

*He died for our sins, just as God our Father planned,
in order to rescue us.*

~ GALATIANS 1:4 NLT

frontlines

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*Jesus
Is
Risen*

Pat Turns 80!

CELEBRATING AN EXTRAORDINARY
LIFE OF FAITH *see page 2*



*Clearly, the leadership principles of *The Secret Kingdom* have been at work in Pat and in CBN from its birth in 1960.*

A Legacy of Leadership

by MICHAEL LITTLE

Chairman, *The Christian Broadcasting Associates*

The Secret Kingdom, first published in 1982 by Pat Robertson, is a “legacy” book of godly wisdom. Many readers recount its significant influence in giving them vital tools of leadership that, when implemented and utilized as directed, have revolutionized their lives!

One of the book’s key leadership principles, the law of perseverance, has worked in Pat Robertson’s ministry and personal life. He teaches that through struggle we build the muscle, the strength, and the prerequisites for the next phase of opportunity.

Using Matthew 7:7-11 as his supporting text, Pat emphasizes that as we keep asking, keep seeking, and keep knocking, Jesus reveals to us the leadership lesson of perseverance. Pat continues: Go through the travail, keep pushing forward through obstacles, keep learning, and keep praying for what God has next for us.

Clearly, the leadership principles of *The Secret Kingdom* have been at work in Pat and in CBN from its birth in 1960. Earth-changing visions and ideas, like little plants, pushed through rock-hard resistance and past unrelenting difficulties to blossom gloriously in the summit of God’s approval. As a result, with God’s ever-faithful provision and empowering, this ministry has seen miraculous opportunities to spread the Gospel and serve those in need.

Michael D. Little

Happy 80th Birthday, Pat!

AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF FAITH

Pat Robertson has seen a lot of history — and has made some as well. Born in historic Lexington, Virginia, on March 22, 1930, his family line includes prime ministers, kings and statesmen, and goes back to the settlers’ first landing in America.

From his father, Senator Willis Robertson, he learned high moral standards: “My father lived humbly and frugally. He never forgot that he was a servant of the people.” His mother, Gladys, set a standard in prayer and faith that eventually led Pat to the Lord.

At age 13, a grueling summer job on a farm taught him grit and perseverance: “Each day began at 5:30 a.m. I slopped hogs and chopped wood in the blazing summer heat ... Some of my most valuable experiences came from that farm.”

As World War II unfolded, Pat enrolled in a tough military school: “The military discipline was rigorous, and the classes were hard. It was like West Point for teenagers.”

As a student, he chose tough sports: playing tackle in football and boxing in the Golden Gloves.

He went to Washington & Lee University, and he enlisted in the Marine Corps Officer program. He was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant upon graduating from college. During the Korean War, he was assigned to the First Marine Division, and decorated for his service in a combat zone.

The war postponed Pat’s plans to attend Yale’s law school, but he got there in time to meet a lovely nursing student named Dede Elmer. After they married, he began a business career.

But when a Christian businessman led Pat to the Lord, his life changed course. He attended seminary and was ministering in New York’s inner city when he felt God calling him to buy a run-down TV station in Virginia.

He moved his family to Virginia Beach in a step of faith that led to the founding of CBN, Regent University, Operation Blessing, CBN WorldReach, the ACLJ, and a successful cable network. Pat’s faith in God and the commitment of 700 Club partners has brought the Gospel to over 200 nations, taking the lead in pioneering Christian media, and offering humanitarian aid to millions.

Photos: Pat Robertson as an infant, a high school student, a television broadcaster, and a father.



FOR MORE PHOTOS AND INFORMATION, GO TO WWW.CBN.COM/SPECIAL/50YEARS/



God's Plan, Our Hope

A teaching by Pat Robertson

Luke records the amazing story of two disciples who didn't recognize Jesus shortly after the Resurrection.

The Lord joined them as they were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, and He asked what they were discussing. The two men described how Jesus of Nazareth was crucified three days earlier, and how an angel at the empty tomb that morning told some women that He is alive.

The two men said sadly, *We had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel* (Luke 24:21). Even though they had heard about the Resurrection, they were upset because Jesus didn't do what they wanted Him to do!

They probably had it all figured out: The Messiah should come in a blaze of glory with a legion of angels to defeat the Romans and gloriously deliver Israel.

But Jesus answered: *How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?* (Luke 24:25-26).

We may have ideas about how God should answer our prayers and work in our lives; however, His plans are often very different from ours!

When praying for revival, we may want to tell God what the revival should look like. But when God moves, He may have a totally different agenda than ours. He will get it done, but He will get it done His way!

*Nothing in this world takes
God by surprise. His
plan has always been to
save and bless His children.*

A Plan for the Ages

The disciples didn't expect Jesus to die on the cross. They were terribly disappointed because this was not how they thought God ought to redeem Israel. They couldn't imagine that it was God's plan for His Son to be despised, humiliated, spit upon, mocked, beaten and crucified like a criminal.

