

WITNESS TO THIS GENERATION

Creation Evangelism for the Last Days

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Witness to This Generation

©2018 Roger Oakland

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And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. (Acts 17: 30-31)

PROLOGUE

This book has been written for people who have a desire to share their faith in the God of the Bible with others. If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and you know someone who has not, then this book has been specifically written for you.

Several years ago, when the outline for this book first came together, I was immediately excited. Ever since becoming a follower of Jesus Christ, God gave me a strong desire to share my faith with others. And it seemed apparent that most of the Christians I knew also wanted to proclaim the “Good News” to friends, relatives, and acquaintances whom they knew were on a path headed towards a lost eternity. I thought that a book that would share biblical principles about witnessing would be well-received by the Christian community.

The title I chose for the book was *Witnessing to This Generation*. After submitting the book in outline form to three

different Christian publishers, my enthusiasm was soon dampened. A book on the subject of witnessing, they said, did not fit with their publishing plans. One publisher told me their company had tried a book on the subject of witnessing before, but it had not been financially successful. Most Christians, it was stated, are not interested in the area of effective Christian witnessing.

Somewhat disappointed, I continued the outline, certain there was a need for a practical book on this subject. The more I thought and prayed about the project, the more convinced I was that I should proceed.

If the foundational principal of Christianity is recognizing who Jesus is and what He has done, I reasoned, then sharing this truth with unbelievers should be next in line. If we follow Jesus' New Testament commandment, which challenges us to love God first and then our neighbors before ourselves, should we not do everything in our power to share the Good News of God's saving grace with others?

Over the next several months as the outline was transformed into paragraphs, pages, and then chapters, it became apparent to me there was an even greater urgency to complete this book. If, as many Christians believe, we are living at the very period of history when Jesus Christ could return, should we not be doing everything possible to tell the lost how they can know Him as their Savior and Friend now and not as their Judge later? And secondly, knowing the time before His return will be characterized by great deception, should we not be sharing biblical truths with those who are deceived?

The more I worked on the book, the more uncomfortable I became about the title I had chosen. *Witnessing to This*

Generation was too passive, I thought. The word witnessing lacked urgency and gave the feeling that proclaiming the Good News was something Christians could do if they had time left over when their other work was done.

One night, while standing before the altar at my home church in Eston, Saskatchewan, Canada, I sensed God's prompting regarding the title of the book. I sensed there was an urgency that I had not experienced before: witnessing to this generation should be changed to *witness* to this generation. Thus, the inspiration for the final title for this book.

It is my prayer that as you read the following pages, God's Holy Spirit will touch you with the same sense of urgency that I've experienced. Witnessing should not be a matter of a casual choice. It should be a burning desire and responsibility that every believer should experience daily. May God give us the wisdom and the ability to be effective witnesses in the days in which we live so that many people will hear about the miraculous message of His grace that has transformed our own lives. The time left to do so may be very short.

Roger Oakland