

Endorsements

Making God Visible challenges readers to give 110 percent in their lives as Christians. Betty Alexander's wide use of Scripture fused with personal narrative offers readers keys to what it means to truly and fully live in the Kingdom of Heaven.

—Cornelia Becker Seigneur
Speaker, Freelance Journalist
Author, *Writer Mom Tales*
and *Images of America*
West Linn, Oregon

Betty—It was truly a real joy to do a slow and methodical review of your new book, *Making God Visible*.

I've known Betty Alexander, her life and living testimony since 1995 as her professor at MHBC. Her first book opens her life to you through an insightful anointing and revelation of the Word of God.

If you are searching for God, this book will lead you to Him. If you are developing a deeper relationship with God, this book will allow you to find out where you are and challenge you to get where you want to be! Each chapter is a personal challenge that can lead you to personal victories in Christ. This book is about you and your God How well do you know Him? Accept the challenge. This book is a must read.

Lack of heavenly glory nails our feet to the ground enslaving us to the world's reign. Our eyes see only the visible, and we are unable to soar to new highs with God. We are unable to see beyond ourselves.

Do you want to go places in the Spirit that you have never gone read this book. Betty Alexander will challenge you and lead you to "another place in God."

Making God Visible is chocked full of "life lessons" that are brought to life through Betty's revelation of the Word. God has used her to reveal His personhood through His word to her, and then she applies that revelation, of who He is, to practical answers to life's dilemmas.

Betty thanks for the honor and privilege . . .

—Rev. Larry and Debbie Hrovat
President & Founder of Faith of The Nations
International Missionary Evangelist
International Conference Speaker
Parker, Colorado

MAKING
GOD
VISIBLE

MAKING
GOD
VISIBLE

I KNOW JESUS,
I RECOGNIZE PAUL,
BUT WHO ARE YOU?

Betty Alexander



REDEMPTION
PRESS

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DEDICATION

To all believers who, like Elisha, dream of more in the Kingdom of Heaven and to those who desire more of the Holy Spirit while they are seeking to take the next step with Jesus to do exploits right now on the earth. To the hungry hearts that struggle to taste and perceive the unique purpose and mission that Father God has designed for them.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

FIRST, I WANT to acknowledge my parents, Dalbert and Jean Alexander, whose actions and words were always encouraging, saying that, “You can do anything that you put your mind to,” and “Never give up.” They demonstrated that if we are willing to take a step forward, there is always a way. They were always there, dependable, loving, and extremely giving to all. Thanks especially to Mom, who after accepting Jesus always took us to church. I am grateful to both of my parents, who set good standards for us.

The encouragement especially from my sister Liz, who told me of places where God is visiting in Revival and His heroes in this time. We (Liz and her husband, Steve, with granddaughter Alyssa) went to the Brownsville's Revival and other places where the bold and courageous ministered.

To Valerie, my sister in the Lord, an Intercessor, who continued to push me to finish this book. And to Tatyana, a true witness for Jesus, whose miracle to me assured me of God's answer to publish this book at such a time as this. For the knowledge gained from pastors, professors, friends, and family.

Now, because of our unity in the knowledge and love of the Lord and her insights and suggestions of words that were invaluable in the preparation of this book, my special appreciation goes to my longtime sister in the Lord, Dana Canary, music minister, singer, and prayer warrior. Without her help, this book would not have been possible. I am grateful for her endurance in reviewing the manuscript's many rewrites and for her encouragement, saying, “Just look at what we're learning.” Because

of her dedication and joy in the Lord, she is chief among those whom I want to acknowledge.

Thank you all for being led by the Holy Spirit. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for revealing dark saying, mysteries of the Lord, and the Helper in my serving Jesus.

Deuteronomy 29:29

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PREFACE

ALL MY LIFE I have wondered why I could not do the things Jesus said Christians would be doing. Having believed in Jesus from early childhood, I noticed that my life lacked the signs and wonders found in the Bible.

This book tells of my journey and the journey of others as we pursue Heaven. It will inspire and encourage you with present-day events. Some of these events you may never have heard of, but they are life-giving and will stoke the fire of faith within you.

