

# Fear Not! *An Account of Supernatural Manifestations*

At the dawn of the Twentieth Century, following decades of Methodism and the holiness movement which dominated the nineteenth century, a renewed phenomenon started to grow quickly among Christians all over the world. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, experienced by hundreds of thousands of people, ushered in a vibrant evangelical culture, and a spiritual awakening with miracles of healing, speaking in tongues and a missional attitude among many youth, especially those living in Europe and North America. Their main objective was to carry out the great Christian commission and evangelize the entire world. And so it was, in the small town of Amman, founded in Biblical times like Jerusalem upon seven hills, a Christian Missionary eager to bring the message of salvation to a population with less than ten thousand people, launched the first Evangelical Church in the Emirate of Transjordan. With little resources available, he could only find a humble stable, the basement of a three story building for worship, and a dilapidated first story apartment to live in. The task of bringing understanding to people who lived in a sea of Islam and were not familiar with the fundamental teachings of the Bible like being born again was cumbersome for the missionary, and new members were very slow to join. His faith in God was very strong, and through many hours of daily prayers, he persevered in what God tasked him to do. His second-floor neighbors, impressed by his dedication and lifestyle, decided to join hands and assist him. What followed is the history of a church filled and baptized with the Holy Spirit. It was a great revival. A supernatural visit bearing a message to the sons of Ismael. Spiritual guidelines, and a warning to mankind that a sequence of earth-shattering events were about to take place.

At a young age, Leroy Frederick Whitman (Roy, 1904 - 1992) son of Clarence and Lina Whitman, also a relative of the well-known American Poet Walt Whitman was certain that God called him to be a missionary to the Arabic speaking world in the Middle East. He had just finished his education and initial training to be a missionary and in 1925, shortly after he joined an organization called Worldwide Evangelization Crusade - W.E.C., he went to Jerusalem. W.E.C. had planned for him to meet Miss Laura Radford, a missionary in charge of a small American mission called Bible Evangelistic Mission - B.E.M. in Jerusalem to help him get started with his first priority of learning Arabic. Roy didn't know which Arab country he would go to, but immediately proceeded with learning the Arabic language. He bought few books on his own in order to accelerate his learning and made sure he excelled in speaking and writing Arabic, especially it's colloquial. Eleven months had passed while Roy was working hard learning the language, touring the Holy Land, getting to know the people and spending few months in north Palestine teaching English. Finally, he reached a point in time where he can start his ministry and at that time, Miss Laura Radford was looking for ways to expand her mission. A large Christian tribe living in Es-Salt, Transjordan sent Miss Radford a request to open a mission in their town. She was short on staff and Roy was available. Although he wasn't a member of B.E.M., She presented him with the idea of representing her organization and starting a mission in Es-Salt anyway. Roy accepted her offer and started immediately planning for his move to Transjordan. He crossed the Jordan River for the first time heading east towards the Mountains of Gilead on May 25, 1926. He first started a tour of Transjordan going from town to town preaching the Gospel and getting to know the people. One of his stops was a small town surrounded by wild animals like hyenas and wolves called Amman; a town eventually will be where he spends the rest of his life serving the Lord. He continued travelling and went as far south as the north Arabian Desert. He was accompanied by some of his friends including Dr. Tom Turnbull, a member of the Christian Alliance Church. There, he met few of the Bedouin tribes and learned some of their

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culture. He spoke to them about the Lord and was received well among the tribe's leaders.

