastor Bolhas to bring the parents with the child. When the parents arrived with the child, I looked and saw that their lives were not in order before the Lord. I told them what was wrong with them because the two did not get along. I told them to put their lives in order before the Lord first. Which they did there, then I said this: "Give me the girl."

I took the small girl, I put her on my chest and I implored the Lord's grace that the Lord will give her a healthy heart. After the prayer, I gave the girl to her parents, I told them only to believe and to have faith. They went. After the prayer, they went to see the doctor to examine the small girl. There, he discovered that the heart that was deformed had become normal. The Lord Jesus Christ had healed the small girl.

Another case: This is the healing of a paralytic. I was on a missionary trip in the region of the Great Lakes. I was in Goma where I was holding meetings. Immediately after the meeting, Pastor Bulumba told me this: "Brother Leonard, we have a case which concerns us, it is a brother who is totally paralyzed, he does not walk, he cannot move, he is always lying down and he suffers a lot, he is hospitalized in the wing of the disabled. The doctors could not do an-

## ything. Can you come to pray for him? ".

I told him I agreed to go and see the paralytic at the hospital and to pray for him. We went together with the Pastor and a few brothers. When we reached there, the spectacle that I saw broke my heart. I found the brother lying on his stomach, he could not really move his legs or not other parts of the body and he was suffering.

When I saw him I asked this question: "My brother, do you believe that if I pray for you, the Lord will heal you? Do you believe that the Lord is the same yesterday, today and forever?".

To those questions, he answered yes. I then told him this: "On the basis of your faith, I will pray." I prayed for him, imploring the Lord's grace for him to be restored and to be able to walk properly. The Lord healed him and the brother could walk perfectly, all the pain left him. Today as I write this testimony, he is healthy and works in the United Nations. He met the deacon of this assembly Brother Emmanuel and he gave testimony of his healing.

• Testimonies; there are hundreds. I will perhaps ask each person to tell their own testimony. No later than Monday, June 4, 2007, a brother of the congregation called me to tell me that he was seriously ill and he wanted me to pray for him. I prayed for him on the phone. But the way God acted and answered to this prayer is wonderful because he was instantly healed. I think it would be better for him to give his own testimony.

## **CONCLUSION**

By writing this, I tried to give a very brief testimony of my calling to the ministry. What I have written is just a small part of the great things that the Lord has done through my ministry and continues to do. I think of what happened during my first journey to Central America. The Lord manifested himself with such a power that people were healed and the powerful presence of our Lord Jesus Christ was felt to the point where everyone was in tears. To be released, it was necessary that they drag me away from the midst of the brothers and

sisters. People were coming by bus to reach the place of the meetings. When we arrived in Mexico City, the Pastor Julian spoke to his congregation and said: "If the Lord could do here what he did through Brother Leonard in Veracruz, it will be a great blessing for all"

And then he said: "If someone is sick and would like to be prayed for, may he come forward and the brother will pray for him."

One or two people came forward. When I started to pray for the sick, the Lord came down in our midst, his presence could be felt. At that moment, almost all the congregation stood up and came to the prayer line. People were healed, all were crying and praying. It was Pentecost. It was so powerful that a brother shouted in front of everyone this: "Brother, you're truly a servant of God."

In all the cities and countries where I went, the Lord did wonders.

It was last year in 2006 in Central America in Mexico City, a sister came in the prayer line and she had something in her throat, I think it was a tumor. When I prayed, she was completely healed.

When we returned this year March 2007 in Central America, I did not make the call to the altar to pray for the sick but they were bringing the sick so that I would pray for them. Even in the streets they were bringing the sick so that I would pray for them. The Lord Jesus Christ is truly the same yesterday, today and forever.

I know the Lord Jesus Christ that I serve. I do not have time to give the testimony of the rapture because I also experienced it. Yes, it is true; I know that I will see Him!

As I said earlier, I wrote this short testimony in response to the demand of a beloved brother who after reading "testimony from above" asked me whether I could give the testimony of my calling into the ministry and also what my ministry was. I think I met the expectations of this brother and all those who are truly sons and daughters of God. I have not been sent for others, I have been sent only for the real sons and daughters of God. Concerning this, I remember one day, at about three o'clock in the morning, I was sleep-

## ing and I heard the voice of the Lord, who told me: "**Get up and read Isaiah 43: 1 - 14**

"But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life. Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him. Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears. Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God. Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it? Thus saith the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all their nobles, and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships."

I stood up and I took my Bible to read, in reality it was the first time that I heard of this scripture. I did not know that Isaiah 43 was there, it is only that night that I learnt of it. In reading the chapter that I was

commissioned to read, every word spoke to me. When I started to read, it was as if someone was talking to me, it was the Lord who was speaking to me; every word was penetrating my heart and was speaking specifically to me. I know it seems hard to believe, but this is the truth. The Lord Jesus Christ is my witness, this is really the truth.

May the Lord give grace to those who are His to find here the opportunity to praise Him, for the grace he has granted to a miserable one like me. He is worthy to be praised for his love, his kindness and his compassions. It is only by his grace that I am what I am. There is no merit, a sinner saved by grace who became a slave and prisoner of Christ for the sake of the gospel.

May the grace and the peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you!

Bro. Leonard LIFESE