



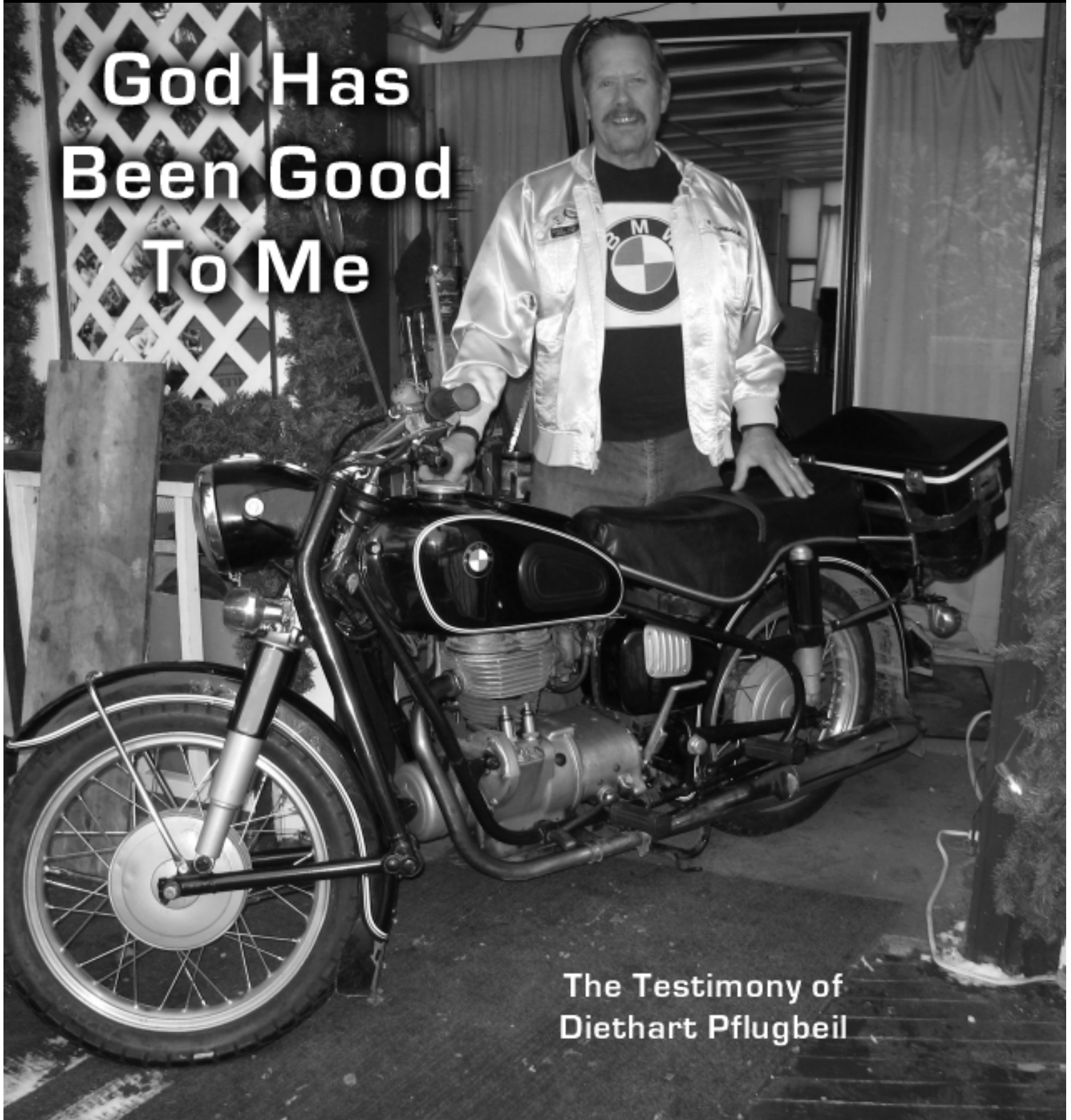
Volume 9, Issue 1

The Streetcorner

John 14:6 NIV

"I am the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father but by me."

**God Has
Been Good
To Me**



**The Testimony of
Diethart Pflugbeil**



God Has Been Good To Me

The testimony Diethart Pflugbeil

ASI JUST TURNED 70 YEARS OLD, AND AS I LOOK back in my life, I can see the hand of the Lord upon me, how he has always been with me and guiding me. I would like to share some of my experiences with you, hopefully this will be an encouragement to you.