Roy officially started his work in Es-Salt on May 31, 1926 by holding worship meetings at the homes of several volunteers. His work among the people was difficult, but he was patient and spent many hours in prayers for the ministry to grow. His work finally began to bear fruit and many people were starting to understand their personal relationship with Christ for the first time. By the beginning of the school year 1926-1927, he was able to expand the mission and open two schools; one for boys and the other for girls. The two schools were instrumental in helping the younger generation develop their spiritual and academic educations. Roy continued his church services holding meetings at the homes of several volunteers and for the first time in Transjordan's history, he established regular Evangelical worship services in the town of Es-Salt. Also, he organized several trips preaching the Gospel to the entire northern part of Transjordan and ventured into a trip on camels crossing the Sinai desert all the way to Cairo, Egypt. He frequently travelled to Amman from Es-Salt holding meetings in several homes and by early 1930, The Lord led **him** to become independent and settle in Amman, the capital of Transjordan. The Emirate of Transjordan, now (The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) is strategically located in the Middle East and plays a significant role in Biblical prophecy. It is described in the Bible as the land of Ammon, Moab and Edom. The Edomites were located in the southern part of Jordan and were the descendants of Esau. The Ammonites and Moabites were the children of Lot after he and his daughters fled Sodom and Gomorrah. Ammon, referred to by the Old Testament as Ammonites, is an ancient nation located east of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea. Amman, one of the most ancient inhabited sites in the world, is a name derived from Ammon and started with seven hills overlooking a stream of water in a valley called Wadi Amman. The Jabbok, tributary of the Jordan from the East is a confluence of three streams located in Wadi Amman, Wadi Suwaylih, and Wadi al-Dahulayl. It runs through the mountains of Gilead creating two regions thus making a natural boundary and a political border for many historical periods. The Jabbok River is referenced for the first time in the Bible when Jacob was on his way to see Esau and wrestled near it with the Angel of the Lord. After this incident, Jacob was renamed Israel. The story is mentioned in the book of Genesis chapter 32:23-31 (NABRE).

"That night, however, Jacob arose. took his two wives, with the two maidservants and his eleven children. and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he got them and brought them across the wadi and brought over what belonged to him, Jacob was left there alone. Then a man wrestled with him until the break of dawn. When the man saw that he could not prevail over him, he struck Jacob's hip at its socket, so that Jacob's socket was dislocated as he wrestled with him. The man then said. "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go until you bless me." "What is your name?" the man asked. He answered, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be named Jacob. but Israel. because you have contended with divine and human beings and have prevailed." Jacob then asked him, "Please tell me your name." He answered. "Why do you ask for my name?" With that, he blessed him. Jacob named the place Peniel, "because I have seen God face to face," he said, "yet my life has been spared."

Many known civilizations and conquerors throughout history settled in what is now called Amman starting with the Ammonites during the 13th century BC, to the Assyrians, Persians, Greeks, Nabateans, Romans, Byzantines and Umayyad Arabs. Additionally, an excavation in 1994 revealed homes and towers belonging to the Stone Age, around 7000 BC. Uninhabited for nearly a thousand years, Amman was one of the areas Circassians tracing their origins back to what is now known as Georgia and Chechnya took refuge in around 1878. They settled near the ancient amphitheater built by the romans

during the rule of Antonius Pius {138-161 AD). The Circassians contributed to building the Hejaz railway line under the directions of the Ottoman Turks connecting Medina, Saudi Arabia with Damascus, Syria through Transjordan and they became famous for introducing the wheel for use in agriculture and transportation to the area of Amman. Also, Circassians were known in the region for using some early industrial technology. The Hejaz Railroad was built during the Ottoman Empire Rule so they can tighten their grip on land all the way to Medina, a city in the Hejaz region of western Saudi Arabia which made the already oppressed Arabs feel more threatened. In 1916 during World War one, part of the Hejaz railroad was destroyed due to attacks lead by the Great Arab Revolt against the Turkish Ottoman Empire. The attacks were inspired by a British military strategist T.E. Lawrence, known as Lawrence of Arabia. Sharif Al-Hussein Bin Ali, king of the Arabs led the great revolt against the oppressive Ottoman Turks in 1916 freeing the land of Jordan, Palestine, Iraq, Syria Lebanon and Hijaz. After the Great War, in 1920 two mandates (Syria and Palestine) created by the conference of San Remo in Italy were given to France and England. The land now controlled by Israel and Jordan was separated from Syria and west of the Jordan became under British control. To prevent attacks on Syria from the area east of the Jordan, a zone also under British influence, Winston Churchill, the British colonial secretary during the Cairo conference in 1921 offered the Hashemite dynasty control of Iraq and Transjordan. The Hashemites or "Bani Hashem" are the direct descendants of the Prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima and her husband Ali bin Abi Talib. The Hashemite Amir Abdullah the first bin Sherif al-Hussein of Hijaz to rule Transjordan and his brother Amir Faisal the first bin al-Hussein the throne of Iraq. Amir Abdullah I selected Amman to be the capital of his Emirate in 1921.