I have met many Christians who have no idea how to take steps toward living a fuller Christian life. I have been on prayer lines that are flooded with people with needs. Great burdens weigh our brothers and sisters down, yet few have found relief or help in the church. Therefore, some choose to go to what is in the world because they have not acquired intimacy with God nor do they know His remedies.

This book gives a view of living in the Kingdom of God. Within the pages of this book are ways to start breaking loose from a nominal Christian lifestyle. It only takes small beginnings to start to change and to affect the world for Jesus Christ. By giving you simple acts and key elements to focus on, this book will help you recognize the things God desires you to do.

This book will also share stories of some recognized Believers—those who have dared to believe and soared to new heights—have accomplished great things and thereby have made God visible to others.

But, we must first learn God's truth from Holy Scripture. Then we can learn from those in the past and those in the present who have joined the ranks of the heroes of God.

By defining terms and showing some examples of unseen strongholds, Believers can be free to live big for God. A new slant on truth can transform minds and rouse God's people to dig deeper, love harder, and live stronger. Readers will see questions at the end of the chapters to contemplate; my hopes are that they will inspire you to be bold and courageous.

HELP FOR THE READER

Capitalizing all nouns and pronouns concerning God and His Kingdom, wherever found in this text, will place Him in the place of superiority. There will be no capitals regarding the enemy unless starting a sentence. By doing so, my hope is to stimulate the reader to remember that words of the world are weak compared to those of God. By capitalizing Believers and Saints, we are reminded that we are made in the image of God.

In addition, all Scripture references numbered (i.e.#2871) within this book are from: *The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*; and hereafter referred to as *Strong's*; references for the Hebrew and Greek will be from *Young's* and refers to *Young's Concise Critical Bible Commentary*; *Hebrew* refers to *Gesenius' Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon*; *Greek* refers to *The Complete Word Study Dictionary*; *IGENT* refers to *The Interlinear Greek-English New Testament*; *CJB* refers to *The Complete Jewish Bible*; *Smith's* refers to *William Smith's Bible Dictionary, 1948*; *Webster's* refers to *Merriam-Webster's Reference Library, 1994*.

May you get a view of the Kingdom of Heaven and be challenged to live a full life for Christ as you read this book.

—Betty Alexander

RECOGNIZED AS CHRISTIANS

HOW DO OTHERS see us when they do not acknowledge us as Christians? Even though we live in the world, we are not to be like the people in it. The difference between us and non-believers, who live carnal lives, should be easy to discern. If the world recognizes us as common people with carnal/sensual traits, we become acceptable to them. However, Believers have distinct characteristics that make us uncommon and set us apart from the world while making us known and loved by God. The quality that makes Christians different is that we esteem one Holy God of truth and power and serve only Him, while people who are worldly serve multiple vain idols. Because of the importance of identification, when we lack the characteristics that identify us as the followers of Jesus, we miss the elements that validate us as Believers.

Jesus promised that if one has faith in Him, that person would do more than Jesus did because He went to the Father and has sent us the empowerment of the Spirit of Truth (see John 14:12–17). He added that if the world hated Him, it would hate us also (see Matt. 10:22; 24:9; Mark 13:13; John 15:18). Christians are hated because they will not let non-believers enjoy and conduct life in sin, but will confront them with the need to change to a life that is complete in Christ.

The earth shook when Jesus came and changed the world for all time. Not as an earthquake but a supernatural shaking took place in the lives of people (see Matt. 16:24–26). Humans never like change, especially not change that involves giving up the power and control they think they possess. However, there is a power that God gives humankind that surpasses all the power and control in the natural and the elements. People who had this power displayed exploits,

doing extraordinary things for God throughout the ages. They are the remnant of God.

EARLY CHRISTIANS

Something was different about the early Christians. They were people of power and of love who endured all things. They didn't need to go around confessing to be followers of Jesus, because even non-believers knew them and pointed fingers at them, declaring, "See, there's a Christian."

During the years after the resurrection, people recognized and feared the early Christians who willingly laid down their lives for Jesus.

Christians were different because of their love of bringing humankind to Jesus and because of their desire to increase the Kingdom of God on earth. They were lovers of God who could not remain quiet. They knew humankind resided in darkness on a destructive path to hell, but that Light had come to deliver them.