That's because they could only see what was right in front of them. They could see Jerusalem, Israel and Samaria, but that was it. They couldn't imagine how millions of people around the world would receive eternal salvation — all because Jesus paid the price for our sins by dying on the cross.

God sees the beginning through the end. God can

see down through history. Before the foundation of the world was formed, God had a plan to save all mankind in a way that these two men simply could not comprehend.

He sent His Son Jesus to be the redeemer of multitudes of souls from every nation, tongue and tribe!

His Perfect Purposes

As the Apostle Paul wrote in Galatians 4:4, *When the time had fully come, God sent his Son*. So, we see that God answered the prayers of His people and redeemed Israel. Yet, God answered those prayers in His own way, in His own time. We can trust God, believing that He is at work in each of our lives as well. The Lord knows the future, and He will accomplish His perfect purposes in us.

God knows your name and how to answer your prayers. He knows how to guide you, how to protect you, and how to bless you. Romans 8 tells us that the Lord is committed to make all things work together for good in our lives.

This is the Saviour we serve! He has beaten judgment. He has beaten hell. He has beaten death. He has all power. He is Lord of heaven and earth, and everything that exists was made by Him. In John 6:47, He promises us, *I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life*. Have faith in God! He has a wonderful plan for you, and you can trust Him fully. May God bless you!

Scripture is quoted from the NIV.



THE 700 CLUB IN CANADA

Guarding Canada's Little Ones in Jesus' Name

by GEORGE WOODWARD

President of The Christian Broadcasting Associates

In this day we live in, it is all too apparent that a growing segment of our society is growing up without a father. The children of this generation, as in every generation of the past, are crying out for fathers — godly, loving fathers.

How the heart of our heavenly Father must yearn for these little ones! He longs to see their vital needs met, and we are His servants on earth. We all — men and women alike — can “father” these children. They need protection, guidance, love — everything a caring father provides. God has given us the pattern in the Scriptures.

I encourage you to examine your sphere of influence and ask the Father how you can be that godly father to those He brings to you. Reach out purposefully to the young people around you. Many are looking for a glimmer of hope, and you have that hope within you. We can influence this next generation one life at a time: don't miss this life-giving opportunity to impart something so valuable to the little ones God treasures.



My Tribute to a Godly Father

I watched my dad live out the principles of God's kingdom

by GORDON ROBERTSON, *Chief Executive Officer of The Christian Broadcasting Network*

As Dad celebrates his 80th birthday, I am thankful to have such a godly father.

Perhaps the most important lesson Dad taught me is the habit of daily devotions. He would never think of starting the day without spending time with God first.

When we were young, my parents led us in devotions. Dad wanted us to hear directly from God, so he taught us to listen as the Lord spoke to us and opened passages from the Bible.

Another vital lesson I learned from both of my parents: Don't quit. Growing up on a farm, we had to work hard, mowing the pastures, building and painting the fences, and caring for the horses that Dad taught us to ride. When I was 10, my mother offered to pay me to create a vegetable garden. I wanted to earn money for a toy, so I agreed. Since we didn't have a tiller or a plow, I had to dig up about one third of an acre with a shovel. I soon realized the amount of money I was getting wasn't worth that amount of effort, and I tried to beg my way out. But Dad always backed Mom, and I had to finish the job.

Dad would often speak at Full Gospel Businessmen's meetings, and those trips became our family vacations. I rode in the rear-facing backseat as Mom and Dad took turns driving our old station wagon many places, some as far away as Alberta, Canada. I still remember our cabin in the shadow of the Canadian Rockies.

My father also took each of his children on a special trip. In 1969, he took me on one of his first visits to

Israel, just two years after Jerusalem was reunited. The atmosphere was electric as rabbis prayed at the Western Wall, fulfilling God's promises after 2,000 years of longing to return to Jerusalem.

Just as our heavenly Father loves His children, my father taught me the meaning of unconditional love. No matter what we had done wrong or how we had missed the mark, we could count on Dad to be there for us.

Dad has been faithful to God's call on his life, and this dedication is bearing fruit around the world. Even in remote places, I encountered people who had been helped by my father's ministry. This was dramatically demonstrated to me in India in 1994, before CBN began broadcasting there. When I visited Karunya University, near Coimbatore, I was surprised to see the Pat Robertson building. A decade earlier, the university's founder, Dr. D.G.S. Dhinakaran, had sent letters to a number of ministers, asking for seed money to start a school. The only one to reply was my father, and his gift helped construct the school's first building, which is named for him. Today, Karunya is a leading Christian university in India, now serving more than 7,000 students.

The Bible tells how Abraham went throughout Israel building altars to the Lord. Instead of altars, Dad has been investing in people and ministries. Even when no one was aware of his work, my father was quietly building the kingdom of God, and the Lord has blessed him for that faithfulness.



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