Amman's population was growing fast reaching 10,500 people in 1930. People from all over the Arab land including professionals such as doctors, lawyers, bankers, and administrators continued to arrive especially religious minorities fleeing persecutions and looking for the serenity of Amman to live in peace. Meanwhile, Roy continued his faithful service there expanding his work to include services held in Army camps and jails. He fervently was praying for a revival in Amman and held many prayer meetings at the church and at the homes of new believers for that purpose. He became good friends with his second floor neighbors, the family of Bishara Mutanes Kawar. The Kawar family started to attend the church downstairs and their fourteen year old son Ibrahim was one of the first church attendees to accept Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior.

In 1932, Um Saleem, the wife of Bishara Kawar, suffered a serious heart problem and her condition continued getting worse to the point doctors concluded she must undergo a serious heart operation. The surgery was considered at the time to be a very high risk with little chance of survival. Realizing the danger of such operation, Roy and his missionary friend Saul Benjamin talked to her about the power of prayers and she believed with all her heart that Jesus will heal her illness. Roy told her that the church will hold special prayers and fasting for her. She promised the Lord she would dedicate her life to Him and genuinely started to pray for a complete healing. She continued to be steadfast in her belief and started a week of fasting without letting anyone know, not even her own family. Three days had passed and while sleeping she dreamt that she saw herself going downstairs to the church to pray. She opened the door and went inside but no one was there except one glorious person dressed in white standing next to the communion table. She became frightened and started to turn around when she heard him say: Come my child I am the Savior! She didn't know what to do except rush to kneel by His feet. He said to her: my child do you believe I will heal you? She said yes Lord I believe. He said many prayers ascending to me caused me to come to you. Then He placed His hand on her shoulder and said

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if you place your trust in me you are healed and then He gave her the Holy Communion. She opened her eyes and woke the family telling her husband; thank the Lord I am healed! The next day she refused to stay in bed and her health was getting better from that time on. Um Saleem dedicated her life to the Lord and spent a significant time ministering to people and accompanying Roy to help him minister to ladies at their own homes. One day, the doctor who diagnosed her heart condition, saw her walking past the Italian hospital on her way home. He was surprised to see her still alive and in good health. He started to ask questions and she replied the Lord healed her and that she is fine. She became a devout believer and her faith grew stronger every day but she maintained the life of a simple housewife.

On the night of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1933, the Lord appeared to Um Saleem, Roy's second floor neighbor and placed a sign on her forehead resembling in form a bird with outstretched wings, in size the breadth and length of the forehead. He said to her there shall come to pass great tribulation! He quenched her initial fears and through multiple appearances, He gave her instructions on how to emulate the early church warning that His second coming was near. She saw visions of the most momentous events in the history of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries: Heaven, Hell, wars, death, destruction, and visions of the antichrist with his empire. The Lord instructed her to visit certain homes of people who were not spiritually saved. As a result of these visitations, families were saved miraculously and their stories are now told here for all to see. He taught her His loving kindness and how to grow spiritually. Great interest was stirred up locally and in the Arabic speaking countries of the Levant, especially as accounts were published in various Arabic newspapers and Evangelical Publications in the United States. Warning messages were sent to certain influential people, and God, through her and her dedicated missionary work, began the revival Roy was earnestly praying for.

The incredible story of Um Saleem (1893 --1958) driven by the power of God within her, is an account of divine revelations and of an enormous undertaking. The simple life she lived as a Christian, much like the life of Christians in the earliest church, was the choice God directly made to task her with a mission that would set the precedence for planting the seed of Love in the land of Ishmael. She saw Him stretch His hands over the family and heard Him say "May this family be blessed." His presence was experienced by hundreds of eyewitnesses and gave her the power to follow a plan she couldn't understand and strength to face the unknown. Guided by the glorious Angel, She ignored danger and ventured into a journey which took her to unfamiliar territories knocking at the doors of people she didn't know. Her mission was to bring the Gospel of Christ to precious people who were blocked from hearing the Good News of Love, Forgiveness and Redemption for hundreds of years. Her strong faith, courage and unquestioned obedience to the Lord crushed the barriers for those who never heard the word of God and miraculously lead many of them to eternal salvation. Indeed, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, recalling those Divine phenomena which accompanied the outpouring of the Spirit in Apostolic days had reoccurred in the twentieth century in a small church in Amman; for this was but the beginning of a series of Divine visitations and supernatural manifestations that have been continued for months at varying intervals and as a result the number of people accepting Christ started to multiply. Today, God continues to empower those who are filled with the Holy Spirit, embolden thousands of people in the Middle East and North Africa to come to Christ and declare their faith publicly.