THE PROPHETS OF OLD

The prophets of old, like the early Christians, were feared and gained respect because of their relationship with the God of Truth. Fearful non-believers persecuted and hated them, even putting them to death. The prophets possessed a frightening aura. When they came to town, often traveling many miles to deliver a message to the people from God, the townspeople were fearful. Having been in Israel, I can picture the scenario: From the guard's tower high above the wall encasing the town, the watchman would see the prophet approaching, riding on his mule or walking on the well-traveled road toward the town gates. The sentinel would alert the officials by sending a messenger running to notify them. A respected official would come out of his place of security to meet with the approaching man of God. Trembling, the whole township would wonder, "Is he coming to bring peace or not? Will God's Prophet bring the word from God as a blessing or a curse?" Timidly, and with a humble attitude, the official would meet the prophet outside the city gates and respectfully ask, "Have you come for the prosperity or destruction of this place?"

God's chosen often wore a mantle, perhaps of varied colors. "Mantle" rendered in *Smith's* means: a coat, cloak, or robe. It goes on to say, "Elijah the prophet probably wore a mantle of sheepskin" (pages 379, 380 paraphrased). It was woolly and hence gave the prophet a look that was

frightening. Prophets not only wore a mantle of natural hairy material, but also an unseen supernatural garment.

These men or women of God may have been found in king's palaces or living in remote areas. They won their battles against all odds. They closed the mouths of lions, had visions of the Kingdom of God, and they interpreted dreams that told of kingdoms through the ages. They survived the fire of a furnace seven times hotter than normal—it was so hot, it slew the strongest men who came to throw them into the blazing furnace (see Dan. 3:19–23). God's prophets called fire from Heaven to destroy soldiers and false prophets. They caused iron to float to the top of a river. They raised the dead, multiplied food, and prayed for rain to stop famine. Once, even bears came and ate the people who berated a prophet.

Like the lowing of cattle, these prophets called to the people of God to return and live out His commandments and ordinances. They were anointed with supernatural strength, outran chariots, and pulled down buildings. Miraculously, birds fed them, and they survived inside arks, whales, and heathen countries. These Believers' actions and words made them known to others. The hand of God was on them, and they carried God's Word in real time. In addition, as the writer in Hebrews 11:32–38 states, that time would fail to permit the telling of the heroes of God, Believers of whom the world was not worthy.

These acts continued into the lives of the first-century Christians as the power of the Holy Spirit was poured out on all Believers (see Joel 2:28, manifested in Acts 2:17). This prophecy, never rescinded, remains in full force today.

Today, God's heroes, as in the days of the Apostles, are recognized as having been with Jesus, not only because their views sound like those of Jesus, but because they are infused with firepower and the baptism of the Holy Spirit for witnessing. The Holy Spirit accompanied them, providing the miraculous. These Christians desired recognition by humankind for God's glory, not for self-glorification. Now, as then, bold Believers go everywhere preaching the good news of forgiveness through the blood of Jesus and making it known that the Kingdom of God has come near to them.

THE DISCIPLES

While in Greece at Antioch, disciples preached with signs following to non-believing Jews and the heathen Greeks, bringing many to Jesus. Here, something unthinkable happened. Disciples in "The Way" acquired

a new name in Greek: *Christian* (see Acts 11:26). It would become permanent as down through the ages the name stuck. God's people no longer were called "The Way," but as foretold in Isaiah, the prophecy of a new name was fulfilled:

The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; and you will be called by a new name which the mouth of the LORD will designate.

—Isaiah 62:2 NASB

Because the nations (non-believers) recognize the anointing that the followers of Jesus Christ possess, they are now marked as Christians.

In the Greek, the word Christian comes "from the word for *anointed*, that is the Hebrew name, *Messiah*, the epithet of Jesus. Anointed is from the idea of *contact*; to smear or rub with oil, implying to be consecrated to an office or religious service: which means to *fear*, to go trembling in one's service. The purest essence of the word anointed means to *furnish what is needed!*"

"Christian" is a powerful word. Although humankind may use it disparagingly when viewing Jesus the Christ and His followers, with God it is highly esteemed and holds renown.