I was born in 1939. Our family lived in the Baltic harbor city of Königsberg, Prussia, now called Kaliningrad, Russia, as this is where my father was stationed. My father worked for the **RAD** (German Engineer Corp.) while the German army was attempting to invade Stalingrad. His duties included building roads and bridges, during the summertime, for the army to access Stalingrad. He was wounded a few km from the city and was flown back to the hospital in Berlin, then to Belgium and finally he was imprisoned by the British army. This left our mother who was pregnant at the time, and us, back in Kaliningrad, as the Russians closed in on our city. Mother, afraid of being captured by the Russians, decided to flee back to Germany, so she made three of us children a white rucksack with red polka dots on it so she could keep track of us more easily. She then went to the train station and we boarded the train that brought the wounded soldiers back west. The train stopped many times because of air raids. One time during one of these stops we received hot cocoa from some Red Cross nurses. My third brother was born during a stop in Stolp Münde. A Baron and his wife had mercy on us and took us in. They fed us well and we were able to rest for a while. As the war front came closer we retreated with the baby in a red stroller, we walked on gravel roads, rode in a hay wagon. Finally got a ride in a truck to a harbor and boarded the first ship bound for Kiel. We were packed into the hull, we felt like rats and had to sleep on sacks full of army boots and were only allowed to go on deck for fresh air for ½ hour a day. We heard explosions all around us but miraculously we arrived safely in Kiel. Later we heard that the next ship traveling this route was torpedoed and sunk with all aboard perishing in the waters of the Baltic. We also heard that the Baron, who had so kindly taken us in, his wife and their entire household were executed by the Russians.



Diethart and Joan Pflugbeil

The army commander in Kiel informed my mother that my father was stationed near Rendsburg. He was contacted, and he was overjoyed to find that we were all alive. He sent a truck to pick us up. We settled in a rental farmhouse in Hohn where my youngest sister was born in 1949.

After the war was over I finished my schooling in Hamburg in 1955 and after completing my apprenticeship in 1959, I traveled to Canada, I was 19 years old. I found a job at a ranch in Innisfail AB. I had no relatives in Canada and had to learn English, it was a difficult time. On my first Christmas here I missed the cards, gifts and celebrations that I would have received if I was at home. I had the TV on and an evangelist was speaking to the sad and lonely. He encouraged me to pray to ask Jesus to guide me and to give me peace, which I did and I slept well that night.

In 1960 I bought a 250 cc BMW R26 motorcycle (which I still have) and traveled to Smithers BC and worked for Bill Morris, as a carpenter. I also worked for Marty Allen and Wally Love in Kispiox in 1964 as a farm hand. After traveling back to Germany to visit my family for a time I returned to Smithers. This was when I met an attractive young lady named Joan in the Lutheran Church. At one point she asked me if I was a Christian but I did not know what she meant. I was baptized as a baby and confirmed in the church but I had not yet accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior (John 1:12). The Lord tugged on my heart and I received Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I helped to round up children for the Sunday School because I wanted others to hear of the love of Jesus too.

Joan and I were engaged in 1969. I worked hard at making my cabin into a future home for us. We were married in 1970 and Joan came to live in this cabin with me. We lived with plastic covering insulation on the walls for some time.

When the couple who were running the Sunday School moved to Prince George Joan and I took it over. For 20 years we have taught Sunday School in various churches. Presently we are members at a non denominational church called Bulkley Valley Christian Fellowship.

Over the years, we have seen the Lord work in and around us in miraculous ways. We chose four names and asked the

Lord to give us four children, which he did. He blessed me with a job that I enjoyed so I could look after my family.

I enjoy praying for people. One time, a carpenter I knew, fell off the scaffolding at work and was seriously injured. He had a drinking problem. The Lord did a miracle, and he quit drinking, was healed and was able to walk again.

In 1977, our twin daughter Ruth contacted meningitis and was very sick, she still suffers from the effects of this, but the Lord has always been with us, even through these rough times, our faith in the Lord has grown stronger. God has been good to me. I know my future is sealed in this life and for all eternity because of what Christ has done for me. He has promised that he will never leave me nor forsake me. I am thankful that I am a born again Christian and my desire is that others will also consider their future and turn to Christ. Where will you be if Christ should come tomorrow? May the Lord bless you with faith in Him, he will carry you through even difficult times.

Here is a song that I wrote in 1977, 6 months before Ruth got so sick. This always reminded me "How Great is our Lord" even through the hardest times.

HOW GREAT IS OUR LORD

I was all alone in this big world of sin,
When my Saviour watched me and kindly took me in.
He took me by the hand and strengthened my poor heart,
And now I am a person changed, I have a brand new start.

Jesus, Jesus You are the precious one who saved me.
Jesus, Jesus Thank you that you gave your life for me.

Jesus gave me life, peace joy and happy trust,
I felt so much better, to love Him is a must.
I shouted Hallelujah and praised the Lord my God,
His Holy Spirit filled me, a prize which I had sought.