Um Saleem was born in 1893 as Hanneh Elias Aghaby into the Greek Melkite Rite Church in Jerusalem. At the age of twelve, she met William Booth (1829 - 1912), a Methodist Minister, who was the founder

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of the Salvation Army. Gen. Booth was visiting the Holy Land on his way to Australia. He arrived by ship on Tuesday March 7, 1905 to the port of Jaffa, Palestine and left by train south to Jerusalem where he spoke to many people. At the end of one of his sermons, Hanneh was deeply moved and came forward during an invitation that changed her life. Later, general Booth made a statement as he departed the Holy Land and said: "Ah, departing, may we be privileged, you and I, to leave behind us footsteps on the sands of time that will interest and guide and inspire some who follow after in the direction of holiness and service and sacrifice." Indeed, those footsteps on the sand Hanneh followed through time when anxiety and uncertainty overshadowed the world; the Holy Spirit was leading her step by step into a life of service and sacrifice.

Hanneh married Bishara Mutanis Kawar, a silver merchant at a young age and moved to Es-Salt, Transjordan to live with her new family. The Kawars, a large and prominent Family in the region, are tied to Christian tribes dating all the way back to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century AD who inhabited the city of Ma'rib in Yemen. According to the oral tradition, a branch of those tribes, the Ghassanids, led by their king Jafna bin Amr and his family left Ma'rib after the city dam collapsed and headed north for Syria where they settled and started the kingdom of Ghassanids. Their alliance with the Roman Empire allowed them to have an autonomous rule and control of important trade routes connecting the Far East to the western world. The same arrangement continued with the Byzantine Empire during the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century and this allowed them to spread Christianity more freely in the Levant. Today the Ghassanids whom the Kawars are decedents of, make up the majority of Arab Christians in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine. The Kawars mainly settled in Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon. They quickly excelled in land ownership and development. Their contributions to the region are significant and include Agriculture, Science, Industry, politics, art, literature, Military and religion. In 1875, Tannous Kawar established the first municipality for the city of Nazareth in Palestine and became its first Mayor. Rev Michael Kawar (1822 - 1886) ordained 1871 Pastor at Nazareth; Shefa-amr; Jerusalem and Haifa, was the first ordained Arab Minister for the Evangelical Church in the Arab world. Baz Kamel Kawar went to Transjordan on an assignment from the government of Palestine to help Transjordan structure its economy in 1923. He was appointed by His Royal Highness prince Abdullah the first as Postmaster General of the newly formed Emirate. Baz was also selected by the Amir in 1933 to be a member of an Economic Committee to help the Emirate improve its economy. His older brother, the well-known businessman Amin Kawar left the cadres of the Mandate government in Palestine in 1926 to open the first pharmacy in Transjordan. His pharmacy, "The Emirate Pharmacy" was selected by the Amir to be the Palace pharmacy and Amin Kawar as the Amir's personal pharmacist.

In 1912 Hanneh had her first born son, Saleem and people called her Um Saleem (Mother of Saleem) as is customary in the Arab world to call parents with children as Abu (father) and Um (mother) of their first born male child. Um Saleem had six children; four boys and two girls. The family moved to Amman soon after Amir Abdullah the first declared it as capital of the Emirate of Transjordan. They rented the second floor of a building owned by Salem Jammal who lived in the third floor of the same building. This also is the same building Roy Whitman would move to live in its first floor and use its basement for church meetings later in 1930.

The deteriorating economic situation in Transjordan during the early 1930's prevented the older two children of Um Saleem from finishing their higher education and forced them to look for work in order to help the family financially. Saleem, a straight "A" student and ranked the first among his classmates

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from first grade to high school, took a job with Transjordan's army, "The Arab Legion". He was appointed a clerk at the army's headquarters. Ibrahim was hired by his relative Amin Kwar as his assistant at the Emirate Pharmacy. Both young men excelled in their work and were recognized for their loyalty and honesty. Saleem quickly advanced to become a commissioned officer in charge at the headquarters of British Major General Frederick Peake founder of the Arab legion. He was instrumental in helping the general collecting and organizing data for his book a "History of Trans-Jordan and its tribes". After Major General Peake retired in 1939, Saleem became a close Aide and Secretary General of the Army Directorate of Lieutenant General John Glubb the new commander of the Arab Legion. Ibrahim was liked by his relative Amin Kwar and became good friends with Saul Benjamin, a missionary and friend of Roy Whitman. They often would hold prayer meetings at the pharmacy and walk to a distant place called Al-Mahatta for more prayer meetings singing and praying all the way there and back. Ibrahim's devout Christian lifestyle frustrated his relative Amin Kwar to the point of attempting to get his parents to move from the building where the church was. When all his attempts failed, he decided to join them and become a believer himself.

