



You Can Change Your Children's Destiny

By Mike Shreve

The Shreve family, Mike and Elizabeth with their miracle children, Destiny Hope and Zion Seth.

As you can easily assume from this recent picture, my wife and I are blessed with two healthy, bright, wonderful children. They are both MIRACLES. Our son, Zion Seth, had a very traumatic birth that should have left him brain damaged (from oxygen deprivation). He is anything but mentally challenged — recently scoring in the top 5% in the U.S. on his ACT test. Seth was a toe-walker until the age of eight. A specialist suggested surgery, but the process would be risky. Sliced heel tendons might grow back correctly; then again, they might not. As we discussed the options, I heard God say, "Leave this place and don't ever come back." Soon after, in a large convention, two Spirit-filled ministers joined me in intercession over Seth for about 20 minutes. He was healed and has walked flat-footed ever since.

Our daughter, Destiny Hope, was an even greater faith challenge. After viewing the ultrasound image, the doctor concluded she had spina bifida and would probably be severely retarded. He said we should consider an "alternative." By the look in his eye and the tone in his voice, we knew he meant abortion. Instead, we switched doctors — and more importantly, started claiming by faith that this mountain would be moved. Often during the pregnancy, my wife, Elizabeth, laid hands on her stomach and quoted Psalm 138:8 — "*The LORD will perfect that which concerns me...*"

Then she confessed, "LORD, this child concerns me. I am concerned over her health and her future. So I believe You will make her perfect." Teary-eyed but trusting God, she often sang over this "princess-to-be" the popular song, "I Hope You Dance." We even gave her the name Destiny Hope as a prophetic way of defying the prognosis that made her future look very hopeless.

As my wife was giving birth, struggling with lingering fears, she nervously asked, "Doctor, how does she look?" Unaware of the Bible promise Elizabeth had been claiming, he responded, "She's perfect." And she was. Amazingly, by the time Destiny was four, she began

showing a natural proclivity for worshipful dance. Coincidence? No way. Spirit-inspired intercession had penetrated her future and awakened God's purpose in her life.

Against huge odds, both children came forth healthy and intelligent (a little too intelligent at times). Did this happen because they had Christian parents who were devoted to God – who sought God fervently — who trusted God to fulfill His promises? No qualms about it. Faith in God and the power of confessing His Word were the deciding factors.

The moment of inspiration

As you can see by these examples, parenting has never been easy for Elizabeth and me. It's been a faith-fight from the start; and the fight continues. Several years ago, burdened over other issues my children were facing, I began searching for new promises to claim. I didn't expect what I discovered. The Holy Spirit began leading me to dozens of specific Bible promises that belong to my children (and future grandchildren), just because of my walk with God.

I felt like a spiritual prospector who accidentally stumbled on a mother lode: a primary vein of gold in God's Word. After "digging" about a year, I amassed a substantial pot of gold — 65 "nuggets" out of God's Word — 65 biblical promises given to the offspring of those who serve God. What an empowerment I felt as a parent! How equipped I felt to pray effectively and prophetically over my children!

From that point, I quit pleading for a move of God in their lives. In the words of Psalms 2:7, I began to declare the "decree." A "decree" is an order having the force of law. Because the King of Creation has **decreed** these things over our children, we have the right to **declare** them — to verbally enforce God's laws in the spiritual realm, defying everything that opposes His purpose.

As this revelation blossomed within my heart, I realized, "This needs to be shared. There are millions of parents 'out there' who are praying in desperation, not in faith — who have little or no idea these promises exist. I have to communicate this truth to them." So I set aside several other important writing projects and focused on getting this insight in print.

Meanwhile I began praising God daily for the fulfillment of the 65 promises — decreeing that God's Word be fulfilled for my son and daughter. Isaiah 44:3-4 quickly became one of my favorites:

"For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants and My blessing on your offspring. They will spring up among the grass like willows by the watercourses."

Within a few months of claiming this promise, my daughter was baptized in the Holy Spirit. After lying on the floor for about 45 minutes, crying and speaking in tongues, she crawled up in my arms and whispered, "Daddy, Jesus filled me — He really filled me." Was the timing just coincidental? I don't think so.