I walked with my Saviour, I prayed to Him today,
My body changed so swiftly my sins were washed away.
He gave me living water, my thirst was very strong,
I gulped it down so quickly, I knew where I belong.

Lyrics to a song written by
Diethart Pflugbeil in June 1977

"This I Believe"

Desperate for God

by Ken Penner

AS I READ DIETHART'S TESTIMONY, of all that God brought him through; of God's care over him, even when he was a little child; of his journey in coming to personal faith in Jesus Christ; I am reminded of how desperate we all really are for God.

Often we go through life, especially in the good times, thinking we are somewhat self-sufficient. I am in control of my own destiny, we think. We tend to put God off in the distance and try to eke out a life for ourselves. A nest egg, a reputation, self sufficiency, all seem so important. We somehow think it all depends on us, until something happens that we do not have any control over, like war, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods or sickness. Often when difficult things happen to us they tend to humble us and cause us to cry out to God for help, because we are made more aware of our desperate need for God when our sense of control is lost.

But are we not just as desperate for him in good times as in the bad times? Jesus said "Apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5 NIV) God's Word tells us "...he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else." (Acts 17:25 NIV) Without God we do not even take another breath, not one heartbeat. Our very life is from him, even in the good times.

As I ponder these things, I realize I am desperate for God every day of my life, for he is the one who made me. He gave me life and he is the only one who can give me purpose in my life. This makes me want to surrender everything to him daily. I want to give him the reigns of my life. Have your way Lord, have your way, you are the potter I am the clay.

If this is the cry of your heart, if you realize your desperate need of God, cry out to him and he will hear you and meet your every need for this life and the next.

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand and he will lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:6,7 NIV

This I believe!

BELIEVE, AND RECEIVE

by Mike Cunningham

AS I WRITE THIS, A CLOSE FRIEND OF MINE recently lost his niece at only 9 months of age. Her name was Destiny. Destiny was born with a weak heart, and was waiting for surgery, when her little strength gave out and she passed away.

As I was there with the family in the emergency room I thought of how unpredictable life is. Just when we think we know what we're doing, it can all be upset in a heartbeat.

With that in mind, I also think of Haiti. In one moment, people were going about their business, in the next, life was over. For those left behind, their only concern was to find refuge.

Is this what Jesus had in mind when he said, "What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and yet loses his soul?" Or when he said, "Work for the night comes, when no one can work." And what is the work God requires? "To believe on the one he has sent." (John 6:29 NIV)

Or, how about the reminder Jesus gave about the end times. "Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left". Jesus himself promised he would come back like a thief in the night, when no one was expecting him. (Matthew 24)

God has sent us a very clear message. Life is unpredictable. Life can be shorter than we expect. I need to exercise care and atten-

tion that I don't all of sudden find myself unprepared to face what may be right around the next corner.

We have the opportunity now, to listen to the voice of God and prepare ourselves to meet him. Scripture says, "Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today..." "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." (Heb. 4:7 NIV)

Today. What do we have that is certain? What can we build upon? Only the present moment, that God has graciously given us to breathe, think on these matters, and make our choices.

Am I caught up in the cares of this earthly life? Am I neglecting, or even ignoring the state of my soul, and the importance of facing eternity properly prepared.

Jesus offers himself as our right preparation. The terms are the same as they always have been...*believe, and receive*. *Believe* on his life, death, and resurrection as payment for sin and hope for our future. *Receive* him today into our lives as Lord over all. Learn of him, follow him, and live

for him. For who of us knows how much time we have, or the day when all we lean on may be suddenly gone.

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. Isaiah 55:6,7 NIV



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Funding is received through voluntary donations of interested individuals, organizations and/or churches.

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WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible and Its Authority

a) We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are the supreme and final authority in faith and conduct.

The Eternal Godhead

b) We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Man and His Need

c) We believe that man was created in the image of God; that through sin man incurred both spiritual and physical death. Consequently, man is totally depraved, alienated from God, under his righteous anger, and in need of the new birth.

Jesus Christ and His Work

d) We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary and is true God and true man.
e) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that all who believe in him are justified on the ground of his shed blood.
f) We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his ascension into heaven, his present life there for us as High Priest and Advocate and in his personal return.

Salvation for Sinners

g) We believe that by the grace of God, all who in repentance and faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born again by the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God. Such are sealed unto the day of redemption. Nevertheless, the believer is commanded to be filled with the Spirit, moment by moment.

The Future

h) We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, in the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and in the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost.

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THE STREETCORNER IS PRODUCED BY "STREETCORNERS MINISTRIES"

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