News of Miracles and supernatural manifestations occurring in Amman in January, 1933 to Um Saleem spread around towns and cities of Transjordan very quickly and continued spreading to neighboring countries. Many people came to visit and witnessed the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit. Some witnesses received messages in their own language which Um Saleem didn't know, others were healed and many of them changed their lifestyle. Foreign missionaries reported the story to their home churches that in turn published it in their own newspapers including the United States of America. The news of miracles happening at the home of Um Saleem caught the attention of his Royal Highness Prince Abdullah the First, Emir of Transjordan prompting him immediately to summon her relatives Baz and Amin Kwar to the Palace for questioning. The Emir concluded his questioning by ordering the two men to bring Um Saleem to the Palace to be medically examined by his own physician Dr. Shaukat Aziz al-Sati. Amin diplomatically explained to the Emir that the traditions and culture would not permit Um Saleem to come to the Palace. His Royal Highness was very understanding and requested his physician to go to Um Saleem's home and examine her there. Escorted by Amin Kwar, Dr. Shaukat followed through with the Emir's orders and entered the home of Abu and Um Saleem. The reception room was packed with relatives, church members, and strangers wishing to witness and listen to the powerful messages spoken through Um Saleem. As the Doctor approached Um Saleem to examine her, a powerful Message in the Doctor's own native language was articulated through UM Saleem. She didn't know what language she spoke, neither anyone else present except the doctor. He could barely keep his composure as the eldest daughter of Um Saleem Selma stated in her testimony and he remained silent while he listened to what was a powerful sealed verbal Message. Shortly after, the family attempted to show its hospitality but the doctor could barely accept the minimum to satisfy the traditions. Before leaving, he spoke to the entire audience explaining the purpose of his visit and confessed that what is happening to Um Saleem is from God. At the Palace while his Royal Highness Emir Abdullah I had his regular audience including Amin Kwar, the doctor entered the hall and the Emir quickly inquired aloud about the doctor's medical report on Um Saleem. The doctor replied with reverence: Your Highness I can only testify to what is going on with Um Saleem is from God. The Emir questioned him with concerns about his conclusion and the doctor replied: Your Highness, let's assume the woman is a good actor and knew foreign languages and was lying, how could she tell me something only God and myself know? The Emir was very quiet as well as everyone in the Hall and the mood was electrified. One of the listeners attempted to change the temperament by bringing up a funny incident

but his Royal Highness Emir Abdullah I rebuked him and the audience was dismissed. He continued his conversation with the doctor in private. His Royal Highness had respect for minorities and protected freedom of religion which prompted many people to flee persecution in their land and come to Amman to live under his rule in peace.

Just what exactly happened on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1933 that later raised the Emir of Transjordan curiosity and caused hundreds of people from far places to come and see the power of God and witness a miracle in the making at a small house in Amman?

We were all asleep, in one bedroom; my father, mother, two sisters and three brothers the eldest son Saleem said. The night was cold, the lantern was shut off and we all were snug in our mattresses. My five year old youngest brother Emil was sleeping next to my mother Hanneh and the neighborhood was all but quiet. Suddenly, around midnight my mother cried out at which I started up and my father and my siblings awoke also. Then we heard her saying "Give glory to the Lord, Hallelujah, praise the Lord." Calm down mother! You are dreaming we all replied. I am not dreaming children! This is strange. Didn't you all hear the voice? Look, there is something on my forehead! OK mother just stay calm, Selma could you please fix the lantern and bring it so we can see? Sure Saleem, give me a couple of minutes. Selma went quickly to bring the lantern and when she got back and shined it at my mother's face she screamed Glory to God and was shaken. She couldn't hold the light and dropped it on the floor. I quickly picked it up and we all looked at my mother's face and saw blood placed on her forehead resembling a bird with outstretched wings in size the breadth and length of the forehead, without touching the hair. At this we trembled and felt a supernatural presence in the place. What happened mother? Please tell us. Well, while I was asleep, something shook me by my shoulder. I thought it was your brother Emil wanting a cup of water as usual. When I had partly raised myself up supporting myself on the pillow, suddenly there appeared a person clothed in light, whose face shone as the sun. Then I was extremely frightened, and He said to me in an audible voice: "**There shall come to pass great tribulation; fear ye not; the Lord is with you.**" Then I saw Him stretch His hand over the family and He said "**May this family be blessed.**" Then He stretched out His other hand with which He was holding a cup resembling the communion cup, and dipped His three fingers into it whereupon He said, "**This is a sign to you.**" Then He, passing His fingers over my forehead, which gave me a feeling of coldness said, "**Stand ye, and give glory to the Lord**". At this we began to praise God and our hearts were filled with a wonderful joy. My sister Selma knelt on the floor and asked the Lord to come in to her heart and from that moment she dedicated her life to serve the Lord. We remained thus until approximately 2:30 A.M. when our neighbors came in wondering what is going on. They witnessed and were greatly astonished. Few hours later by the early morning, the news had spread so quickly (we don't know how) and crowds of people came and witnessed the sign.

