

## SUDDENLY

"Pastor, I got a word from the Lord but nothing has happened!" How many times have I heard that? The truth is, if in fact it was a word from the Lord then it will surely come to pass. While we were away this week my dear wife Loraine received an encouraging email from one of our leaders, in it she quoted Isaiah 48:3, "*The former things I declared of old; they went out of My mouth and I announced them; then **suddenly** I did them, and they came to pass.*" Most of us have had a "word" from the Lord that has not yet come to pass. Maybe you received it by revelation or by prophecy, or maybe you are simply standing on a promise from God. But whatever it is, it just hasn't happened! If that's you, be encouraged. Often when God does something, He does it **suddenly**! So don't be surprised, if God's word **suddenly** comes to pass when you least expect it. Our heavenly Father loves to surprise us!

The same thing happened to the apostle Paul when he **suddenly** encountered Jesus. This unexpected event not only changed Paul's life but it was to be instrumental in changing the lives of countless people over many generations. "*Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and **suddenly** a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul why are you persecuting me?'" (Acts 9:3-4) After Jesus appeared to Paul **suddenly**, he went on to fulfill his destiny. Maybe your destiny is about to **suddenly** be realised!*

Notice how both God the Father and Jesus Christ like to do things suddenly. But what about the Holy Spirit? Acts 2:2 says, "*And **suddenly** there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were gathered.*" On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit arrived unannounced – He came suddenly and filled them with power. If you are in a desperate situation and in need of "power from on high" don't be surprised if the Holy Spirit comes to you **suddenly**. And when He comes the impossible will become possible. So expect Him to invade your life unannounced!

Another example of the Spirit's extraordinary power arriving suddenly is found in Acts 16:26, "*And **suddenly** there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's bonds were unfastened.*" In their darkest hour, while Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, the Holy Spirit inhabited their praises and His mighty power set all the prisoners free. If it feels like midnight to you, and you can't see any way out, start singing praises to God. For if you do, it is very likely that the Holy Spirit will flood your circumstances with supernatural power and **suddenly** your prison doors will open!