In the passage, the "grass" represents the people of this world. ("All flesh is grass" — Isaiah

40:6) Our offspring are likened to “willows by the watercourses,” in comparison. That means they will not be common (like the grass). Rather, they will be unique, rising above the masses in excellence and prominence. The river of life will always sustain them, and as the branches of a willow bow to the ground, so they will bow in humility before God all their days. That’s what this promise symbolizes. Of course, many reading this article are grief-stricken because things appear much different than this in your family. Your children may be walking in darkness, and refusing to acknowledge the truth you embrace. Don’t give in to discouragement. God has already pledged:

*“Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east and gather you from the West; I will say to the North, ‘Give them up!’ and to the South, ‘Do not keep them back!’ Bring **my sons** from afar and **my daughters** from the ends of the earth — Everyone who is called by my Name, whom I have created for my glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”* (Isaiah 43:5-7)

Notice God starts by calling them “on your descendants,” then He declares, “Bring **my sons** from afar, and **my daughters**, from the ends of the earth.” Apparently, because they belong to you, He adopts them as His own — and places His canopy of protection and provision over their lives. Having been dedicated to God, they are called by “His Name” and created for His glory. Though satanic forces are constantly fighting for control, God has uttered the war cry:

“I will contend with him who contends with you, and I will save your children” (Isaiah 49:25).

As you echo this divine pledge over your seed, it will surely compel the LORD of hosts (the God of an army of angels) to fulfill His Word—rising to your defense. In Matthew 18:10, the Messiah gave a blanket promise for all children, that “their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.” If that is true for any child, how much more true it is for the children of God’s people! And if heavenly beings are so powerful that it took only one angel to crush an entire Assyrian army, we can rest assured their constant surveillance of your offspring will result in spiritual breakthroughs. Yes, the judge of all the earth has announced:

“Through hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered” (Proverbs 11:21 KJV).

Seize that with your spirit and fight with it! You need God’s involvement. At best you can only fill your children with biblical “information” that will help them make right choices in life. Only God can bring revelation that results in character transformation—and this He promises to do:

“All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the peace of your children.” (Isaiah 54:13).

Furthermore, you should consider this: the New Covenant began with a prophetic declaration over the children of God's people. On the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came in the upper room like a rushing mighty wind, Peter explained:

"For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

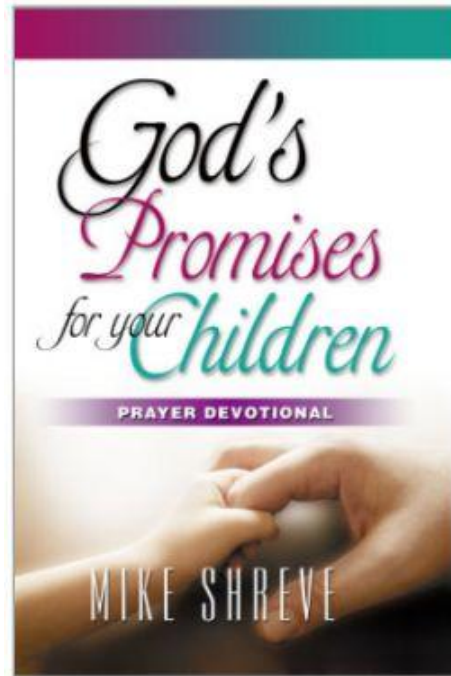
that I will pour out of My Spirit on ail flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions..." (Acts 2:15-17).

As it was in the beginning, so it is now. You who are filled with God's Spirit, begin to claim prophecy and vision awakened in your sons and daughters God has given these decrees; it is your responsibility to declare them. If you do — prepare to see a **miracle** in your family!

FAMILY RESOURCES – Sid Roth

I have begun reading out loud daily one of God's promises from Mike Shreve's book over my daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughters. You should get one copy of Mike's book for each of your children and grandchildren and personalize them. Insert your child's or grandchild's name in each of the 65 suggested prophetic prayers and record his or her spiritual progress in the journaling section. This will be a memorial you will treasure for years to come.

Please send us a picture of your children or grandchildren, along with their names and any pertinent information. We will place their pictures on the bulletin board and join with you in interceding over them. Be sure to get back with us and let us know the miracles from God that have taken place. I truly believe this book is an end-time mentoring tool for parents that will bring forth supernatural results. "God's Promises for Your Children" is available for a donation of \$20 (\$24 Canadian).



Sid Roth