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## Distributing God's Message

Getting this message into print was not without incident. The scribe, Saleem B. Kwar, a captain in the Arab Legion and secretary for John Glubb, and later a minister, had four children: Bishara, Joseph, Nazih, and Zuheir. When Aunt Widad died in 1983, it was only then that they learned that there was more revelation than that found in Signs and Wonders. Each has tried in some manner to make known; God's revelation. And each has had to wrestle with the powers of darkness.

Bishara's first encounter with the powers of darkness occurred at the airport in Amman. His father, Saleem Kwar, had just entrusted him with the tapes, videos, and booklets containing a unified account of the visions. As he paid the airport tax, he put his briefcase down for a few brief seconds. He then reached down, picked it up and walked off. A few minutes later a Korean national approached him saying that he thought their briefcases had been switched. Sure enough, they had been. It was amazing that the circumstance was rectified.

While still in college, Bishara decided one day to show his professor a copy of Signs and Wonders. As he started to pull out of the driveway, he noticed that the steering wheel was locked. He spent the remainder of the day fixing the steering column and missed the appointment with his professor. At this point, he decided to give the documents his father had entrusted to him to his brother, Nazih. Nazih had just put the original version of Signs and Wonders on CompuServe-an expensive proposition back in the eighties. He began making hard copies available free of charge to anyone interested. Some even returned to him saying how awestruck they were by the work. It was about this time that Nazih was driving to work one afternoon at 2:00 PM doing over 60 mph in the fast lane on a Southern California freeway when he caught the glimpse of a man on an overpass directly above his lane. As the man started running the serenity of the moment exploded into a shattered windshield and a loud crunch on the roof of his car. He pulled over into the breakdown lane and emerged shaken. The bow of his windshield had been impacted by a large rock directly over his head. A few inches lower would have meant death. Eventually Roy Whitman heard of the incident and remarked that it was the work of the devil trying to discourage the propagation of God's word.

The redactor also has a story to tell. Leaving work Friday at 4:15 PM, I was traveling south on MD State 170 thinking about putting the finishing touches on Signs and Wonders so I could mail a draft to Nazih the following week. As I approached the MD State 176 intersection at 52 mph, I noticed an oncoming truck preparing to make a left hand turn right in front of me. This is not unusual. They must yield and turn when safe. Amazingly, he just kept coming. By the time I realized he was not going to stop, it was too late. I braked hard, but way too late. As the 24-ft truck swung in front of me I looked up to see that the driver was looking straight ahead and he had his foot in it. He was doing 20 mph when I saw his rear axle with 22.5-inch wheels loom up. "Jesus help!" was my last thought. Then-a big boom. In a fraction of a second the accident was over. The airbags on the 2000 Toyota Solara deployed marvelously. Glass had shattered all over me. But I could see. I felt no pain. Praise music played from an otherwise quiet but now stinking car. I thanked God, pushed open the creaking door to greet some very surprised witnesses who were as amazed as I was that I did not have a scratch on me. In retrospect, had the driver of the truck attempted to brake, I would have been killed. The impact would not have been with the rear axle, but with the mid-section of the truck. I would then have slid under the body, been decapitated, and run over by the dual tires. The time difference to change that 2-ft nose-on offset to a disastrous 4-ft offset was 0.068 seconds. That was my margin and it was in the hands of the True One.