



A Testimony

By Darlene Cockfield



I am humbled and grateful to have been asked to share my testimony. 2019 was a year of upheaval, financial challenges and health scares, and in the midst of it all, faith and assurance that I was not handling the crisis, challenge or change on my own. God's peace enveloped me. I would get anxious momentarily, but I knew to pray and sing songs of praise, "How Great Thou Art," "God and God Alone," "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and "I Surrender All," to name a few. A calm would come over me and I would put my trust in God to not just see me through, but to be with me as I was going through.

My son, David, was driving to work in the rain on Clara Barton Parkway when his car fishtailed and careened over the ramp, turning over in the air at least twice, hitting trees and coming to a stop facing oncoming traffic. No cars hit him, and several drivers came to render assistance. One woman said that, as she saw his car going over the ramp, she prayed for God to protect the passengers in the car. David's SUV was totaled, and it shorn and gouged the bark in several trees, but David did not have a scratch on his body. God heard his cry, "Jesus help me," and the prayer of the witness, and He kept David from certain injury or death.

I know, too, that my health-scare was God in action. I had been treated for chronic migraines for years and suddenly my medications were ineffective in alleviating the intense pain. My neurologist scheduled a battery of tests and determined that I had a suspicious growth which affected my vision and intensified the pain. I completed the rounds of chemotherapy, which (aside from being tired and losing my hair) I tolerated pretty well. My TPCBC church choir lifted me in prayer. Deaconesses Eason and Hamm and Deacons Hudgens, Graham, Rodgers, Jackson and Little prayed for me, laid hands on my head and shoulders, anointed my head with oil and surrounded me in prayer. The tumor had been visible and measurable during my first five medical exams, and preliminary plans for neurosurgery had been discussed and considered. But during my post-exam, after the chemotherapy, my neurologist marveled that all traces of the tumor, growth and obstruction were gone! There was no medical explanation for this outcome, but I knew that God was covering me, and His Divine Intervention led to my complete healing.

In just about every circumstance, challenge or situation in which there were no good options, whenever I let go and let God, He kept me.

*I've come through many hard trials
Through temptations on every hand
Though Satan's tried to stop me
And to place my feet on sinking sand
Through the pain and all of my sorrows
Through the tears and all my fears
The Lord was there to keep me
For He's kept me in the midst of it all.*

*Not because I've been so faithful
Not because I've always obeyed
No it's not because I trusted Him
To be with me all of the way
But it's because He loves me so dearly
He was there to answer my calls
He was there always to protect me
For He's kept me in the midst of it all
"In the Midst of It All" by Yolanda Adams*

I pray to be a living witness to God's limitless Grace and Mercy, and I hope my testimony will inspire you to hold on, keep the faith and look up and live.