THE APOSTLES

Many people gained reverence for the Apostles when the sick were healed as Peter passed and his shadow fell on them (see Acts 5:15); handkerchiefs and aprons from Paul's body were carried to the sick and they recovered (see Acts 19:12); Apostles were translated; the dead were raised; demons were cast out; and the gospel was preached with great fervor. All of them had integrity. This code was tested at a meeting with the Apostles. When Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit and died (see Acts 5:1–10), news of this event spread throughout the community of Believers. Terror followed and none wanted to join the Apostles' rank, even though the Apostles were highly regarded. Nevertheless, even with the report of this event, people daily joined the Church as they believed on the Lord Jesus Christ (see Acts 5:14).

Early Christians, consecrated to their office, possessed the Kingdom, or perhaps a better statement would be the Kingdom possessed them. Their task was to bring humankind to the door of the Kingdom of Heaven,

letting them know they were welcome to enter, if they chose to do so. Christians used every opportunity to share hope with the world's lost and hurting.

FORERUNNERS OF TODAY

In these last days, we have heard of a few Believers who have had signs and wonders accredited to them. Names such as Smith Wigglesworth, John G. Lake, Aimee Semple McPherson, and Kathryn Kuhlman are among those whose ministries were accompanied by mighty miracles. The sick were healed, the dead were raised, and demons were cast out.

Today, jails open and people such as Brother Andrew walk out, hidden from the view of those who would kill him for carrying the good news to the lost in the world. Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity feed thousands daily, turning none away. Billy Graham has brought millions to Jesus. In Europe, Graham is known as God's Gatling gun because his words so thoroughly hit the mark, striking hearts to repent, they lay aside their old life, and follow Jesus. Reinhard Bonnke and now Benny Hinn have had one million people accept Jesus Christ in one service!

Today, others such as David Hogan (Freedom Ministries) and Rolland and Heidi Baker (Iris Ministries) daily lay their lives down for the Kingdom of Heaven. Their affections are set on Christ. They press those living in darkness to come into the saving light of Jesus. The Holy Spirit is with them, confirming their words with signs following (see Mark 16:20). Every kind of healing occurs in their ministry such as blind eyes opened, deaf ears hearing, and leprosy cleansed. Other signs include: food multiplied and entire towns won to Jesus. These bold courageous people are among us today.

In addition, there are those of lesser note who love and live for Jesus—those who hungrily go after Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. Others, who live by the standards of the world, persecute and hate all of these people.

In Matthew 10:7–8 (CJB), Jesus said to His disciples, “As you go, proclaim, ‘The Kingdom of Heaven is near,’ heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those afflicted with *tzara’at* [skin diseases], expel demons. You have received without paying, so give without asking payment.” This is a remarkable charge and one of extraordinary wonder beyond human capacity to understand. It is a commission taken seriously by those chosen of God.

With the preaching of the good news, many accept and enter into salvation. Others refuse to believe. Mark 16:16 says, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

A UNIQUE PEOPLE

Wherever Christians went, miracles, wonders, and signs followed them (see Acts 2:22, 43; 4:30; 5:12; Rom. 15:19; Heb. 2:4). In 2 Corinthians 12:12, they are marked by what the Holy Spirit did through their lives. The first Christians were known by their love for all humankind and for one another and for being fruitful. Christians were recognized by the fruit they produced: the fruit of their souls and the light that “consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth” (Eph. 5:9); “The fruit of the Spirit” (Gal. 5:22); and the fruit of their lips that confessed God’s name (see Heb. 13:15). Today, this is what sets Believers apart as lovers of Jesus. They are marked as God’s unique people.

Christians are different from worldly people. What makes a person unique? As I meditated on God’s Word, I recognized common areas in my life that had to do with the condition of my heart and my lack of humble character. This made me a shortsighted lover of Christ, missing uncommon traits and not fully knowing that I was a pilgrim on the earth. I was not looking for a better country. In addition, I did not recognize that my inheritance was hidden in Christ. In my wrestling with God to come into the number of those recognized, I would have to die to my self-life. Even so, I am determined to change, just as others do who walk closely with God and see life from another Kingdom.

- How have I presented life in Christ to others?
- How have my actions and words sounded like Jesus’?
- As a unique person, what fruits are produced in my life?